
HOUSE RESOLUTION

APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-PROVINCE
AFFILIATION BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL OF
THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand
2 its international ties and has an abiding interest in developing
3 goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people
4 of Hawaii and the people of Asian and Pacific countries; and
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6 WHEREAS, as part of its effort to achieve this goal, Hawaii
7 has established a number of sister-state agreements with
8 provinces in the Pacific region; and
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10 WHEREAS, because of the historical relationship between the
11 United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines,
12 there continue to exist valid reasons to promote international
13 friendship and understanding for the mutual benefit of both
14 countries to achieve lasting peace and prosperity as it serves
15 the common interests of both countries; and
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17 WHEREAS, there are historical precedents exemplifying the
18 common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and
19 financial bridge between ethnic Filipinos living in Hawaii with
20 their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the
21 Philippines, such as the previously established sister-city
22 relationship between the City and County of Honolulu and the
23 City of Cebu in the Province of Cebu; and
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25 WHEREAS, similar state-province relationships exist between
26 the State of Hawaii and the Provinces of Cebu, Ilocos Norte,
27 Ilocos Sur, and Pangasinan, whereby cooperation and
28 communication have served to establish exchanges in the areas of
29 business, trade, agriculture and industry, tourism, sports,



1 health care, social welfare, and other fields of human endeavor;
2 and

3
4 WHEREAS, a similar state-province relationship would
5 reinforce and cement this common bridge for understanding and
6 mutual assistance between ethnic Filipinos of both the State of
7 Hawaii and the Province of Negros Oriental; and

8
9 WHEREAS, with its vast fertile land resources, Negros
10 Oriental's major industry is agriculture and lists its primary
11 crops as sugarcane, corn, coconut, and rice, but the province is
12 emerging as a technological center in the Central Philippines
13 with its growing business process outsourcing and other
14 technology-related industries, and is also becoming a notable
15 tourist destination in the Visayas, making the province much
16 like Hawaii; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2008, that Governor Linda Lingle of the State of
21 Hawaii, or her designee, be authorized and is requested to take
22 all necessary actions to establish a state-province affiliation
23 with the Province of Negros Oriental in the Republic of the
24 Philippines; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor or her designee is
27 requested to keep the Legislature of the State of Hawaii fully
28 informed of the process in establishing the affiliation and
29 involved in its formalization to the extent practicable; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of Negros Oriental
32 be afforded the privileges and honors that Hawaii extends to its
33 sister states and provinces; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if by June 30, 2013, the state-
36 province affiliation with the Province of Negros Oriental has
37 not reached a sustainable basis by providing mutual economic
38 benefits through local community support, the state-province
39 affiliation shall be withdrawn; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
3 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
4 United States House of Representatives, Hawaii's Congressional
5 delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the President
6 of the Republic of the Philippines through its Honolulu
7 Consulate General, and the Governor and Provincial Board of the
8 Province of Negros Oriental, Republic of the Philippines.
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OFFERED BY:

John M. Medina
Karen Amano
Colleen Meyer
Tam Brower
Rida T.R. Cabanilla

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