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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING SUPPORT FOR MALAMA O KAMALI`I MAKAMAE IN ITS EFFORTS TO DEVELOP CARE HOME FACILITIES FOR ENDANGERED YOUNG CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, INCLUDING NATIVE HAWAIIAN CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK.

1           WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali`i Makamae (Protect and Honor Our  
2 Precious Children), a nonprofit organization, was organized for  
3 the purpose of helping children from low-income households,  
4 including but not limited to native Hawaiian children by  
5 developing and operating state of the art care facilities  
6 throughout the State of Hawai`i for children in imminent danger  
7 of their physical, emotional, mental, social, and educational  
8 well-being, the missing link in behalf of preserving our Na  
9 Kamali`i O Hawaii Nei; and

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11           WHEREAS, the "Senate of the Twenty-second Legislature of  
12 the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2004, the House of  
13 Representatives concurring," passed the Senate Concurrent  
14 Resolution (SCR) 189, "that the Legislature encourages the  
15 support of Malama O Kamali`i Makamae in its efforts to develop  
16 state of the art care home facilities for needy children of  
17 Hawaiian ancestry who are thirteen years old or younger;" and

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19           WHEREAS, the State's Foster Care system, Human and Social  
20 Services, Child Protective and Welfare agencies are still  
21 suffering from a case-overload syndrome; and

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23           WHEREAS, we still experience tragic scenarios despoiling  
24 our children, and we must now add other innocent children to our  
25 statistics of having been lost in the State's protective,  
26 welfare, education, community and faith-based systems, as a  
27 total societal failure to 10-year old Alexis of Puna, Hawaii, 5-  
28 year old Talia Williams of Oahu and the latest two infant  
29 tragedies and the 11-year old several maltreatment cases; and

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1 WHEREAS, such traumas to survivors are categorical  
2 indicators to physical, emotional and mental scarring, which  
3 adversely affect their growth & development, behavioral and  
4 learning abilities; and  
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6 WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali`i Makamae's care facilities will  
7 provide a wellness refuge for them to begin to feel safe,  
8 promote health and nutrition and being an overall healing  
9 journey in their short and/or long-term care needs in the  
10 Hawaiian cultural Hanai `Ohana style project; and  
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12 WHEREAS, due to the shortage of qualified state child care  
13 workers, too many children are neglected and fall through the  
14 cracks of the Child Protective & Welfare systems, and still  
15 there are insufficient emergency care facilities to meet the  
16 growing need of very young children in imminent danger in their  
17 present living environment; and  
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19 WHEREAS, Hawai`i's children of Hawaiian ancestry are at  
20 high risk of falling into the behavioral, lifestyle, and  
21 substance abuse patterns of their adult family members or other  
22 care givers, and are also at imminent risk for their health,  
23 safety, well being, and economic status in their present  
24 environment, which would affect their ability to grow, develop,  
25 and learn; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the Kamehameha Schools' Ka Huaka`i Native Hawaiian  
28 Educational Assessment (2005) stated that academic disparities  
29 are pronounced in rural regions with high concentrations of  
30 Native Hawaiians, and with a more rapid escalating rate of  
31 special education referrals than that of their peers (18.5% or 1  
32 of every 5 Native Hawaiian students); and  
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34 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian youth have a higher rate of  
35 depression (34.5%) and are more likely to attempt suicide  
36 (22.6%) than their peers; and  
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38 WHEREAS, a study conducted by the National Center on  
39 Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA)  
40 found that "the child welfare agencies devoted most of their  
41 resources to investigation, foster care and permanent custody  
42 decisions while provisions of services to prevent the recurrence  
43 of child abuse/neglect was a lower budget priority"; and  
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2 WHEREAS, the CASA study "found six critical weaknesses that  
3 gobble child welfare officials' efforts to protect the child"  
4 and also "noted that the child's development needs should take  
5 precedence over the timing of parental recovery"; now,  
6 therefore,  
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
10 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature  
11 urges support of Malama O Kamali`i Makamae in its efforts to  
12 develop and operate state of the art care facilities for  
13 endangered young children from low-income households, including  
14 Native Hawaiian children at high risk, which was a need  
15 recognized by the Joint House-Senate Task Force on Ice and Drug  
16 Abatement in 2004 to develop a drug endangered child protection  
17 program; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognize that  
20 significant benefits would be achieved by requesting the Child  
21 Care and Welfare Service agencies of the department of human  
22 services to partner with Malama O Kamali`i Makamae, as a pilot  
23 project and model, to assist these agencies with the overload of  
24 emergency care and other social and educational services to  
25 aforesaid children ages zero to thirteen years; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recommends the  
28 child care and welfare service agencies of the departments of  
29 Human Services and Health to add Malama O Kamali`i Makamae to  
30 their lists of authorized "Diversion Services", "Community-Based  
31 Care Service" providers, and partnering with Malama O Kamali`i  
32 Makamae for cost effective savings to the State's expenses, as  
33 indicated in the Department of Human Services' Financial  
34 Expenditure Report FY 2002-03; and  
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports Malama  
37 O Kamali`i Makamae's provision of needed services to Hawai`i's  
38 young children through the House and Senate 2007 Grants-in-Aid  
39 (GIA) program relating to child endangerment and abuse  
40 prevention programs; and  
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
43 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the directors of the  
44 Departments of Human Services and Health, the Deputy Director of



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1 the Department of Human Services, the Governor and the  
2 Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and the President  
3 of Malama O Kamali`i Makamae.

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OFFERED BY: *Colleen May*

MAR 13 2007

