
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE ADOPTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS' CONVENTION ON THE
RIGHTS OF THE CHILD.

1 WHEREAS, the principles of the Charter of the United
2 Nations affirm that the recognition of the inherent dignity and
3 the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human
4 family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the
5 world; and

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7 WHEREAS, the United Nations, in the Universal Declaration
8 of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights,
9 has affirmed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and
10 freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind,
11 such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other
12 opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other
13 status; and

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15 WHEREAS, the United Nations, in the Universal Declaration
16 of Human Rights, has proclaimed that each child is entitled to
17 special care and assistance; and

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19 WHEREAS, the family, as the fundamental unit of society and
20 the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its
21 members and particularly children, should be afforded the
22 necessary protection and assistance so that it can fully assume
23 its responsibilities with the community; and

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25 WHEREAS, each child, for the full and harmonious
26 development of the child's personality, should grow up in a
27 family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love, and
28 understanding; and

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1 WHEREAS, to be fully prepared to participate as a member of
2 society, each child needs to be brought up in the spirit of the
3 ideals of the United Nations Charter, especially in the spirit
4 of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality, and solidarity;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, on November 20, 1989, the United Nations General
8 Assembly adopted the Convention of the Rights of the Child; and
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10 WHEREAS, one hundred ninety-two nations have entered as
11 signatories to the Convention of the Rights of the Child; and
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13 WHEREAS, the preamble to the State of Hawaii Constitution
14 proclaims that the State of Hawaii is dedicated to the
15 fulfillment of the State motto, "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka
16 pono," meaning, "The life of the land is perpetuated in
17 righteousness"; and
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19 WHEREAS, to protect, nurture, and care for our keiki is an
20 underlying principle for Hawaii as a Pacific Island community;
21 and
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23 WHEREAS, thirteen per cent of all Hawaii's children live in
24 poverty; and
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26 WHEREAS, twenty-one per cent of the homeless are children
27 age nine or younger, and one out of three are age seventeen or
28 younger; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Convention on the Rights of the Child
31 contributes to awareness of the problems of children in Hawaii
32 and around the world; now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
35 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
36 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature
37 urges the State of Hawaii to adopt the United Nations'
38 Convention on the Rights of the Child; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
2 President to request that Congress ratify the Convention on the
3 Rights of the Child; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
7 United States, the Governor, Attorney General, Director of
8 Finance, Superintendent of Education, Director of Health,
9 Director of Human Services, Director of Public Safety, and the
10 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:

Iyla B. Berg

MAR - 8 2007

