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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR TO PLACE IOLANI PALACE ON THE NOMINATION LIST TO THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION FOR WORLD HERITAGE SITE DESIGNATION.

1           WHEREAS, over one hundred twenty-five years ago, King  
2 Kalakaua ruled over an independent Hawaiian nation that was  
3 recognized internationally and had established over ninety  
4 legations and consulates in multiple seaports and cities of  
5 foreign countries; and

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7           WHEREAS, part of King Kalakaua's vision was the  
8 construction of Iolani Palace as a showcase for the  
9 sophistication and technological advancement of Hawaii as a  
10 society; and

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12           WHEREAS, following the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani in  
13 1893, Iolani Palace ceased to be a royal palace and became the  
14 seat of government for five types of political administrations:  
15 provisional, republic, territorial, military, and finally, a  
16 state; and

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18           WHEREAS, Iolani Palace was designated a National Historic  
19 Landmark in 1962; and

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21           WHEREAS, the Executive and Legislative branches of the  
22 State of Hawaii vacated Iolani Palace in 1969 and moved to the  
23 newly constructed State Capitol building, thus paving the way  
24 for The Friends of Iolani Palace to proceed with restoration;  
25 and

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27           WHEREAS, over the next decade, The Friends of Iolani  
28 Palace, founded in 1966 by Liliuokalani Kawananaoka Morris, who  
29 was a grand-niece of Queen Kapiolani, painstakingly worked to  
30 return Iolani Palace to its former grandeur as it appeared  
31 during the Kalakaua Dynasty; and

32           WHEREAS, in 1978, Iolani Palace reopened to the public with  
33 the mission of perpetuating the Hawaiian monarchy and providing

1 visitors and residents with a fresh understanding of Hawaii's  
2 royal heritage; and

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4 WHEREAS, Iolani Palace was not included on the current  
5 United States list of candidate sites that was compiled for  
6 consideration as World Heritage Sites with the United Nations  
7 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and

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9 WHEREAS, due to the unique cultural and historical  
10 attributes of Iolani Palace and the underrepresentation of World  
11 Heritage sites in Oceania, The Friends of Iolani Palace believes  
12 that Iolani Palace meets multiple criteria for selection to  
13 become the very first man-made structure in Polynesia to be  
14 designated a World Heritage Site; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of The Friends of Iolani  
17 Palace unanimously passed a motion to actively pursue a  
18 nomination to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site at its  
19 regularly scheduled meeting on October 25, 2007; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,  
23 that the Department of the Interior is urged to assist the  
24 Friends of Iolani Palace in preparing a nomination to the United  
25 States World Heritage Tentative List; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Interior  
28 is urged to give the nomination of Iolani Palace its full  
29 consideration when selecting sites to include on the current  
30 United States World Heritage Tentative List that will be  
31 presented to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre for review; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii's congressional  
34 delegation urge the Department of the Interior to place Iolani  
35 Palace on the nomination list to UNESCO for World Heritage Site  
36 designation; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
40 United States Secretary of the Interior, each member of Hawaii's  
41 congressional delegation, and Princess Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike  
42 Kawanakoa.