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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO CREATE A PLAN  
REGARDING THE RETURN OF CULTURAL ARTIFACTS.

1           WHEREAS, cultural artifacts are an important part of the  
2 history of any people; and

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4           WHEREAS, many of Hawaii's cultural artifacts have been  
5 transported out of the State; and

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7           WHEREAS, likewise, many persons in Hawaii possess cultural  
8 artifacts that rightfully belong to other lands; and

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10          WHEREAS, the State should take action to facilitate the  
11 return of all cultural artifacts; now, therefore,

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13          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
14 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
15 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Chairperson of  
16 the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the  
17 Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division, or  
18 their respective designees, are requested to form and serve as  
19 Co-Chairs of a Cultural Artifact Return Working Group; and

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21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Co-Chairs of the working  
22 group are requested to invite museum representatives, cultural  
23 and historical experts, and other appropriate individuals to  
24 serve as members of the working group; and

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26          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
27 to create a plan to:

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29           (1) Request the return of Hawaii's cultural artifacts to  
30 the State; and

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1 (2) Arrange for the return of cultural artifacts in Hawaii  
2 that rightfully belong to other lands,  
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4 in a manner that promotes cross-cultural respect and aloha;  
5 provided that for purposes of this measure, "cultural artifact"  
6 means any manmade item that contains important information about  
7 the people and culture of a society, but excludes human remains  
8 and funerary objects; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cultural Artifact Return  
11 Working Group is requested to submit a report of its plan,  
12 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
13 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
14 of 2024; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be considered  
17 dissolved after the last day of the Regular Session of 2024; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
21 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the  
22 Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division.

