SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE RECOGNITION OF THE SECOND WEEK OF MARCH AS THE "CENSUS IN SCHOOLS WEEK".

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution requires a count every ten years of everyone residing in the United States regardless of their nationality, citizenship status, race, age, or gender; and

WHEREAS, census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households via U.S. mail in March 2010 and Census Day is April 1, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the goal is to count everyone in the State of Hawaii, count them once and count them in the right place; and

WHEREAS, census data determines the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, census data is used to determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts; and

WHEREAS, 2010 Census data will affect how more than \$4 trillion will be allocated to local, state, and tribal governments over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, census data is used to determine funding for schools, Title 1 programs, special education, college grant and loan programs, public transportation, road and community improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Census Bureau's program "2010 Census: It's About Us", is a free education program which provides teachers with lessons that meet core standards and feature skill building activities in map literacy, graphing, and writing; and

 WHEREAS, the "Census in Schools" program endeavors to reach every public school, private school, charter school, home school, student between kindergarten through 12th grade, school

administrator, teacher, household with school-age children and educational organization; and

WHEREAS, children have been undercounted in every U.S. census taken; and

WHEREAS, the program engages Hawaii's youth to help ensure that every child and household member is counted; and

WHEREAS, this Census Bureau program challenges students to get to know their communities and learn about their communities needs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that the second week in March, beginning with Sunday, be "Census in Schools" Week; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports the "Census in Schools" program and recognizes the importance of this program as a teaching tool for our children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature will work toward encouraging residents to complete and mail back their census questionnaires and to increase awareness regarding the importance of the 2010 Census; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body representing the people of Hawaii gives the educational efforts of "Census in Schools" its highest endorsement and encouragement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of Independent

 Schools, the Executive Director of the Charter School Administrative Office, and the Mayor of each county.

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OFFERED BY: Manne Chum Chum ChularL