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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING CONGRESS TO DESIGNATE THE HAWAII CAPITAL CULTURAL DISTRICT AS A NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

WHEREAS, National Heritage Areas allow residents, government agencies, non-profit groups and private partners to collaboratively plan and implement programs and projects that recognize, preserve and celebrate America's defining landscapes; and

WHEREAS, a National Heritage Area is a place designated by Congress where natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 40 designated National Heritage Areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Hawaii Capital National Heritage Area has a unique story in the American experience that is best told through an extraordinary collection of ancient, cultural and historic sites, vibrant neighborhoods and living traditions found throughout the study area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Hawaii Capital National Heritage Area provides an outstanding opportunity to tell the story of the unique intermingling of numerous ethnic groups and cultures that have come to make up the population of the Hawaiian Islands today; and

WHEREAS, culture and the arts are treasured resources that enhance and enrich the lives of Hawaii's residents and visitors and affect the economy, education, quality of life, and community development; 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 Congress is requested to designate the Hawaii Capital Cultural District as a National Heritage Area; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to each member of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, the Director of the State of Hawaii's Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and the Director of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau

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