MAR 1 6 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO A CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON MUSLIM RADICALIZATION.

WHEREAS, despite opposition by civil rights organizations, faith-based groups, and his own colleagues in the United States House of Representatives, the Chairperson of the House Committee on Homeland Security held a hearing on March 10, 2011, entitled "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and that Community's Response"; and

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WHEREAS, the Chairperson of the House Committee on Homeland Security justified holding of the hearing on the grounds of national security; and

WHEREAS, civil rights organizations and faith-based groups expressed concerns over the singling out of a group of Americans based on their faith, noting that the hearings would demonize American Muslims, denigrate their religion, and question their patriotism; and

WHEREAS, the Chairperson's congressional colleagues expressed their concern over the narrow scope and unfair stigmatization and alienation of Muslim Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Chairperson's actions and his justification for those actions are reminiscent of the prejudice, hysteria, and failure in political leadership that led to one of America's most shameful periods in history, namely, the evacuation, relocation, and imprisonment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Legislature expresses its opposition to the hearing on March 19, 2011, on "The Extent of Radicalization in the American Muslim Community and that Community's Response" held by the Committee on Homeland Security of the United States House of Representatives; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker, the Minority Leader, and the Chairperson of the Committee on Homeland Security of the United States House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY: