
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND DEVELOP
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-STATE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAII AND NEW ZEALAND TO FOSTER
STRONGER TIES IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ARTS AND CULTURAL
EXCHANGE, EDUCATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand share deep historical,
2 cultural, economic, and environmental connections, rooted in the
3 rich heritage of the Pacific islands; and

4

5 WHEREAS, the indigenous peoples of Hawaii and New Zealand,
6 the Kanaka Maoli and Māori, share linguistic, ancestral, and
7 cultural ties as members of the greater Polynesian family; and

8

9 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand are committed to the
10 preservation and promotion of indigenous cultures, sustainable
11 environmental practices, and economic development that respects
12 traditional knowledge and values; and

13

14 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand serve as important hubs for
15 regional cooperation, fostering economic development and
16 environmental sustainability throughout the Pacific region; and

17

18 WHEREAS, the establishment of a sister-state relationship
19 would strengthen mutual interests in trade, tourism, education,
20 environmental protection, cultural exchange, and disaster
21 preparedness and response efforts; and

22

23 WHEREAS, the arts are a vital and transformative part of
24 Hawaii's cultural identity and economy, and New Zealand's rich
25 artistic traditions offer an opportunity for cross-cultural
26 collaboration, creative exchange, and mutual growth in the arts;
27 and

28

29 WHEREAS, the establishment of a sister-state relationship
30 would foster artistic innovation, enhance cultural



H.R. NO. 134

1 understanding, and create new opportunities for artistic
2 expression, education, and professional development in both
3 Hawaii and New Zealand; and

4

5 WHEREAS, a formalized relationship between Hawaii and New
6 Zealand would provide opportunities for collaboration in
7 renewable energy initiatives, agricultural innovation, marine
8 conservation, and technology sharing; and

9

10 WHEREAS, cultural exchange programs between educational
11 institutions in Hawaii and New Zealand would enhance
12 understanding and appreciation of Polynesian traditions,
13 language revitalization efforts, and academic cooperation in
14 fields such as marine biology, climate change, and Pacific
15 studies; and

16

17 WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii and New Zealand share a
18 strong commitment to global peace, security, and prosperity,
19 making a sister-state relationship an opportunity to promote
20 goodwill and shared goals; now, therefore,

21

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
24 of 2025, that the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is urged to
25 evaluate and develop recommendations for the initiation of a
26 sister-state relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand to
27 foster stronger ties in economic development, arts and cultural
28 exchange, education, and environmental sustainability; and

29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged, in
31 consultation with relevant government agencies and stakeholders,
32 to take necessary steps to implement this sister-state
33 relationship and facilitate ongoing collaboration; and

34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the establishment of the
36 sister-state relationship, appropriate state agencies,
37 educational institutions, business organizations, and cultural
38 institutions are encouraged to develop programs and initiatives
39 in collaboration with their counterparts in New Zealand; and

40



H.R. NO. 134

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chair of the Hawaii
3 Sister-State Committee, and Prime Minister of New Zealand.

4
5
6

OFFERED BY:



MAR 07 2025

