
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND
DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-
STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AUCKLAND REGION, NEW ZEALAND.

1 WHEREAS, due to its multicultural population since the days
2 of the Hawaiian Monarchy, Hawaii maintains a heritage of
3 international participation and cultural sensitivity that is
4 unparalleled in other states; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State actively seeks to expand its
7 international ties and has an abiding interest in developing
8 goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people
9 of Hawaii and the people of many nations; and

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11 WHEREAS, while Hawaii currently maintains eighteen sister-
12 state relationships, none are with any cities or provinces in
13 New Zealand; and

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15 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand are part of the triangle of
16 Polynesia, and the indigenous people of Hawaii and New Zealand
17 share many cultural and language similarities; and

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19 WHEREAS, collaboration with the many Maori and Polynesian
20 cultural institutes in New Zealand would be culturally
21 beneficial to Hawaii; and

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23 WHEREAS, since 2014, Hawaii has participated in the
24 Pasifika Festival, an annual Pacific Islands-themed festival
25 typically held in Western Springs, Auckland, New Zealand; and

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27 WHEREAS, New Zealand is consistently ranked among the top
28 twenty countries for quality of education by the Organisation
29 for Economic Co-operation and Development; and
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1 WHEREAS, as an island nation in the middle of the Pacific
2 Ocean, New Zealand faces some of the same geographic challenges
3 as Hawaii and has taken steps in protecting its environment and
4 expanding its economy; and
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6 WHEREAS, a relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand
7 would also be highly beneficial in expanding and diversifying
8 Hawaii's film industry, enhancing Hawaii's educational quality
9 and opportunities, developing and meeting Hawaii's environmental
10 goals, and developing and bolstering Hawaii's exportable
11 commodities; and
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13 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 229-3, Hawaii Revised
14 Statutes, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is tasked with
15 evaluating and developing recommendations for the initiation of
16 all sister-state relationships and forwarding its
17 recommendations to the Legislature for implementation by either
18 adoption of a concurrent resolution or enactment of session law
19 to that effect; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
22 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
23 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Sister-State
24 Committee is requested to evaluate and develop recommendations
25 to initiate a sister-state relationship between Hawaii and the
26 Auckland Region, New Zealand; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Sister-State
29 Committee report its findings and recommendations for further
30 action related to initiating a sister-state relationship between
31 Hawaii and the Auckland Region, New Zealand, including any
32 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
33 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
37 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Chairperson of
38 the Hawaii Sister-State Committee.
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