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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO REQUIRE ALL TELEVISION STATIONS THAT BROADCAST IN HAWAII TO DEDICATE TIME SLOTS TO EDUCATE THE GENERAL PUBLIC THROUGH PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's geographic location puts the islands at risk of various natural disasters, such as tsunamis, hurricanes, and tropical storms; and

WHEREAS, man-made disasters are also a threat to the safety of Hawaii's residents and visitors, especially in light of recent domestic and international events; and

WHEREAS, while there are safety measures in place in the event of natural and man-made disasters, much of the public remains unaware of the proper procedures to take during any type of disaster; and

WHEREAS, the recent scare of a false ballistic missile threat proved that regardless of safety measures the State has in place, the public is not sufficiently educated on the necessary steps and procedures to take in the event of a real disaster; and

WHEREAS, although disaster procedures and related information are available online, not all of the public has access to the Internet; therefore, it is important to give the public a variety of means to access disaster procedures and related information to cover all the platforms of information dissemination, which includes television, radio, and the Internet; and

WHEREAS, public safety, especially in the context of emergency preparedness, can be effected through collaboration with the federal government; and

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WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission regulates interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable in the United States and is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing the United States' communications law and regulations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Federal Communications Commission is requested to require all television stations that broadcast in Hawaii to allocate time slots in their programs to broadcast public service announcements to educate the public on how to prepare for all disasters, natural and man-made, in Hawaii; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Federal Communications Commission and Hawaii's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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