

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES
CONGRESS TO ADOPT THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE
RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of
2 Indigenous Peoples (Declaration) is a non-binding text that sets
3 out the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples,
4 as well as their rights to culture, identity, language,
5 employment, health, education, and other rights; and
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7 WHEREAS, on September 13, 2007, the United Nations General
8 Assembly approved the Declaration with 11 members abstaining and
9 four members voting no; and
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11 WHEREAS, the United States was among those four members
12 voting against the Declaration; and
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14 WHEREAS, the 2005 Legislature recognized the significance
15 of indigenous peoples' rights by passing House Concurrent
16 Resolution 195, H.D. 1, adopting the Declaration; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Legislature acknowledges the continued need to
19 preserve and maintain the Hawaiian culture, to protect and
20 promote the human rights of the *kanaka maoli*, the indigenous
21 people of Hawaii, and to support the efforts of the *kanaka maoli*
22 to pursue environmentally sustainable economic, social, and
23 educational activities to ensure the survival of their culture;
24 now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
28 that the President of the United States and the United States
29 Congress is urged to adopt the Declaration; and
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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