

MAR 11 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE LIBRARIAN AND BOARD OF EDUCATION TO
DEDICATE A SECTION WITHIN THE KAILUA PUBLIC IN HONOR OF
FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE CYNTHIA THIELEN.

1 WHEREAS, former State Representative Cynthia Thielen was
2 born on September 22, 1933, in Los Angeles, California; attended
3 Stanford University and Case Western Reserve University; and
4 earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Hawaii
5 and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
6 William S. Richardson School of Law; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen was first elected to the
9 State of Hawaii House of Representatives in 1990 as the State
10 Representative for House District 50, comprising the Kailua and
11 Kaneohe Bay areas of Oahu; and
12

13 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen represented District 50 for
14 three consecutive decades until her retirement in 2020; and
15

16 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen was a respected leader
17 throughout her tenure in the Legislature, serving as Minority
18 Floor Leader from 1992 to 1997 and Assistant Minority Leader at
19 the time of her retirement; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen was well-respected by both
22 Democratic and Republican members of the Legislature for her
23 bipartisanship and served as a unifying voice to promote causes
24 such as gender equality, environmental protection, and
25 industrial hemp production; and
26

27 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen's unifying leadership often
28 extended beyond the Legislature, including the time and
29 resources she contributed directly to the Kailua community; and
30

31 WHEREAS, one of Representative Thielen's lasting
32 contributions to Kailua is the leadership she provided in
33 several projects at the Kailua Public Library; and
34



1 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen is one of the first life-
2 time members of the Friends of Kailua Library, a non-profit
3 organization established in 1989 that raises funds for special
4 projects and programs that enrich the services of the State of
5 Hawaii Public Library System beyond the limits of the funds
6 appropriated or authorized from state and federal funds; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen, through the Friends of
9 Kailua Library, founded the Birthday Book Club, which collects
10 books to be donated to the Kailua Public Library in honor of a
11 person's birthday; and
12

13 WHEREAS, Representative Thielen further supported and
14 guided the Friends of Kailua Library by establishing a public-
15 private partnership with the State of Hawaii in 1999 to obtain
16 matching funds for a grant from the Harold K.L. Castle
17 Foundation; and
18

19 WHEREAS, funds from this grant partnership led to the
20 creation of a master renovation plan for the Kailua Public
21 Library, with special focus on the library's circulation area,
22 workroom, and administration offices; and
23

24 WHEREAS, as a direct result of Representative Thielen's
25 efforts to secure funding for the renovation, the Kailua Public
26 Library was expanded to accommodate a greater number of patrons
27 and services; and
28

29 WHEREAS, Kailua Public Library remains an important
30 gathering place for people of all ages and literacy levels; and
31

32 WHEREAS, the Board of Education is the policy setting and
33 governing authority for the Hawaii State Public Library System
34 and the State Librarian; and
35

36 WHEREAS, Board of Education Policy 600-4 provides that a
37 room or section within a library facility may be named for any
38 person for a meritorious reason; provided that the proposal for
39 the naming is reviewed and recommended by the State Librarian
40 and approved by the Board of Education; and
41



1 WHEREAS, this body finds that it is appropriate to honor
2 Representative Thielen as a leader of distinction who served the
3 people of Kailua with respect and integrity; and
4

5 WHEREAS, dedicating a section within the Kailua Public
6 Library in Representative Thielen's name will serve as a
7 permanent reminder of her tangible contributions to the facility
8 and her commitment to unifying the community; now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
12 that the State Librarian and Board of Education are requested to
13 dedicate a section within the Kailua Public Library in honor of
14 former State Representative Cynthia Thielen; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the State Librarian, Chairperson of
18 the Board of Education Committee on Public Libraries, Branch
19 Manager of the Kailua Public Library, and Chair of the Executive
20 Board of the Friends of Kailua Library.
21
22
23

OFFERED BY: 

