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HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, more than 20 million Americans—one in nine adults—have Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD); and in Hawaii, one out of seven is at risk, with those of Native Hawaiian, Japanese, and Filipino descent being most susceptible, many of whom may already have kidney disease and not be aware of it; and

WHEREAS, Chronic Kidney Disease is called the "silent killer" because symptoms aren't apparent until it reaches an advanced stage; and

WHEREAS, simple tests can detect early stages of kidney disease, and the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii conducts free public screenings and comprehensive testing programs statewide to help detect CKD; and

WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii was established in 1992 and is a voluntary, non-profit health organization dedicated to the detection, prevention and treatment of kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii is to increase awareness of CKD, improve the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney and urinary tract diseases, and to increase the availability of all organs for transplantation in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, while Hawaii is recognized as a health and wellness state, there has been a dramatic increase in CKD reaching epidemic proportions with the rates being higher for ethnic and racial minorities; and

WHEREAS, the main causes of CKD are diabetes and high blood pressure and in Hawaii, over 65% of the people with kidney failure started with diabetes; and

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WHEREAS, Community Outreach Programs instituted by the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii include free general kidney screenings, Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP), a Resource Center, education programs and presentations, Kidney Action Plan Program (KAPP), TimesWalk workshop about kidney disease, Primary Care Physician Education Programs and intervention tools, Medical Symposia, support groups, Kidney Accessories and Tools, Patient Emergency Assistance Funding, Organ Donation Councils, and Research Initiatives; and

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WHEREAS, Siegfred Kagawa was named the 2005 Renaissance Award Winner for the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii for his many contributions to the Foundation and community and is the chair for the 2006 fundraiser honoring the late U.S. Senator Hiram Fong; and

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WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii will honor the life and achievements of the late U.S. Senator Hiram Fong at "A Tribute to Senator Hiram Leong Fong-Working to Make Lives Better" on Friday, March 31, 2006, as a fitting culmination to National Kidney Month; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, that this body recognizes and honors the NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION OF HAWAII for helping to improve the health of Hawaii's citizens and wishes the 2006 Tribute to U.S. Senator Hiram L. Fong great success.

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