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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE-PROVINCE RELATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand 1 its international ties and has an abiding interest in developing 2 goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people 3 of Hawaii and the people of Asian and Pacific countries; and 4

6 WHEREAS, as part of its efforts to achieve this goal, 7 Hawaii has established a number of sister-state agreements with 8 provinces in the Pacific region; and 9

WHEREAS, because of the historical relationship between the 10 United States and the Republic of the Philippines, there 11 12 continue to exist valid reasons to promote international friendship and understanding for the mutual benefit of both 13 14 countries to achieve lasting peace and prosperity, as this serves the common interests of both countries; and 15

WHEREAS, there are historical precedents exemplifying the 17 common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and 18 financial bridge between ethnic Filipinos living in Hawaii with 19 their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the 20 Philippines, such as the previously established agreements with 21 the Provinces of Ilocos Sur (1985), Cebu (1992), Pangasinan 22 (2003), Ilocos Norte (2005), and Isabela (2006); and 23

WHEREAS, the state-province relationships existing between 25 the State of Hawaii and the five Philippine provinces have 26 27 strengthened the mutual ties with the Filipino community in Hawaii whereby cooperation and communication have served to 28 establish exchanges in the areas of business, trade, 29 agriculture, industry, tourism, sports, health care, social 30 welfare, and other fields of human endeavor especially during 31 the Centennial celebration in 2006 to commemorate the first 32



1 immigrants from the Philippines who came to Hawaii to work as Sakadas; and 2 3 WHEREAS, a relationship similar to these sister-province 4 relationships would reinforce and cement this common bridge of 5 understanding and mutual assistance between the ethnic Filipinos 6 7 and Filipino at heart in both the State of Hawaii and the Province of Cagayan; and 8 9 WHEREAS, there are existing strong cultural ties between 10 11 the Cagayan Valley Association and the State of Hawaii because several notable citizens in Hawaii can trace their roots or have 12 immigrated from the Province of Cagayan; now, therefore, 13 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 15 16 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Governor of the State of Hawaii, or 17 the Governor's designee, is requested to approve and authorize 18 all necessary actions to establish a state-province affiliation 19 with the Province of Cagayan by June 30, 2012; and 20 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor, or the Governor's 22 designee, is requested to keep the Legislature of the State of 23 Hawaii fully informed of the process in establishing the 24 relationship and, to the extent practicable, involved in its 25 formalization; and 26 27 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Cagayan, upon the adoption of a reciprocating resolution by the Provincial 29 Board of the Province of Cagayan, be afforded the privileges and 30 honors that Hawaii extends to its sister states and provinces; 31 32 and 33 34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, 35 Governor, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the 36 United States House of Representatives, Hawaii's Congressional 37 Delegation, President of the Republic of the Philippines through 38 its Honolulu Consulate General, and the Governor and Provincial 39 40 Board of the Province of Cagayan, Republic of the Philippines.

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