

MAR 12 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) established the Universal
2 Periodic Review (UPR) in 2006 to review the human rights records
3 of all one hundred ninety-three UN member states, with the goal
4 of improving human rights; and

5
6 WHEREAS, every UN member state appears and actively
7 participates in the UPR hosted by the UN Human Rights Council
8 Working Group in Geneva twice a decade, with each review cycle
9 lasting four and a half years; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the United States appeared at the UPR in 2010,
12 2014, and most recently on November 9, 2020; and

13
14 WHEREAS, hundreds of recommendations have been suggested to
15 improve and produce a positive impact in Hawai'i and the United
16 States; and

17
18 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is an island state with a multicultural
19 population from around the world, recognizing the ancestral
20 wisdom of our host culture, cherishing our natural environment,
21 and recognizing our unique role in the United States and global
22 community; and

23
24 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was considered in 1944 by President
25 Franklin D. Roosevelt as a potential host for the UN
26 headquarters, to serve as a global diplomatic hub; and

27
28 WHEREAS, Hawai'i has had civil society and community
29 associations participate in all three UPR cycles and found that
30 the stakeholder submissions and recommendations issued provided
31 a heightened awareness among state legislators of the
32 significance of promoting and protecting human rights at home in
33 Hawai'i; and



1
2 WHEREAS, Hawai'i hosts an annual Human Rights Day to
3 illuminate important and imminent issues at the international
4 and island levels and to review the recommendations provided in
5 the UPR; and
6

7 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was designated as America's first Human
8 Rights state by House Resolution No. 194, which was adopted by
9 the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature
10 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014; and
11

12 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was the first state to conduct a Voluntary
13 Local Review at the UN, sharing our local strategies regarding
14 the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals through our Aloha+
15 Challenge; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the Office of Planning has supported the UN's 17
18 Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for
19 Sustainable Development, and it has aligned them with the Hawai'i
20 State Planning Act, the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, and the
21 State of Hawaii's Aloha+ Challenge; and
22

23 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to bring together civil society
24 to review the UPR recommendations and to discuss innovative
25 initiatives to realize human rights at home; and
26

27 WHEREAS, in spring 2021, the UN Office of the High
28 Commissioner for Human Rights will issue a report connecting the
29 third UPR human rights recommendations with the 17 Sustainable
30 Development Goals, which can be used as a guide to achieve the
31 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Hawai'i; and
32

33 WHEREAS, civil society can generate solutions and share
34 templates that provide concise, complete contributions about how
35 to realize human rights on every Hawaiian island; and
36

37 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to be pioneer in peace,
38 sustainability, human rights, and global justice, partnering
39 with city and county councils, as well as leadership from state
40 agencies and elected public officials, to maintain the human
41 rights movement in Hawai'i; and



1
2 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to participate in all phases of
3 the UN processes, and it will continue to organize community
4 conversations and commemorations for upcoming global events such
5 as the Paris Agreement, using a locally determined contribution
6 (LDC) to supplement the nationally determined contribution (NDC)
7 and future reports to the United Nations Human Rights Core
8 Treaty Bodies; now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that this body requests
13 that the recommendations of the third Universal Periodic Review
14 be implemented statewide by the Office of Planning, among other
15 executive departments, in furtherance of the State's Planning
16 Act; and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawai'i Legislature commits
19 to share broadly with the people of Hawai'i the results of the
20 third Universal Periodic Review; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the UN Secretary
24 General, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, President of the
25 United States, Vice President of the United States, Speaker of
26 the U.S. House of Representatives, Majority Leader of the U.S.
27 Senate, Hawai'i's congressional delegation, U.S. Department of
28 State, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, Governor, and
29 Director of Planning.
30
31
32

OFFERED BY: Karl Nhoah

