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HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE MARYKNOLL SISTERS FOR 100 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AND OUTREACH TO HELP THOSE IN NEED AROUND THE WORLD AND TO BETTER THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS AND THE COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, living in many countries around the world has given the Maryknoll Sisters the opportunity to focus on civil and human rights in their ministries along with economic development, education, peace, women's advocacy, health care, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the first Maryknoll Sisters came to Hawaii on September 5, 1927, invited by Bishop Stephen Alencastre to start the parochial school system beginning with Sacred Heart, Honolulu and St. Ann, Heeia; and

WHEREAS, the Maryknoll Sisters established Catholic Social Services in 1943, the precursor to Catholic Charities Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Catholic Charities was opened by three sisters led by Sister Victoria Francis Larmour, an East Coast pioneer in modern social work; and

WHEREAS, they introduced adoption, social action, parish outreach, group homes, Project Rachel for women who had abortions, foster care, and other programs that Catholic Charities maintains today; and

WHEREAS, the Maryknoll Sisters designed the interfaith Project RESPECT in 1983, which now serves as Project Dana sponsored by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, with 700 volunteers reaching 900 frail elderly; and

WHEREAS, by the end of the 1990s, the work of Hawaii's Maryknollers was diverse and imaginative; they volunteered in

hospitals, parishes, prisons, and women's shelters, and worked with children, abused women, immigrants, and the elderly; now, therefore.

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that this body hereby congratulates the Maryknoll Sisters for 100 years of dedicated service and outreach to help those in need around the world and to better the lives of individuals and the community, honors the Maryknoll Sisters' legacy, and expresses its warmest aloha and best wishes to all of the Sisters now and in the future.

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