
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU STAR-ADVERTISER TO PROVIDE NEXT-OF-KIN
INFORMATION WITHIN FREE DEATH NOTICES.

1 WHEREAS, Americans prefer local newspapers as their main
2 source of local news, according to a 2017 survey from the
3 National Newspaper Association; and
4

5 WHEREAS, newspapers are the top source for news on various
6 local topics including community events, crime, taxes, local
7 government, arts and culture, social services, zoning and
8 development, and are tied for the top source on housing,
9 schools, jobs, and local political news, according to a survey
10 conducted by the Pew Research Center, in conjunction with the
11 Knight Foundation; and
12

13 WHEREAS, further, newspapers fulfill an important function
14 by publishing announcements of individuals' passings; and
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16 WHEREAS, these announcements:

- 17
- 18 (1) Inform relatives, acquaintances, friends, coworkers,
19 and others that an individual with whom they had a
20 valued relationship has passed;
21
 - 22 (2) Inform the public of any mourning or celebration of
23 life ceremonies; and
24
 - 25 (3) May be used by human resource services to verify and
26 allow leave for bereavement for family members and
27 time off for staff and personnel wishing to attend
28 mourning services; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser is the only newspaper
31 on Oahu, online and in print, that publishes these important
32 announcements; and



1 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser has bifurcated their
2 announcements into two categories:

3
4 (1) Death Notices, which are free, basic announcements
5 limited to the deceased individual's name, age,
6 gender, area of residence, date of passing, and
7 information regarding any services; and
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9 (2) Family Placed Obituaries and Featured, which are
10 announcements that are paid per column inch per day
11 and may include more details about the deceased
12 individual, such as kinship listings; and
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14 WHEREAS, Hawaii's "Ohana" society is based upon the close
15 relationships individuals form with family, coworkers,
16 classmates, and others; and
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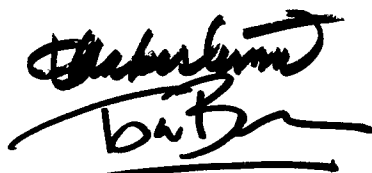
18 WHEREAS, the kinship listing allows readers to recognize
19 those in their community that will be entering bereavement and
20 verify whether they know the deceased individual; now,
21 therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2018, that the Honolulu Star-Advertiser is urged to include
26 immediate next-of-kin information within free death notices; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funeral homes in Hawaii are
29 urged to assist in gathering next-of-kin information to be
30 included in free death notices when the funeral home
31 communicates with family members of the deceased; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the President of Oahu Publications,
35 Inc. and Editor of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.
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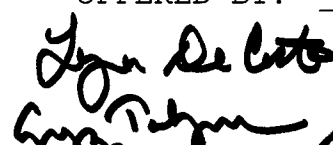
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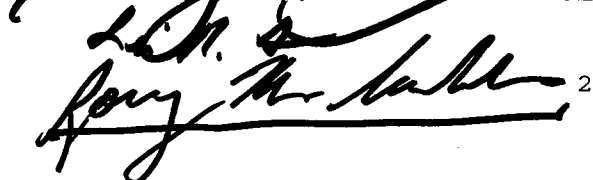

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Lyn DeCato
Greg Tatum
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