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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO WITHDRAW THE APPEAL TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT OF THE HAWAII STATE SUPREME COURT DECISION, OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS V. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF HAWAII, 117 HAWAII 174 (2008).

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2008, the Hawaii State Supreme Court unanimously ruled in Office of Hawaiian Affairs v. Housing Community Development Corporation of Hawaii (117 Hawaii 174), that the State is enjoined from selling or otherwise transferring to third parties any ceded lands from the public lands trust until the claims of the Native Hawaiian people to the ceded lands have been resolved; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Attorney General petitioned the United States Supreme Court to review the decision of the Hawaii State Supreme Court and that petition has been granted; and

WHEREAS, oral argument in State of Hawaii v. Office of Hawaiian Affairs, No. 07-1372, is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2009 in the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, the decision to appeal the Hawaii State Supreme Court decision to the United States Supreme Court undermines the State's sovereign rights and is contrary to the ongoing reconciliation process with the Native Hawaiian people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor and the Attorney General are requested to withdraw the State of Hawaii's petition for writ of certiorari in case No. 07-1372 from the United States Supreme Court; and

In see

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Attorney General, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

OFFERED BY:

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