

## **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

DESIGNATING HAWAI'I AS THE FIRST HUMAN RIGHTS STATE IN THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING MARCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH.

WHEREAS, 2014 marks the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, as such, 2014 presents an opportunity to call attention to human rights violations around the world and to continue to promote the importance of educating Hawai'i's citizens about the value of human rights; and

WHEREAS, a Human Rights State is one whose residents and local authorities, through ongoing discussions and creative exchanges of ideas, come to understand that human rights, when widely known as a way of life, assists in identifying the issues and informs the actions of communities for meaningful, positive economic and social change; and

WHEREAS, developing Human Rights States and Cities is an attempt to build infrastructure for conflict prevention, human security, sustainable development, and create a place for active civic engagement at the local, national, and global level; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Hawai'i, led by individuals and organizations, affirm their commitment to human rights by declaring Hawai'i to be a Human Rights State, the first of its kind in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as a Human Rights State, Hawai'i will be a model for communities around the world to witness practical ways the human rights framework can make every citizen a partner of sustainable change; and

WHEREAS, as a Human Rights State, Hawai'i will be joining Human Rights States and Cities around the world in working to

provide leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular

Session of 2014, that Hawai'i be designated as a Human Rights

7 State and that March is recognized as Human Rights Month in 8 Hawai'i; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution may be cited as the "Hawai'i Human Rights State Recognition Resolution of 2014."

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OFFERED BY:

