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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE ISLANDS OF POLYNESIA.

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand its international ties and has an abiding interest in developing goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people of Hawaii and the people of many nations and territories comprising Polynesia; and

WHEREAS, as part of its effort to achieve this goal, Hawaii has established a number of sister-state agreements with provinces in the Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, historical precedent exists which exemplifies a common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and financial bridge between Polynesians living in Hawaii and their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the islands of Polynesia; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of sister-state relations between the State of Hawaii and Polynesia would help reinforce and cement this common bridge; and

WHEREAS, the geographic location of Hawaii presents an outstanding opportunity to promote global connectivity among the islands of Polynesia to proliferate meaningful and mutually rewarding international friendships, understanding between cultures, economic and social vitality, scientific and technological advancement, and enhanced regional security; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Governor is requested to set up a task force within the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) to establish a relationship between Hawaii and the islands of Polynesia, including:

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              Western Province - Solomon Islands;
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         (2)
              Rarotonga District - Cook Islands;
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              Easter Island;
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              Province of Tahiti - French Polynesia;
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         (5)
              Pohnpei Province - Micronesia;
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              Westland Province - New Zealand;
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              Madang Province - Papua New Guinea;
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              Pitcairn Island District - Pitcairn Islands;
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         (9) Upolu District - Samoa;
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         (10) Tongatapu District - Tonga;
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         (11) Funafuti District - Tuvalu; and
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         (12) 'Uvea Province - Wallis and Futuna;
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    and
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         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be
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    composed of the Governor, and members representing DBEDT and the
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    East-West Center; and
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         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to
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    keep the Legislature fully informed of the process in
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    establishing these relationships and to be involved in
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    formalization; and
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         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
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    Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
    Governor of the State of Hawaii, Governor of American Samoa,
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    Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands, Prime Minister of the
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    Cook Islands, Provincial Governor of Easter Island, President of
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    Vanuatu, President of French Polynesia, President of the
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Federated States of Micronesia, Prime Minster of New Zealand,
Governor General of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea,
Governor of the Pitcairn Islands, President of Fiji, Prime
Minister of the Independent State of Samoa, King of Tonga,
Governor General of Tuvalu, and President of the Territorial
Assembly of Wallis and Futuna.

OFFERED BY:

FEB 2 2 2011