HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT ON ITS GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is blessed with remarkable natural resources and magnificent landscapes that attract sportsmen and sportswomen from around the world to our islands to participate in competitive sporting events; and

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WHEREAS, anglers worldwide will converge on the Kona Coast of the Big Island for five action-packed days of tough, competitive fishing in search of prized Pacific blue marlin and a chance to capture the HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT'S prestigious Governor's trophy; and

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WHEREAS, under the guidance of founder Peter S. Fithian, the HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT has earned its iconic status in big-game fishing circles as the "grandfather" of all big game fishing tournaments; and

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WHEREAS, this year marks the Golden Anniversary of this elite fishing event and in celebration of this milestone, the tournament organizers will expand its registration capacity to 50 teams, including those from Australia, Japan, Bermuda, Portugal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Tahiti, and the United States; and

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WHEREAS, the HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT is based upon honor, prestige, and strict adherence to International Game Fish Association rules, including tag and release to promote conservation; and

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WHEREAS, this noteworthy and exhilarating tournament represents the best that Hawaii has to offer for fishing enthusiasts; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 1 2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that this body hereby commends and congratulates the HAWAIIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT on its Golden Anniversary, including organizers and participants for their 5 part in showcasing the wonder of Hawaii's beautiful, blue 6 expanse of ocean and its extraordinary natural resources, the 7 thrill of competitive angler fishing, and for making this 8 9 tournament one of the outstanding fishing events in the world. 10 11

OFFERED BY:

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