HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT PAPA OLA LOKAHI WORK WITH EXPERTS IN THE CULTURAL PRACTICE OF TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN TATTOOING TO DETERMINE QUALIFICATIONS FOR KAHUNA KA KAKAU.

WHEREAS, traditional Hawaiian tattoo artists use a centuries-old tattooing procedure that is derived from ancient Hawaiian tradition and practice; and

WHEREAS, "kahuna ka kakau" are experts in the cultural practice and application of traditional Hawaiian tattooing; and

WHEREAS, state law requires tattoo artists, including kahuna ka kakau, to be licensed by the Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, during the Regular Session of 2008, the Legislature considered a measure that proposed to exempt kahuna ka kakau from the licensure requirement; and

WHEREAS, the determination of the necessary qualifications of a kahuna ka kakau is best made by experts in the practice and application of traditional Hawaiian tattooing; and

WHEREAS, Papa Ola Lokahi is the Native Hawaiian Health Board founded to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians and their families, including supporting kupuna masters engaged in traditional Hawaiian healing practices; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the Senate concurring, that Papa Ola Lokahi is requested to work with experts in the practice of traditional Hawaiian tattooing to determine the qualifications necessary to achieve the title of kahuna ka kakau; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Papa Ola Lokahi is requested to submit a report of its findings, and proposed legislation to exempt kahuna ka kakau from licensure requirements, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of Papa Ola Lokahi and the Director of Health.

FERED BY: HCR LRB 09-2906.doc