HOUSE RESOLUTION

DECLARING HAWAII TO BE A HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE.

1   WHEREAS, the State motto "[u]a mau ke ea 'o ka 'āina i ka
2 pono," which means, "[t]he life of the land is perpetuated in
3 righteousness," reminds us that our deepest community values
4 compel us to welcome the visitor and care for the wanderer in
5 our midst; and
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7   WHEREAS, the traditional Hawaiian value of ho'okipa, or
8 open-hearted hospitality, calls us to welcome the visitor and
9 the stranger alike, and to unselfishly extend to others the best
10 that we have to give; and
11
12   WHEREAS, Hawaii is justifiably proud of its diverse
13 immigrant heritage, which has woven the many people of this
14 State into a rich tapestry of races, ancestral groups,
15 religions, cultures, and languages from all over the world; and
16
17   WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique spirit of inclusiveness allows its
18 diverse people to live in relative harmony because of our
19 respect and aloha for each other and our commitment to peace and
20 justice; and
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22   WHEREAS, our state and county governments cultivate a
23 culture of inclusion when they ensure that all people in our
24 communities receive equal protection under the law and
25 respectful treatment, without regard to their race, national
26 origin, ancestry, or citizenship status; and
27
28   WHEREAS, Hawaii's inclusionary and peaceful culture is now
29 threatened by inflammatory rhetoric and harsh federal policies
30 that vilify immigrants, divide communities and families, and
31 create fear and suspicion among different racial, ethnic, and
32 ancestral groups; and
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1   WHEREAS, the executive branch of the federal government has
2   recently revived a program under section 287(g) of the
3   Immigration and Nationality Act that allows a state or local law
4   enforcement entity to enter into a partnership with the
5   Immigration Control and Enforcement (ICE) division of the
6   Department of Homeland Security in order to receive delegated
7   authority for immigration enforcement within their
8   jurisdictions; and
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10   WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the United States
11   Constitution guarantees states' sovereignty and provides that
12   "powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution,
13   nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States
14   respectively, or to the people;" and
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16   WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment further provides that the
17   federal government may not commandeer state and local officials
18   by demanding that they enforce federal laws and regulatory
19   programs; and
20
21   WHEREAS, each state, and municipality within each state,
22   has the sovereign power to choose how they allocate their
23   resources and cannot be forced to carry out the federal
24   government's agenda; and
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26   WHEREAS, local law enforcement agencies should not be
27   required to bear the immense financial burden of enforcing
28   federal immigration laws; and
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30   WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii already shoulder the costs of
31   providing health care, housing, education, and other social
32   services to migrants from various Pacific Island communities,
33   who were forced to leave their ancestral homelands because of
34   the devastating effects of some actions of the United States,
35   such as the above-ground testing of nuclear weapons and the
36   building of large military installations that displaced
37   islanders from the ancestral lands; and
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39   WHEREAS, it would be an injustice to Hawaii's residents for
40   the State, or any of its political subdivisions, to expend
41   scarce state resources enforcing federal immigration policies

1   instead of providing for housing, education, transportation,
2   medical care, and other basic human needs here in Hawaii; and
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4   WHEREAS, the involvement of state law enforcement officers
5   in federal deportation programs and activities would alienate
6   members of our many communities and undermine the relationships
7   between the State's law enforcement agencies and local
8   communities; and
9
10   WHEREAS, in the face of discriminatory policies and the
11 element of uncertainty in the promulgation and execution of
12 continually evolving orders and policies of the federal
13 government, the State of Hawaii and its leaders are encouraged
14 to advocate for the protection of all residents, including
15 immigrants, and their due process rights, as guaranteed by both
16 the Constitutions of the United States of Hawaii; now therefore
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18   BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
20 of 2017, requests that the State of Hawaii and its political
21 subdivisions recognize that immigration is a federal function
22 and that local law enforcement agencies should decline to work
23 with federal immigration agencies; and
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25   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State and its political
26 subdivisions are requested to not expend state or county funds
27 by entering into any agreements under section 287(g) of the
28 Immigration and Nationality Act or any similar agreement with
29 the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or
30 by engaging in any other law enforcement activities that
31 collaborate with ICE or any other federal law enforcement agency
32 in connection with the deportation of undocumented immigrants
33 who have not been convicted of committing a violent crime; and
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35   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Mayors of the
37 City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Kauai, Maui, and
38 Hawaii; the Chairs of the respective county councils; and the
39 Chiefs of Police of the City and County of Honolulu and the
40 Counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii; and the Chief Justice of
41 the Hawaii Supreme Court.
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