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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
CHANGE THE NAME OF PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
BACK TO HONOLULU HIGH SCHOOL AND REMOVE THE STATUE OF  
PRESIDENT MCKINLEY FROM THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

1 WHEREAS, what is currently named President William McKinley  
2 High School was previously named Honolulu High School, which was  
3 established in the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1865 and is one of the  
4 oldest secondary schools in the Hawaiian islands; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, the name of Honolulu High School was changed to  
7 President William McKinley High School in 1907 as a key  
8 component of the political indoctrination strategy to  
9 deliberately convince the people living in the Hawaiian islands  
10 that they are American; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, when the statue of William McKinley was erected in  
13 1911, several years after the renaming of the school, it was not  
14 to honor the President of the United States, but rather as a  
15 symbol to perpetuate the subjugation of Native Hawaiians and  
16 reinforce the lie that the Hawaiian islands belong to the United  
17 States of America; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, the name of the school and the statue of William  
20 McKinley holding the fabricated "Annexation Treaty" perpetuates  
21 the allegation that people in the Hawaiian islands wanted to  
22 become Americans, even though eighty percent of the adult  
23 population signed the Kū'e Petitions against annexation in 1897;  
24 and  
25

26 WHEREAS, on July 6, 1898, President McKinley committed  
27 fraud to continue the occupation of the Hawaiian islands by the  
28 United States by signing a Joint Resolution of Congress,



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1 entitled the "Newlands Resolution" that purported the annexation  
2 of Hawai'i; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the Newlands Resolution illegitimately claimed  
5 United States annexation of the Hawaiian islands, even though  
6 such a document does not have any power or legitimacy to annex  
7 an internationally recognized nation with official treaties in  
8 eighteen foreign states dating as far back as 1846; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the result of the illegal annexation turned Hawai'i  
11 into an overseas colony completely dependent on the United  
12 States of America and displaced Native Hawaiians, robbing them  
13 of their birth right, cultural identity, nationality, language,  
14 and homes, while negatively impacting their physical, mental,  
15 emotional, and spiritual well-being; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, following the enactment of the Newlands  
18 Resolution, Hawaii's public education system was pressed into  
19 service to indoctrinate, denationalize, "Americanize", and  
20 convert generations of Hawaii's children into patriotic United  
21 States citizens; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, U.S. Public Law 103-150, informally known as the  
24 "Apology Resolution", a Joint Resolution of the United States  
25 Congress signed by President Bill Clinton in 1993, acknowledges  
26 that "the Native Hawaiian people never directly relinquished to  
27 the United States their claims to their inherent sovereignty  
28 over their national lands, either through a plebiscite or  
29 referendum"; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, William McKinley also turned a blind eye to racial  
32 atrocities being committed throughout the United States during  
33 his presidency, including the genocide of Native Americans in  
34 California and lynching of African-Americans in the southern  
35 states; and

36  
37 WHEREAS, William McKinley also signed the Curtis Act of  
38 1898, which was intended to dismember the sovereign status of  
39 the Five Civilized Tribes, abolish the tribes' governments,  
40 invalidate their laws, dissolve their court systems, and subject  
41 native people to United States federal law; and  
42



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1 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Department of Education has  
2 recognized the need to replace school names and symbols that  
3 have racially complicated origins with place-based alternatives;  
4 and

5  
6 WHEREAS, examples of the Department of Education's  
7 commitment to healing the State's school system from historical  
8 trauma include the renaming of Central Middle School to Princess  
9 Ruth Ke'elikolani Middle School in 2021, noting that the  
10 princess' home, Keoua Hale, once stood on the grounds of the  
11 current campus; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the Board of Education purchased the property for  
14 what became Honolulu High School in 1895, which later became  
15 Ke'elikolani School before the name was changed to Central Junior  
16 High School in 1928, then Central Intermediate School in 1932,  
17 and Central Middle School in 1997; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, according to the principal of Princess Ruth  
20 Ke'elikolani Middle School, Joseph Passantino, Central Middle  
21 School was established as the school's name "in the 1930s  
22 because people couldn't pronounce the Hawaiian name"; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, regarding the restoration of the school's Hawaiian  
25 name, Mr. Passantino also said that "the significance is huge,  
26 especially for the staff who's dedicated over two years to give  
27 her that duty and honor"; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, additional actions have been taken at other public  
30 schools to address racially insensitive signifiers, such as the  
31 replacement of Kahuku High School's "Red Raiders" mascot, logo,  
32 and offensive chants after the Department of Education's Civil  
33 Rights Compliance Branch deemed them to be disrespectful and  
34 potentially discriminatory toward Native Americans; and

35  
36 WHEREAS, in an effort to overcome structural racism,  
37 communities across the United States have removed statues and  
38 symbols that deepen historical trauma, racial suppression, and  
39 white supremacy, including a statue of William McKinley in  
40 Arcata, California in 2019; and



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1 WHEREAS, in 2021, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent  
2 Resolution No. 112, declaring racism to be a public health  
3 crisis; and

4  
5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public school system has a responsibility  
6 to promote historical understanding, racial equity, and civil  
7 rights; now, therefore,

8  
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
10 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
11 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Education and  
12 Department of Education are urged to replace the name of  
13 President William McKinley High School with the previous name of  
14 Honolulu High School and remove the statue of President William  
15 McKinley from the school premises; and

16  
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the greatest extent  
18 possible, the Board of Education and Department of Education are  
19 requested to ensure that public school curricula are inclusive  
20 of content on the historical injustice and discrimination  
21 endured by Hawaii's indigenous people; and

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of the  
25 Hawaii's Congressional delegation, Governor, Chairperson of the  
26 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson  
27 of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education,  
28 Kaimuki-McKinley-Roosevelt Complex Area Superintendent, and  
29 President of the McKinley High School Foundation.

30  
31  
32 OFFERED BY:



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