

JAN 23 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF MALAMA O KAMALI'I MAKAMAE'S EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH STATE-OF-THE-ART CARE FACILITIES AND REQUESTING THE COOPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS, LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CARE FACILITIES.

1 WHEREAS, in July 2003, the federal Department of Health and
2 Human Services (DHHS) conducted a Child and Family Services
3 Review (Review), in which they found that Hawaii's Department of
4 Human Services (DHS) did not meet the federal standards in six
5 out of the seven welfare outcome areas and five of the seven
6 systemic factors; and

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8 WHEREAS, the outcome of the DHHS Review could have
9 subjected the State to a \$1,900,000 penalty, but this was
10 reduced to \$170,978 due to the achievement of the two-year
11 Program Improvement Plan goals, in all but two areas; and

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13 WHEREAS, based on the 2003 DHHS Review, some of the key
14 areas in which DHS needed improvement were:

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16 (1) Providing a timely response to child abuse and neglect
17 reports;
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19 (2) Taking action to protect children from the risk of
20 harm on active cases;
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22 (3) Reducing the incidence of re-entry into foster care
23 and increasing the stability in foster placement; and
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25 (4) Implementing quality assurance monitoring and
26 continuous system improvement;

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28 and



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2 WHEREAS, finding that children of substance abusing parents
3 are three times more likely to be abused and four times more
4 likely to be neglected, the 2004 Joint House-Senate Task Force
5 on Ice and Drug Abatement recommended the development of a drug
6 endangered child protection program; and

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8 WHEREAS, to protect the safety and welfare of children:

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10 (1) The federal Adoption and Safe Family Act of 1997
11 requires children to be permanently placed after 15
12 months in foster care, terminating the birth parents'
13 rights; and
14
15 (2) The federal Multi-Ethnic Placement Act of 1994, as
16 amended in 1996, prohibits the delaying of permanent
17 placement of children to find an ethnic match,
18 allowing native Hawaiian children to be sent out of
19 the state for permanent placement with non-Hawaiian
20 households;

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22 and

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24 WHEREAS, in 2005, DHS reported in its "Child Abuse and
25 Neglect Report" that over 40 percent of children harmed in
26 Hawaii were Hawaiian or part Hawaiian; and

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28 WHEREAS, the 2005 "Ka Huaka'i Native Hawaiian Educational
29 Assessment Report" (2005 Assessment Report) states that:

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31 (1) Academic disparities are pronounced in rural regions
32 with high concentrations of native Hawaiians; and
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34 (2) Native Hawaiian students are being referred to special
35 education at a more rapidly escalating rate (18.5
36 percent) than their non-Hawaiian peers;

37
38 and

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40 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DOE) reported that in
41 2005, 47 percent of native Hawaiian children in the fourth grade
42 scored below the basic reading level, 27 percent scored below



1 the basic math level, and 43 percent scored below the basic
2 science level; and

3 WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) reported that
4 between 2001 and 2006, 57.2 percent of suicides were by
5 Hawaiians or part Hawaiians; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the 2005 Assessment Report states that native
8 Hawaiian adolescents suffer higher rates of depression (34.5
9 percent versus 27.9 percent) and are more likely to attempt
10 suicide (22.6 percent versus 20.0 percent) than their non-
11 Hawaiian peers; and

12
13 WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali'i Makamae (Protect and Honor Our
14 Precious Children), a nonprofit organization, was organized to
15 develop and operate state-of-the-art care facilities throughout
16 the State of Hawaii for disadvantaged native Hawaiian and other
17 needy children whose physical, emotional, mental, social, and
18 educational well-being is threatened--children crucial to the
19 preservation of the Na Kamali'i O Hawaii Nei; and

20
21 WHEREAS, in 2004, the Legislature adopted Senate Concurrent
22 Resolution No. 189, recognizing the importance of this mission
23 and supported Malama O Kamali'i Makamae's efforts to develop
24 state-of-the-art emergency care and learning facilities for
25 endangered and disadvantaged children of Hawaiian ancestry; and

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27 WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali'i Makamae's care facilities have
28 been designed to offer the needed protective and preventative
29 measures for saving children, including native Hawaiian children
30 who are victims of adult caregivers' abuse, neglect, and self-
31 destruction; and

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33 WHEREAS, Malama O Kamali'i Makamae's care facilities, with
34 the assistance of the native Hawaiian communities, will:

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36 (1) Provide a wellness safe haven for at-risk native
37 Hawaiian children;
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39 (2) Promote health, nutrition, education, and cultural
40 identity;
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42 (3) Begin the healing journey in the children's short- or
43 long-term care needs in the Hawaiian cultural hanai



1 ohana style program without losing them to federal
2 mandate requirements; and

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4 (4) Preserve native Hawaiian children in their homeland
5 for future native Hawaiian nation-building;

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7 now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
12 continues to express its support of Malama O Kamali'i Makamae's
13 efforts to establish state-of-the-art care facilities; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOE, DOH, and DHS are requested
16 to apply its funds to assist Malama O Kamali'i Makamae in the
17 establishment of its care facilities; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Departments of Education,
20 Health, Human Services, Land and Natural Resources, and Hawaiian
21 Home Lands, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs are requested to
22 assist Malama O Kamali'i Makamae in acquiring suitable lands for
23 the development of its care facilities; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
27 the Board of Education, Director of Health, Director of Human
28 Services, Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
29 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
30 Affairs, and Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
31 Resources.

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OFFERED BY: Emanne Chun Oakland

