FEB 0 7 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "STATE OF HAWAII WORLD TRADE CENTER, HONOLULU".

WHEREAS, the Asia/Pacific region, constitutes a significant percentage of the world's total population, of world economic growth, and of total merchandise trade; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's mid-Pacific location makes the State a logical choice to locate a center for international businesses in the Asia/Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, there exist three hundred nine "World Trade Centers" globally, that act as instruments for trade expansion and promote international business relationships and understanding among nations; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a World Trade Center in Hawaii would serve as a magnet to local and Asia/Pacific business communities; and

WHEREAS, small and medium sized Hawaiian businesses would benefit from both the training courses in international business practices that the World Trade Center Association offers and the increased opportunity to establish international contacts via World Trade Center Associations' services; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu and State of Hawaii would benefit from the recognition and interest that the World Trade Center in Honolulu would generate; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a World Trade Center in Honolulu, would bolster the image of Hawaii as an internationally conscious state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Legislature encourages the formation of a local "State

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of Hawaii World Trade Center, Honolulu" association to promote business between Hawaii and the dynamic economies of the Asia/Pacific region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Governor are requested to work together to establish a World Trade Center in the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit to the Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2008 a report on the status of the establishment and operation of a World Trade Center in this State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Chairperson of the Convention Center Authority.

OFFERED BY:

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