HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII H.R. NO. <sup>160</sup> H.D. 1

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE CYBER HARASSMENT AND CYBERBULLYING AWARENESS DAY ON JUNE 21, 2024.

1 WHEREAS, a significant rise in cyber harassment and cyberbullying has occurred in the last ten years as a result of 2 national and international internet usage increasing 3 4 exponentially; and 5 WHEREAS, the Pew Research Center found that forty-one 6 percent of Americans have experienced some form of cyber 7 harassment, including physical threats, stalking, sustained 8 9 harassment, sexual harassment, offensive name-calling, and 10 purposeful embarrassment; and 11 12 WHEREAS, online harassment related to political views has increased over time, with twenty percent of Americans reporting 13 experiencing online harassment because of their political views 14 15 in 2020, compared to fourteen percent in 2017; and 16 WHEREAS, women and minority groups are more likely to be 17 targets of cyber harassment as a result of their racial and 18 gender identity; and 19 20 21 WHEREAS, seventy-nine percent of Americans believe that social media companies are doing either a poor or fair job of 22 addressing cyber harassment complaints; and 23 24 25 WHEREAS, The Cybersmile Foundation launched a Stop 26 Cyberbullying Day in 2012 that has continued to be recognized on the third Friday of June each year; this year, that day lands on 27 June 21, 2024; and 28 29 30 WHEREAS, the State has not adequately addressed the growing issue of cyber harassment and cyberbullying; now, therefore, 31 32

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the Governor is requested to declare Cyber Harassment and Cyberbullying Awareness Day on June 21, 2024; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

