HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO ENSURE GENDER EQUALITY IN THEIR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS.

WHEREAS, equality between men and women is essential to the 1 progress, sustainable development, and effective governance of 2 the State, the nation, and society, and is of fundamental and 3 unequaled importance; and 4 5 WHEREAS, gender equality is the cornerstone of a cohesive 6 society and both government and private organizations have 7 acknowledged the detriment to society incurred by the previous 8 exclusion of women from education, business, and government 9 activities; and 10 11 WHEREAS, over the last century, many have fought to remedy 12 past wrongs and provide opportunities for women to participate 13 in and lead private and public institutions; and 14 15 16 WHEREAS, the late Patsy Mink championed such efforts by coauthoring and shepherding the passage of Title IX, which secured 17 equal opportunities for women in education and athletics; and 18 19 20 WHEREAS, the State is dedicated to ensuring equality in all areas of public and private life; and 21 22 WHEREAS, the continued unfair treatment and exclusion of 23 24 women from leadership roles in private institutions, particularly those institutions impacting the social and moral 25 development of the people, are inconsistent with these efforts 26 and the fundamental principles of the State and the nation; and 27 28 29 WHEREAS, those making decisions affecting the direction of these influential organizations should be representative of 30 those for whom the decisions are made; and 31

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WHEREAS, for the continued progress and stability of our 1 society, equality must be instilled in all private institutions, 2 and women should be allowed to assume both secular and non-3 4 secular leadership roles; now, therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 7 of 2011, that all private organizations, including faith-based 8 organizations, are urged to open leadership roles and positions 9 of influence to women; and 10

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the American Civil 13 Liberties Union, Executive Director of the Hawaii Civil Rights 14 Commission, Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission on 15 the Status of Women, and President of Interfaith Alliance 16 Hawaii. 17

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OFFERED BY: Jida Cabonilla

JAN 2 0 2011

