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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 native Hawaiian children, by developing and operating  
5 state of the art care facilities throughout the State of Hawai`i  
6 for children in imminent danger of their physical, emotional,  
7 mental, social, and educational well-being, the missing link  
8 preserving our na kamali`i o Hawaii nei; and  
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10           WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 189, adopted by  
11 the Twenty-second Legislature, Regular Session of 2004,  
12 encourages the support of Malama O Kamali`i Makamae in its  
13 efforts to develop state-of-the-art care home facilities for  
14 needy children of Hawaiian ancestry who are 13 years old or  
15 younger; and  
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17           WHEREAS, the State's foster care system, human and social  
18 services, and child protective and welfare agencies are still  
19 suffering from an overload of cases; and  
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21           WHEREAS, tragic situations continue to adversely affect our  
22 children as others are added to the statistics of having been  
23 lost in the State's protective, welfare, education, community,  
24 and faith-based systems; and  
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26           WHEREAS, traumas to survivors of these events are  
27 categorical indicators of physical, emotional, and mental  
28 distress, which negatively impact their growth and development,  
29 as well as their behavioral and learning abilities; and



1           WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali`i Makamae's care facilities  
2 provide a wellness refuge for these individuals to begin their  
3 short- and long-term care needs in the Hawaiian cultural hanai  
4 ohana style project by providing a safe environment that  
5 promotes health and nutrition; and  
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7           WHEREAS, due to the shortage of qualified state child care  
8 workers, too many children are neglected and fall through the  
9 cracks of the child protection and child welfare systems, and  
10 there are insufficient emergency care facilities to meet the  
11 growing need of very young children in imminent danger in their  
12 present living environment; and  
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14           WHEREAS, Hawai`i's children of Hawaiian ancestry are at  
15 high risk of falling into the behavioral, lifestyle, and  
16 substance abuse patterns of their adult family members or other  
17 caregivers, and are also at imminent risk for their health,  
18 safety, well-being, and economic status in their present  
19 environment, which would affect their ability to grow, develop,  
20 and learn; and  
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22           WHEREAS, the Kamehameha Schools' Ka Huaka`i Native Hawaiian  
23 Educational Assessment (2005) stated that academic disparities  
24 are pronounced in rural regions with high concentrations of  
25 native Hawaiians, and with a more rapid escalating rate of  
26 special education referrals than that of their peers at a rate  
27 of 18.5 percent or one of every five native Hawaiian students;  
28 and  
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30           WHEREAS, native Hawaiian youth have a higher rate of  
31 depression, 34.5 percent, and are more likely to attempt suicide  
32 than their peers, at a rate of 22.6 percent; and  
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34           WHEREAS, a study conducted by the National Center on  
35 Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA)  
36 found that "the child welfare agencies devoted most of their  
37 resources to investigation, foster care and permanent custody  
38 decisions while provisions of services to prevent the recurrence  
39 of child abuse/neglect was a lower budget priority"; and



1 WHEREAS, the CASA study "found six critical weaknesses that  
2 gobble child welfare officials' efforts to protect the child"  
3 and also "noted that the child's development needs should take  
4 precedence over the timing of parental recovery"; now,  
5 therefore,  
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
8 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
9 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that this body supports  
10 the efforts of Malama O Kamali`i Makamae to develop and operate  
11 state-of-the-art care facilities for endangered young children  
12 from low-income households, including native Hawaiian children  
13 at high risk, which was a need recognized by the Joint House-  
14 Senate Task Force on Ice and Drug Abatement in 2004, to develop  
15 a drug endangered child protection program; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the child care and welfare  
18 service agencies of the Department of Human Services (DHS) are  
19 requested to partner with Malama O Kamali`i Makamae, as a pilot  
20 project and model, to assist these agencies with the overload of  
21 emergency care and other social and educational services to  
22 aforesaid children ages 0 to 13 years; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recommends the  
25 child care and welfare service agencies of DHS and the  
26 Department of Health to add Malama O Kamali`i Makamae to their  
27 lists of authorized diversion services and community-based care  
28 service providers, and partner with Malama O Kamali`i Makamae  
29 for cost effective savings to the State's expenses, as indicated  
30 in the Department of Human Services' Financial Expenditure  
31 Report FY 2002-2003; and  
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant  
35 Governor, Director of Human Services, Director of Health, Deputy  
36 Director of Human Services, and the President of Malama O  
37 Kamali`i Makamae.

