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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND  
DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-  
STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF AUCKLAND, 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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31           WHEREAS, as an island nation in the middle of the Pacific  
32 Ocean, New Zealand faces some of the same geographic challenges



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1 as Hawaii and has taken steps in protecting its environment and  
2 expanding its economy; and

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4 WHEREAS, a relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand  
5 would also be highly beneficial in expanding and diversifying  
6 Hawaii's film industry, enhancing Hawaii's educational quality  
7 and opportunities, developing and meeting Hawaii's environmental  
8 goals, and developing and bolstering Hawaii's exportable  
9 commodities; and

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11 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 229-3, Hawaii Revised  
12 Statutes, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is tasked with  
13 evaluating and developing recommendations for the initiation of  
14 all sister-state relationships and forwarding its  
15 recommendations to the Legislature for implementation by either  
16 adoption of a Resolution or enactment of session law to that  
17 effect; now, therefore,

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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
20 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
21 of 2022, that the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is requested to  
22 evaluate and develop recommendations to initiate a sister-state  
23 relationship between Hawaii and the city of Auckland, New  
24 Zealand; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Sister-State  
27 Committee report its findings and recommendations for further  
28 action related to initiating a sister-state relationship between  
29 Hawaii and the city of Auckland, New Zealand, including any  
30 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
31 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic  
35 Development, and Tourism; and Chairperson of the Hawaii Sister-  
36 State Committee.

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39 OFFERED BY: 

MAR 11 2022

