
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 21, 2009, AS ISLAM DAY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is known for the wealth of its cultural
2 diversity and the harmony with which people of many cultures and
3 religions live together; and
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5 WHEREAS, Muslims constitute an ethnically diverse part of
6 Hawaii's cultural fabric, with around 3,000 practicing members;
7 and
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9 WHEREAS, November 21, 2009, marks the anniversary of the
10 founding of Islam, a religion with a long and noble history; and
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12 WHEREAS, Islam is the second largest religion in the world,
13 with over one billion followers spread across every continent,
14 and including members of many nations and many cultures; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Islamic world preserved works of science and
17 philosophy during the Middle Ages when these disciplines were
18 threatened by bigotry and prejudice in other parts of the world;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS, Islamic artists, scientists, and philosophers have
22 a rich history of contribution to world literature and our
23 collective scientific understanding; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Islamic faith incorporates the teachings and
26 texts of both Christianity and Judaism, whose followers are
27 respected and considered "People of the Book"; and
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29 WHEREAS, Islamic doctrine encourages generosity in its
30 adherents, maintaining that those who possess much have a
31 responsibility to care for those in need; and



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WHEREAS, Islam is a religion of peace, along with its monotheistic counterparts, and holds that peace is a divine quality and necessary for collective human happiness; and

WHEREAS, Islam strives for a world-wide community which, in the words of one Islamic poet-philosopher, "does not recognize the superficial differences of race, or history, or nationality"; and

WHEREAS, the United States and countries of the Islamic world hold in common many beliefs and values including concepts of world community and mutual responsibility; and

WHEREAS, international understanding and peace, as well as understanding and peace in our local communities are strengthened by free and open communications among everyone representing various cultural and religious traditions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the Senate concurring, that November 21, 2009, shall be known as "Islam Day" to recognize the rich religious, scientific, cultural, and artistic contribution Islam and the Islamic world has made since its founding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Board of the Muslim Association of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

Alla A. Relatti

Lyla B. Berg

Raymond Hanover

MAR - 4 2009

