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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE JAPANESE WOMEN'S SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR CREATING THE "ADOPT-A-MOM" PROGRAM AND ENCOURAGING ALL FAMILIES AND AGENCIES WORKING WITH THE ELDERLY OF HAWAII TO PLACE "ADOPT-A-MOM" DAY ON THEIR CALENDARS, AS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF MAY, IN OBSERVANCE OF THE ELDERLY WOMEN OF HAWAII WHO DESERVE TO BE CHERISHED AND APPRECIATED FOR THE INVALUABLE ROLE THEY PLAY AS THE MOTHERS OF OUR KEIKI O KA AINA.

WHEREAS, the "Adopt-A-Mom" program is an annual event started by the Japanese Women's Society Foundation of Hawaii in 1995 to recognize mothers on "Adopt-A-Mom" Day in Hawaii who are not able to celebrate Mother's Day with family members; and

WHEREAS, Lillian Yajima, the event organizer for the program, started the program because she felt that no mother should be lonely on Mother's Day; and

WHEREAS, the "Adopt-A-Mom" program has enriched the lives of many of Hawaii's elders and provided a positive reminder that our kupuna are an essential part of our island ohana; and

WHEREAS, former Governor Neil Abercrombie announced that beginning in 2016, the third Sunday of May would be designated as "Adopt-A-Mom" Day on the official state calendar; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu also designated May 19, 2014, as "Adopt-A-Mom" Day in Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, the "Adopt-A-Mom" program also highlights the efforts of the Japanese Women's Society Foundation to build and maintain a care home at Kuakini Medical Center where elderly women of limited means are cared for with dignity and compassion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Japanese Women's Society Foundation is commended for creating the "Adopt-A-Mom" program and all families and agencies working with the elderly of Hawaii are encouraged to place "Adopt-A-Mom" Day on their calendars, as the third Sunday of May, in observance of the elderly women of Hawaii who deserve to be cherished and appreciated for the invaluable role they play as the mothers of our keiki o ka aina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Executive Office on Aging and Japanese Women's Society Foundation board members.

OFFERED BY: MAR 1 3 2015