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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE REFUGE, A COMPONENT OF THE PAPA HANAUMOKU AKEA MARINE  
NATIONAL MONUMENT, ON ITS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

1           WHEREAS, 2009 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of THE HAWAIIAN  
2 ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE--Hawaii's oldest national  
3 wildlife refuge protecting and preserving the fragile ocean  
4 ecosystems of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands; and

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6           WHEREAS, THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE,  
7 established in 1909 by Theodore Roosevelt's Executive Order  
8 1019, consists of a chain of islands, reefs, and atolls,  
9 including Nihoa, Necker, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner  
10 Pinnacles, Maro Reef, Laysan Island, Lisianski Island, and Pearl  
11 and Hermes Reef; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, for 100 years, the US has taken steps to protect  
14 the priceless treasures of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands  
15 through laws, rules, regulations, and designations implemented  
16 by the State of Hawaii and six U.S. presidents, which have  
17 protected both terrestrial and marine environment; and

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19           WHEREAS, Nihoa Island and Mokumanamana--both are on the  
20 National Registry of Historic Places--are recognized for their  
21 rich cultural heritage, and some of the densest concentrations  
22 of pre-historical structural sites in Hawaii are located on  
23 these islands: the Nihoa sites include house terraces, burial  
24 caves, and agricultural terraces and may have had as many as 175  
25 Native Hawaiians living there and the native Hawaiian sites on  
26 Mokumanamana are believed to date from before the 13th century  
27 A.D., and was primarily used for religious purposes; and

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29           WHEREAS, the many small islands of THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS  
30 NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE provide grass, sand, and wetland  
31 habitat for over 30 species and 14 million breeding sea birds,  
32 wintering shorebirds, and endangered endemic landbirds; and



1           WHEREAS, the islands and reefs also provide breeding and  
2 foraging habitat for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the  
3 threatened Hawaiian green turtle; and

4           WHEREAS, the over 1,805,403 acres of submerged coral reefs  
5 of the monument, are co-managed by the State of Hawaii and two  
6 federal partners, and are home to over 7,000 species of coral,  
7 algae, mollusks, fish, crustaceans, and other marine vertebrates  
8 and invertebrates; and


9  
10           WHEREAS, THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is  
11 part of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument,  
12 established in 2006 and the 139,797 square mile monument is the  
13 largest fully protected marine conservation area in the world;  
14 and

15  
16           WHEREAS, THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE is  
17 managed in accordance with the National Refuge System  
18 Improvement Act and is Co-Managed under the proclamation that  
19 established the monument in close coordination with the National  
20 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the State of Hawaii;  
21 now, therefore,

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23           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
25 of 2009, that this body hereby proclaims its strong support for  
26 the continuation of THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS NATIONAL WILDLIFE  
27 REFUGE, congratulates them on the momentous occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup>  
28 anniversary, and thanks the many conservation workers who  
29 provide stewardship for this precious resource for the people of  
30 Hawaii and future generations.

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OFFERED BY:

  
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*Kamuela Moku*

