THE SENATE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

S.R. NO.92

MAR 1 0 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OWNER OF THE HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME TO FIND A NEW OWNER FOR THE NEWSPAPER TO PRESERVE TWO INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN THE COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2010, Oahu Publications, Inc.
 (OPI), the owner of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin announced that
 OPI has entered into an agreement with Gannett Newspapers, Inc.,
 to purchase the assets of The Honolulu Advertiser; and

6 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin has been a
7 distinguished independent daily newspaper and editorial voice in
8 Hawaii for one hundred twenty-six years; and

10 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reporters, columnists, 11 editorial writers, and photographers have won numerous awards 12 for incisive reporting, thought-provoking commentary, and 13 delightful satire; and

15 WHEREAS, OPI announced it would offer the Honolulu
16 Star-Bulletin for sale, but would close or merge the newspaper
17 with The Honolulu Advertiser if a qualified buyer is not found
18 by April 2010; and

20 WHEREAS, the closure of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or the
21 merger of the newspaper with The Honolulu Advertiser may mean
22 the loss of approximately two hundred jobs; and

24 WHEREAS, the closure of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or the 25 merger of the newspaper with The Honolulu Advertiser will mean 26 the residents of the city and State will no longer have two 27 daily newspapers engaging in editorial and reportorial 28 competition; and

WHEREAS, the community and the democratic process are
better served by maintaining a newspaper press that is
editorially and reportorially independent and competitive; and

34 WHEREAS, in citing the reasons for The Honolulu 35 Advertiser's sale to OPI, Gannett Newspapers, Inc., has not said



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The Honolulu Advertiser and Gannett Newspapers, Inc., are not
 profitable; indeed, Gannett has announced it had turned the
 corner and would earn a first quarter profit this year; now,
 therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth 7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, 8 that Oahu Publications, Inc., is urged to continue publication 9 of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or to provide sufficient time to 10 find a qualified buyer for the newspaper in order to preserve 11 publication of separate and independent daily newspapers in the 12 community; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 15 Resolution be transmitted to Oahu Publications, Inc., owner of 16 the Honolulu Star-Bulletin; Gannett Newspapers, Inc., owner of 17 The Honolulu Advertiser; the Attorney General of the State of 18 Hawaii; and the United States Department of Justice.

OFFERED BY:

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