

MAR 14 2007

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS NATION-BUILDING PLAN,
HO'OU LU LĀHUI ALOHA, TO RAISE A BELOVED NATION.

1 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs was created by
2 delegates to the Constitutional Convention of Hawaii of 1978 to
3 right the wrongs suffered by the indigenous people of the
4 Hawaiian Islands; and

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6 WHEREAS, delegates to the Constitutional Convention
7 proposed a constitutional amendment to establish the Office of
8 Hawaiian Affairs as a public trust, with the mandate to better
9 the conditions of Native Hawaiians and the Hawaiian community in
10 general; and

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12 WHEREAS, through Act 196, Session Laws of Hawaii 1979,
13 codified as chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Office of
14 Hawaiian Affairs was established as a semi-autonomous "self-
15 governing body"; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is the sole
18 representative of the Hawaiian community with financial
19 resources that include a public trust and state funds to assist
20 Native Hawaiians and improve the conditions of the Hawaiian
21 community; and

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23 WHEREAS, programs and services benefiting Native Hawaiians
24 are now in jeopardy because of legal challenges, as the number
25 of lawsuits filed has increased ten-fold and plaintiffs have
26 been persistent in advancing their cases; and

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28 WHEREAS, funding for programs, services, and entitlements
29 that benefit and improve the lives of Native Hawaiians are now
30 in danger of being reduced or eliminated; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act
2 of 2007, S. 310 in the United States Senate and H.R. 505 in the
3 United States House of Representatives, also known as the "Akaka
4 Bill" has not received a full discussion and vote in Congress;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, with participation
8 from the Native Hawaiian community, is spearheading the creation
9 of a Native Hawaiian governing entity that is recognized by the
10 State of Hawaii and the United States government; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs created a formal
13 document, The Nation-Building Plan to Establish a Native
14 Hawaiian Governing Entity, with participation from the Native
15 Hawaiian community and the State of Hawaii to enable Native
16 Hawaiians to preside over their own resources and assets and
17 determine their own future; and
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19 WHEREAS, the nation-building plan is being underwritten by
20 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and includes the following
21 components:
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- 23 (1) Registration of Native Hawaiians in Kau Inoa, a
24 campaign that gathers the names of people of Hawaiian
25 ancestry who are willing to participate in the process
26 of nation building;
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- 28 (2) Development of an apportionment plan of representative
29 districts based on the eligible voter population;
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- 31 (3) Election of representative delegates who will attend a
32 constitutional convention;
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- 34 (4) Convening of a constitutional convention to create
35 organic documents of the Native Hawaiian governing
36 entity; and
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- 38 (5) Ratification of the organic documents and its
39 articles;
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41 WHEREAS, the ratified organic documents and its articles
42 will form the Native Hawaiian governing entity; now, therefore,
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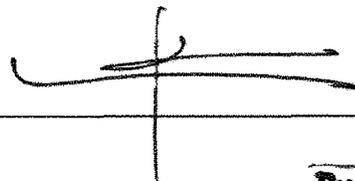
S.C.R. NO. 89

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
4 supports the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' Nation-Building Plan;
5 and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
9 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives, and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of
11 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: _____



By Request

