S.R. NO. 177

MAR 0 7 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING A BROADER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAII AND NEW ZEALAND.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State to 1 cultivate meaningful relationships with countries and 2 3 subnational governments to collaborate on solutions to shared 4 challenges; and 5 WHEREAS, New Zealand is a Pacific island nation renowned 6 for its leadership in environmental sustainability, indigenous 7 8 rights, and disaster resilience; and 9 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand share similar challenges 10 and values, particularly concerning climate change, 11 conservation, and indigenous cultural preservation; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, New Zealand is a world leader in biosecurity, having developed and implemented policies to combat invasive 15 species and prevent the introduction of new species into their 16 17 unique ecosystem; and 18 WHEREAS, both Hawaii and New Zealand are particularly 19 vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including rising 20 sea levels, coastal erosion, and the increased frequency of 21 extreme weather events; and 22 23 WHEREAS, New Zealand has pioneered innovative climate 24 change adaptation and mitigation strategies, including renewable 25 energy initiatives, carbon reduction policies, and nature-based 26 solutions that could serve as a model for Hawaii; and 27 28 WHEREAS, New Zealand has developed robust agricultural 29 30 practices that emphasize sustainability and food security that could be beneficial to the State's local farming and food 31 32 production industries; and 33 34 WHEREAS, both Hawaii and New Zealand place a strong emphasis on indigenous cultural heritage, with Hawaii's Native 35 Hawaiian community and New Zealand's Maori population sharing a 36



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commitment to language preservation, cultural revitalization, 1 2 and self-determination; and 3 WHEREAS, New Zealand has successfully implemented policies 4 that integrate indigenous perspectives into governance, resource 5 management, and education, providing a valuable framework that 6 could inform Hawaii's efforts to empower Native Hawaiian voices 7 and initiatives; and 8 9 10 WHEREAS, Hawaii and New Zealand are both active participants in Pacific regional organizations and initiatives 11 that promote sustainable development, economic cooperation, and 12 cultural exchange; and 13 14 15 WHEREAS, fostering a broader relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand would strengthen economic ties, enhance 16 knowledge-sharing, and promote collaboration on shared regional 17 and global challenges; now, therefore, 18 19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third 20 21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, that this body supports and encourages a broader relationship 22 between Hawaii and New Zealand; and 23 24 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of 26 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. 27 28 29 30

OFFERED BY:

