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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 24, 2009, AS ISLAM DAY.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is known for the wealth of its cultural and  
2 religious diversity and the harmony with which people of many  
3 cultures and religions live together; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Muslims constitute an ethnically diverse part of  
6 Hawaii's cultural fabric, with around 3,000 practicing members;  
7 and  
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9           WHEREAS, the Prophet Mohammad left his house to migrate to  
10 Madinah and reached Quba in the vicinity of Madinah on the 12<sup>th</sup>  
11 day of Rabi ul-Awwal according to the lunar calendar, or  
12 September 24<sup>th</sup> according to the Gregorian calendar, thereby  
13 marking the birth of Islam; and  
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15           WHEREAS, Islam, a religion with a long and noble history,  
16 is the second largest religion in the world, with over one  
17 billion followers spread across every continent, and including  
18 members of many nations and cultures; and  
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20           WHEREAS, the Islamic world preserved and made original  
21 contributions to works of science and philosophy during the  
22 Middle Ages when these disciplines were threatened by bigotry  
23 and prejudice in other parts of the world; and  
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25           WHEREAS, Islamic artists, scientists, and philosophers have  
26 a rich history of contribution to world literature and our  
27 collective scientific understanding; and  
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29           WHEREAS, the Islamic faith shares common teachings found in  
30 the texts of both Christianity and Judaism, whose followers are  
31 respected and considered "People of the Book"; and



1 WHEREAS, Islamic doctrine encourages generosity in its  
2 adherents, maintaining that those who possess much have a  
3 responsibility to care for those in need; and  
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5 WHEREAS, Islam, along with its monotheistic counterparts,  
6 holds that peace is a divine quality and necessary for  
7 collective human happiness; and  
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9 WHEREAS, Islam strives for a world-wide community which, in  
10 the words of one Islamic poet-philosopher, "*does not recognize*  
11 *the superficial differences of race, or history, or*  
12 *nationality*"; and  
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14 WHEREAS, the United States and countries of the Islamic  
15 world hold in common many beliefs and values including concepts  
16 of world community and mutual responsibility; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, international understanding and peace, as well as  
19 understanding and peace in our local communities, are  
20 strengthened by free and open communications among everyone  
21 representing various cultural and religious traditions; and  
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23 WHEREAS, the 96<sup>th</sup> United States Congress officially  
24 recognized the noble qualities of Islam in a concurrent  
25 resolution on October 15, 1979 (SCR 43), honoring the religion's  
26 14<sup>th</sup> centennial; now, therefore,  
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
29 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
30 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that September 24, 2009, shall  
31 be known as "Islam Day" to recognize the rich religious,  
32 scientific, cultural, and artistic contributions Islam and the  
33 Islamic world have made since their founding; and  
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional  
37 delegation, the Governor, and the Board of the Muslim  
38 Association of Hawaii.

