## S.C.R. NO. 53

MAR 0 3 2020

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO RECOGNIZE AND ADOPT INDIGENOUS LAND STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE.

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians and the indigenous peoples of the United States - Native Americans, including American Indians, Alaska Natives - were able in live in harmony with their environments and developed complex systems of resource management to promote sustainable farming, fishing, and resource gathering; and

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WHEREAS, according to the 2018 Special Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the planet is already seeing the consequences of the increase of one degree Celsius of global warming through more extreme weather, rising sea levels, and diminishing Arctic Sea ice, and estimates that by 2030, the planet will have warmed one and a half degrees Celsius bringing with it the beginning of catastrophic consequences; and

 WHEREAS, Act 288, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2012, established the 'Aha Moku advisory committee within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to bring generational wisdom of Native Hawaiians regarding the protection and sustainability of natural and cultural resources to the government agencies of the State of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, local organizations have voiced their support for the First Stewards' call on the United States government to formally recognize the First Stewards and their expertise to ensure the full and effective participation of tribal governments and indigenous communities for guidance in all policies and decision-making that affects Native and Indigenous peoples' way of life, and to support their management efforts to address climate change, which strengthens American resiliency and ability to adapt to climate change; and

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WHEREAS, on July 10, 2019, United States Senator Brian Schatz as the Chair of the Senate Democrats' Special Committee on the Climate Crisis, and in collaboration with a group of thirteen other United States Senators, solicited the views of American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian community leaders on the impacts of climate change in their respective communities and requested input, knowledge, and experience to help shape federal action to address climate change; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2020, the House of Representatives concurring, that the United States government is urged to recognize and adopt indigenous land stewardship practices to address climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, and members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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