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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE HAWAI'I TOURISM AUTHORITY TO COLLABORATE WITH THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP TO CONDUCT AN EVENT IN HAWAI'I.

WHEREAS, the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) has grown into a staple of American culture, growing from a \$50 million business in 2005 to a \$600 million business in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the popularity of UFC has grown as exemplified by the average buyrate for pay-per-view events in 2016 at 717,000 per event; and

WHEREAS, there have been and are successful fighters from the State in UFC, including Hilo's BJ Penn, Waianae's Max Holloway, Makaha's Yancy Medeiros, Kailua's Brad Tavares, and others; and

WHEREAS, BJ "The Prodigy" Penn has achieved a record of sixteen wins, twelve losses, and two draws in his professional mixed martial arts career; and

WHEREAS, BJ Penn is the only fighter to win both the UFC lightweight and welterweight titles; and

WHEREAS, Waianae's Max "Blessed" Holloway has achieved a record of nineteen wins and three losses in his professional mixed martial arts career; and

WHEREAS, Max Holloway was named Rolling Stone's 2017 UFC Fighter of the Year for successfully becoming the undisputed UFC Featherweight Champion and successfully defending the championship title; and

WHEREAS, Makaha's Yancy "The Kid" Medeiros has achieved a record of fifteen wins and five losses in his professional mixed martial arts career; and

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> WHEREAS, Kailua's Brad Tavares has achieved a record of sixteen wins and five losses in his professional mixed martial arts career; and

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WHEREAS, Rachael Ostovich has achieved success in UFC by winning her debut fight at the finale of The Ultimate Fighter 26 with a first round victory arm bar; and

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WHEREAS, the success of local fighters has increased the popularity of UFC in the State; and

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WHEREAS, the State has successfully hosted major national and international events on an annual basis, including the PGA Sony Open, Honolulu Marathon, Vans Triple Crown of Surfing, XTERRA World Championships, and Maui Jim Maui Invitational; and

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WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Tourism Authority is in discussions with UFC about holding an event in Hawaii at Aloha Stadium; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Hawai'i Tourism Authority are encouraged to collaborate with the Ultimate Fighting Championship to conduct an event in Hawai'i; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, and President of the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

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OFFERED BY:

HCR HMS 2018-2754-3