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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AFFIRMING THAT THE DESCENDANTS OF THE RACES INHABITING THE ISLANDS OF HAWAI'I, MAUI, MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I, KAHO'OLAWA, O'AHU, KAUA'I, NI'HAU, AND NIHOA TO KANEMILOHA'I (KURE ATOLL) PRIOR TO WESTERN CONTACT IN 1778 COMPRISE THE INDIGENOUS, ABORIGINAL, "MAOLI" PEOPLES OF HAWAI'I.

1           WHEREAS, traditional Hawaiian lore tells of the origins of  
2 the earth, flora, fauna, the gods and kanaka - man - in such  
3 cosmogonic genealogies as the Kumulipo (source from the dark);  
4 and

5  
6           WHEREAS, in an important mo'olelo (story) of our kūpuna,  
7 sky-father Wākea and his beloved Ho'ohōkūkalani give birth to  
8 their first child, Hālolaukapalili, who emerges stillborn, and,  
9 later, from his grave, sprouts the first kalo (taro), staff of  
10 life of the Hawaiian people; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, Hāloanaka, their second son, lives, and is the  
13 progenitor of all indigenous Hawaiians, with the profound  
14 responsibility of caring for and respecting his kaikua'ana (elder  
15 sibling), the kalo; and

16  
17           WHEREAS, Western anthropology traces early Polynesian  
18 settlement in the previously uninhabited Hawai'i as early as the  
19 time of Christ with origins from Nukuhiwa, and much later in  
20 1000 A.D., from Tahiti; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, that ancient central Polynesian culture and  
23 society evolved into a sophisticated system of island  
24 governments where the ali'i or nobility ruled, and the  
25 maka'āinana or general citizenry worked the land and sustained  
26 life and cared for the land; and

27



1 WHEREAS, the sciences, including celestial navigation,  
2 aquaculture, agriculture, meteorology, and medicine evolved to  
3 the highest forms in all of Polynesia due to relative isolation  
4 in Hawai'i except for periodic voyages to Tahiti and other  
5 distant lands primarily for religious and political purposes;  
6 and

7  
8 WHEREAS, utilitarian and aesthetic Hawaiian arts including  
9 woodwork, weaving, fiber arts, and feather work are among the  
10 finest in all of Polynesia; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Hawai'i and indigenous Hawaiian people are a part  
13 of a larger, ancient Polynesian family system that includes the  
14 aboriginal populations of Aotearoa (New Zealand), Nukuhiwa, Te  
15 Ao Maohi (French Polynesia), Rarotonga, Sāmoa, Tonga, and more;  
16 and

17  
18 WHEREAS, since 1778, Hawai'i has been visited and settled by  
19 Europeans, Americans, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Filipinos,  
20 and virtually every human race; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, through more than two hundred twenty-eight years  
23 of socio-political change and cultural assimilation, Native  
24 Hawaiians have maintained their uniquely Hawaiian cultural  
25 practices and share those practices with kama'āina and malihini  
26 alike and others throughout the world; and

27  
28 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian cultural practices that pre-date  
29 Western arrival and settlement and are still very much alive  
30 today include `ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language), mo'okū'auhau  
31 (genealogical study), hula (traditional dance), oli (chant), he'e  
32 nalu (surfing), hoe wa'a (canoe paddling), ho'okele wa'a  
33 (navigation), mahi'ai kalo (taro farming), loko i'a  
34 (fishponds/aquaculture), hana lei (lei making), haku hulu  
35 (featherwork), hana kapa (bark cloth making), uhi kākau  
36 (tattooing), kālai lā'au (wood carving), and dozens more; and

37  
38 WHEREAS, according to the 2000 United States Census, Hawai'i  
39 citizens of indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli" descent number  
40 approximately two hundred fifty thousand, while Native Hawaiians  
41 living in the continental United States number one hundred sixty  
42 thousand; and



# H.C.R. NO. 29

1           WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the only place on Earth that is the  
 2 ancient, original home to the indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli"  
 3 Hawaiian population; and  
 4

5           WHEREAS, neither the United States nor the State of Hawai'i  
 6 governments have explicitly acknowledged that Native Hawaiians  
 7 are the indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli" people of Hawai'i; now,  
 8 therefore,  
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10           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 11 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 12 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature affirms  
 13 that Native Hawaiians are indeed the only indigenous,  
 14 aboriginal, "maoli" people of Hawai'i nei; and  
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16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the  
 18 State of Hawaii, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and  
 19 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.  
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 21  
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OFFERED BY:

  
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 By Request

JAN 26 2009

