MAR 1 4 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LA'I'OPUA 2020 AND ITS EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT THE LA'I'OPUA COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX.

WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii estimates that the population in north Kona will have increased by about twenty-eight percent by the year 2020, with a corresponding increase in the need for community resources; and

WHEREAS, there is already a lack of recreational facilities, social services, and health care facilities near the Villages of La'i'Opua, located in north Kona; for example, the nearest hospital is fifteen miles away; and

WHEREAS, La'i'Opua 2020 is a Kona-based not-for-profit organization that seeks to identify community needs, develop and foster the creation of community facilities, and plan and partner with service providers to offer a variety of services and programs for the residents of the Villages of La'i'Opua and the greater north Kona area; and

WHEREAS, La'i'Opua 2020 has secured a sixty-five-year general lease from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for the 26.75 acre parcel of land adjacent to Kealakehe High School to develop the La'i'Opua Community Center Complex, which will include a community center, medical clinic, child and adult day care facility, Kamehameha Schools preschool, gymnasium, aquatic center, athletic fields, outdoor courts, amphitheater, meeting facilities, and office space; and

WHEREAS, some of the organizations that have partnered with La'i'Opua 2020 to develop the complex include the County of Hawaii, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kamehameha Schools, Kealakehe High School, and Alu Like, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of the facilities will create new jobs, thereby contributing to the continuing



economic vitality of the region through community-based training and career-building opportunities as well as the establishment of critical entry-level jobs; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports the La'i'Opua 2020 organization and its efforts to develop the La'i'Opua Community Center Complex; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Executive Director of La'i'Opua 2020.

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OFFERED BY:

Will Evo Ensanni Chun Calland