
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ACCEPTING THE GIFT OF THE NON-VIOLENCE SCULPTURE FROM SOKA
GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL - USA.

1 WHEREAS, peace is not the mere absence of violence, but
2 rather an active process whereby each individual must take full
3 responsibility for building safe and healthy communities that
4 support and nurture the uplifting of human dignity; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the sculpture Non-Violence was created in 1980 by
7 Swedish artist Carl Fredrik Reutersward who, after learning that
8 his friend John Lennon had been murdered, became so upset over
9 this senseless death and other outbursts of unnecessary
10 violence, went to his studio and immediately began working on an
11 artistic representation of his desire for peace; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the artist produced, in bronze, a large replica of
14 a .45-calibre revolver, the barrel of which is tied into a knot
15 so that although the gun is cocked, it is clear that it will not
16 shoot; and
17

18 WHEREAS, replicas of the Non-Violence sculpture have been
19 installed on the grounds of historically and politically
20 significant public spaces, including the United Nations Plaza in
21 New York, the headquarters of the International Olympic
22 Committee in Lausanne, Switzerland, and at the Waterfront in
23 Cape Town, South Africa; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Non-Violence sculpture is recognized by more
26 than 500 million people around the world, not only as a
27 cherished work of art, but as a symbol of peace that has
28 enriched the consciousness of humanity; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the traditional Hawaiian values of ho'oponopono
31 and aloha are eternal treasures deserve to be honored and
32 celebrated; and



1 WHEREAS, the Non-Violence sculpture is a symbol that
2 dramatically encapsulates, in a few simple curves, the spirit of
3 aloha and ho'oponopono and is therefore a highly appropriate
4 installation for the Hawaii State Capitol; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the Non-Violence sculpture is a symbol of our hope
7 and expectation that Hawaii will continue to give rise to a
8 steady stream of global leaders who will spread the peaceful
9 values of aloha and ho'oponopono throughout the world; and
10

11 WHEREAS, every year, millions of Soka Gakkai International
12 (SGI) members in over 190 countries and territories, including
13 the over-10,000 members in Hawaii, reaffirm their commitment to
14 peace through a variety of grassroots initiatives, celebrations,
15 conferences, concerts, and other events; and
16

17 WHEREAS, SGI-USA launched the youth-initiated Victory Over
18 Violence (VOV) program in 1999 in response to growing concerns
19 over youth-related violence, including the Columbine shootings
20 in Littleton, Colorado, and during the first 10 years of the
21 initiative, over 1,000,000 people throughout the United States
22 took the VOV Pledge for Non-Violence to build a culture of peace
23 by valuing their own lives, respecting the lives of others,
24 actively pursuing dialogue, and inspiring hope in others; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the Non-Violence sculpture is being gifted to the
27 State of Hawaii by the VOV initiative of SGI President Daisaku
28 Ikeda and SGI-USA as an expression of respect for the peaceful
29 traditions of aloha and ho'oponopono; and
30

31 WHEREAS, this gift is in support of the United Nations
32 Culture of Peace initiative with the support of Anwarul K.
33 Chowdhury, former United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Dr.
34 Lawrence Edward Carter, Sr., Dean of Martin Luther King Jr.
35 International Chapel at Morehouse College, Diane Landsberg,
36 Executive Director of the Non-Violence Project-USA, Betty
37 Williams, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Herbie Hancock, Jazz
38 legend and International Committee of Artists for Peace Co-
39 President, Hattie Phillips, Director of Hawaiian Studies at the
40 Punahou School, Dr. Glenn Paige, Peace Day Hawaii 2008 Award
41 Recipient, Professor Jeannie Lum, Editor of the "International
42 Journal for Peace Education," the Martin Luther King Jr. Hawaii
43 coalition, the Hawaii Peace Center, United Nations Association -



1 Hawaii Division, Young Professionals for International
2 Cooperation - Hawaii, and many others; now, therefore,

3

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the State of Hawaii accepts
7 the gift of the Non-Violence sculpture from SGI-USA and agrees
8 to house the sculpture at the State Capitol for at least six
9 months and review permanent housing thereafter; and

10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 concurrent resolution be transmitted to the President of SGI,
13 President of SGI-USA, and Director-General of the United Nations
14 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

