
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY AND DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION TO EXPAND THE KĀHEA AIRPORT GREETINGS
PROGRAM TO DISPLAY KEIKI ART IN ALL NEIGHBOR ISLAND
AIRPORTS.

1 WHEREAS, the goal of the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Visitor
2 Experience Initiative is to boost visitors' experiences in the
3 State while preserving and promoting Native Hawaiian culture in
4 addition to Hawaii's multi-ethnic cultures and communities; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Kāheha Airport Greetings Program plays a
7 valuable role in the Visitor Experience Initiative by offering
8 free, year-round Hawaiian entertainment, cultural enrichment,
9 and support for young artists by showcasing student artwork at
10 Daniel K. Inouye International Airport, which fosters a
11 welcoming and pleasant experience for visitors and residents
12 across the State; and
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14 WHEREAS, showcasing keiki art displays the artistic talents
15 of the State's students and creates a deeper appreciation for
16 Hawaiian culture and the unique identities of each island; and
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18 WHEREAS, funding for the Kāheha Airport Greetings Program
19 was cut in fiscal year 2025, but the Hawaii Tourism Authority
20 has requested funding in the amount of \$888,889 for fiscal years
21 2026 and 2027 to continue this culturally vital program, and
22 this funding request remains under consideration; and
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24 WHEREAS, expanding this program to display keiki art to
25 neighbor island airports, including Kahului Airport, Līhu'e
26 Airport, Kona International Airport, Hilo International Airport,
27 Moloka'i Airport, and Lāna'i Airport, would provide equitable
28 opportunities for neighbor island student art to be proudly
29 displayed and lauded outside of O'ahu and by their own
30 communities; and
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1 WHEREAS, such an expansion would further enhance the travel
2 experience for visitors while reinforcing the cultural and
3 educational values of the State's keiki; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2025, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of
8 Transportation are urged to expand the Kāhea Airport Greetings
9 Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports;
10 and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority
13 and Department of Transportation are encouraged to secure
14 sufficient funding for the continuation and expansion of this
15 program for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 and to collaborate with
16 the Department of Education and local communities in its
17 implementation; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of
21 Transportation, Superintendent of Education, and Chief Executive
22 Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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