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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TO PLACE  
IOLANI PALACE ON THE NOMINATION LIST TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION FOR WORLD  
HERITAGE SITE DESIGNATION.

1 WHEREAS, over 125 years ago, King Kalakaua ruled over an  
2 independent Hawaiian nation that was recognized internationally  
3 and had established over 90 legations and consulates in multiple  
4 seaports and cities of foreign countries; and  
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6 WHEREAS, part of King Kalakaua's vision was the  
7 construction of Iolani Palace as a showcase for Hawaii's social  
8 sophistication and technological advancement; and  
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10 WHEREAS, following the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani in  
11 1893, Iolani Palace ceased to be a royal palace and became the  
12 seat of government for five types of political administrations:  
13 a provisional government, a republic, a territory, a military  
14 government, and finally, a state; and  
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16 WHEREAS, Iolani Palace was designated a National Historic  
17 Landmark in 1962; and  
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19 WHEREAS, the executive and legislative branches of the  
20 State of Hawaii vacated Iolani Palace in 1969 and moved to the  
21 newly constructed State Capitol building, thus paving the way  
22 for The Friends of Iolani Palace to proceed with restoration;  
23 and  
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25 WHEREAS, over the next decade, The Friends of Iolani  
26 Palace, founded in 1966 by Liliuokalani Kawanānakoā Morris, who  
27 was a grand-niece of Queen Kapiolani, painstakingly worked to  
28 return Iolani Palace to its former grandeur as it appeared  
29 during the Kalakaua Dynasty; and



1 WHEREAS, in 1978, Iolani Palace reopened to the public with  
2 the mission of perpetuating the Hawaiian monarchy and providing  
3 both visitors and residents with a fresh understanding of  
4 Hawaii's royal heritage; and  
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6 WHEREAS, when the current United States (U.S.) list of  
7 candidate sites was compiled for consideration as World Heritage  
8 Sites by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural  
9 Organization (UNESCO), Iolani Palace was not invited by the  
10 National Park Service to apply; and  
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12 WHEREAS, due to the unique cultural and historical  
13 attributes of Iolani Palace and the underrepresentation of World  
14 Heritage sites in Oceania, The Friends of Iolani Palace believes  
15 that Iolani Palace meets multiple criteria for selection to  
16 become the very first man-made structure in Polynesia to be  
17 designated a World Heritage Site; and  
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19 WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of The Friends of Iolani  
20 Palace unanimously passed a motion to actively pursue a  
21 nomination to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site at its  
22 regularly scheduled meeting on October 25, 2007; now, therefore,  
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
25 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
26 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Department of the  
27 Interior is requested to reopen the World Heritage nomination  
28 process that was closed under the previous administration; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Friends of Iolani Palace is  
31 requested to consult with the Hawaiian community and other  
32 appropriate organizations to receive input regarding the  
33 nomination of Iolani Palace as a World Heritage Site; and  
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Interior  
36 is requested to include Iolani Palace on the current U.S.  
37 Tentative List and subsequently in the nomination file that will  
38 be presented to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre for review; and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii's congressional  
41 delegation urge the Department of the Interior to place Iolani  
42 Palace on the nomination list for World Heritage Site  
43 designation by UNESCO; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
3 U.S., the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, Princess Abigail  
4 Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawananakoa, each member of Hawaii's  
5 congressional delegation, the Executive Director of The Friends  
6 of Iolani Palace, and the President of the Association of  
7 Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

