S.C.R. NO. 178

MAR <u>0</u> 7 2025

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE EAST-WEST CENTER TO EXPAND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND SERVE AS A BRIDGE TO HELP THE STATE SHARE ITS UNIQUE EXPERTISE WITH TROPICAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, PUBLIC HEALTH, EDUCATION, CLEAN ENERGY, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, WHERE IT MIGHT BE MOST HELPFUL TO OTHER COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

WHEREAS, the East-West Center, headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, has a long history of fostering cooperation and development among nations in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world through education, research, and policy engagement; and

WHEREAS, food security and public health are critical issues facing Pacific island nations and other countries around the world, which have been exacerbated by climate change, economic instability, and limited access to resources; and

WHEREAS, the United States Agency for International Development has played a significant role in supporting food security, nutrition programs, and health initiatives abroad, and its dismantling creates a gap in vital aid and assistance; and

WHEREAS, the East-West Center is uniquely positioned to serve as a bridge between Hawaii, Pacific island nations, and other countries around the world in the areas of tropical agriculture, food security, public health, education, clean energy, and sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, strengthening global partnerships by leveraging the sharing of government, academic, and nonprofit expertise will be essential to help address emerging challenges in developing nations throughout the Pacific and around the world; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the House of Representatives concurring, that the East-West Center is urged to expand international engagement around the world and serve as a bridge to help the State share its unique expertise with tropical agriculture, food security, public health, education, clean energy, and sustainable development; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the East-West Center is urged to collaborate with governments, organizations, universities, and community stakeholders to utilize Hawaii's unique expertise to assist other communities around the world overcoming similar challenges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the East-West Center is requested through these collaborations to encourage state leaders, subject matter experts, students, and others to participate, learn, broaden their worldview, and build mutually beneficial experiences and partnerships; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the University of Hawaii System, and President of the East-West Center.

OFFERED BY:

