
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONVENE A CONGRESS ON THE
FUTURE OF THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE.

1 WHEREAS, the Islands of Hawaii were united by King
2 Kamehameha in 1810; and

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4 WHEREAS, during the reign of Queen Liliuokalani the islands
5 of Hawaii were overthrown and annexed to be part of the United
6 States in 1893; and

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8 WHEREAS, the population of Native Hawaiians was thereafter
9 decimated by diseases and the loss of much of their land
10 ownership; and

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12 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians slowly and eventually lost their
13 political, economic, and leadership roles to the numerous
14 immigrant populations from the United States, Japan, China, the
15 Philippines, and Korea; and

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17 WHEREAS, in 1959, Hawaii became the 50th State admitted to
18 the Union; and

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20 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians today are listed among the lowest
21 on the socio-economic mobility ladder, the highest incarcerated
22 group in the islands, and possess the highest mortality rates in
23 the state of Hawaii; and

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25 WHEREAS, five Native Hawaiian trusts and estates are the
26 largest landowners in the state of Hawaii; and

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28 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian leaders have emerged in all walks
29 of professional, political, and community life; and

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31 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian community has experienced a
32 cultural economic and political renaissance in recent years with



1 one of the goals being the creation of an independent entity
2 within the state or the nation; and

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4 WHEREAS, past efforts by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
5 (OHA) and other Hawaiian organizations to discuss and resolve
6 the future of the Hawaiian people in the state of Hawaii have
7 largely been incomplete or failed to reach their desired
8 results; and

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10 WHEREAS, an effort for the leaders of the Hawaiian
11 community to unite for a common cause of focusing the future of
12 the Hawaiian people must be done in order to set a course in the
13 direction of mutual vision and prosperity; now, therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2023, that the University of Hawaii is urged to
18 convene a "Congress on the Future of the Hawaiian People" in
19 conjunction with the East-West Center to explore the options and
20 opportunities for creating a roadmap for the future of Hawaii's
21 host culture; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Lieutenant
25 Governor of the State of Hawaii, the President of the University
26 of Hawaii, the President of the East-West Center, members of the
27 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Speaker of the Hawaii State
28 House of Representatives, the President of the Hawaii State
29 Senate, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and all Hawaiian
30 Civic Clubs.

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OFFERED BY:

Gene Ward

MAR 10 2023

