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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO COORDINATE WITH VARIOUS STATE AGENCIES TO CREATE A PLAN TO NAME A SCHOOL, BUILDING, ROAD, OR AREA UNDER STATE CONTROL AFTER PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA.

WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama was born to Barack Obama, Sr. and Ann Dunham on August 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Barack Obama spent his formative years attending high school at Punahou School on the island of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Barack Obama began working on the south side of Chicago as a community organizer for low-income residents in the Roseland and the Altgeld Gardens communities;

WHEREAS, in 1991, Barack Obama graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School; and

WHEREAS, after being elected to the Illinois Senate in 1996, Barack Obama drafted legislation on ethics and worked to expand health care services and early childhood education programs for low-income families; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Barack Obama was sworn in as a United States senator representing Illinois, and was only the third African American to hold a United States Senate seat since Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2009, Barack Obama was sworn in as the forty-fourth president of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, under President Obama's leadership, the United States economy has thrived, the national deficit has shrunk by two-thirds, and the national unemployment rate has dropped below 5.3 percent; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of President Obama, the landmark Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was passed, allowing more than sixteen million Americans to have affordable and quality health care; and

WHEREAS, additional accomplishments of President Obama include ending United States combat operations in Iraq, winning the Nobel Peace Prize, signing into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and beginning the process of normalizing relations with Cuba; and

WHEREAS, President Obama is one of numerous individuals of African American heritage who have played integral roles in the history of Hawaii, including Anthony D. Allen, Betsey Stockton, Thomas McCants Stewart, Alice Ball, Helene Hale, and William F. Crockett; and

 WHEREAS, President Obama's legacy includes not just his historic role as the first African American United States president, but also his tireless dedication as a progressive and forward thinking leader; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is requested to coordinate with various state agencies including but not limited to the Department of Transportation, University of Hawaii System, Department of Education, and Department of Accounting and General Services to create a plan to name a school, building, road, park, or other property under the control of the State in honor of President Barack Obama; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to submit a joint report of the status of the plan to the Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts is requested to commission a statue of President Barack Obama to be located on state or federal property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Transportation, Comptroller, President of the University of Hawaii System, Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and President Barack Obama.