
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RATIFY AND ADOPT THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION OF INDIGENOUS RIGHTS.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the
2 Declaration of Indigenous Rights on September 13, 2007, with one
3 hundred forty-three member states voting in favor, eleven
4 abstaining and four -- Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the
5 United States -- voting against; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Declaration emphasizes the rights of
8 indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their own
9 institutions, cultures, and traditions and to pursue their
10 development in keeping with their own needs and aspirations; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Declaration prohibits discrimination against
13 indigenous peoples and promotes their full and effective
14 participation in all matters that concern them, and their right
15 to remain distinct and to pursue their own visions of economic
16 and social development; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Declaration supports the rights of indigenous
19 peoples and, broadly, for the human rights agenda; and
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21 WHEREAS, by ratifying the Declaration, the United states
22 will be taking a major step toward the promotion and protection
23 of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all; and
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25 WHEREAS, the text of the Declaration is non-binding,
26 setting out individual and collective rights of indigenous
27 peoples, as well as their rights to culture, identity, language,
28 employment, health, education, and other issues; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Declaration will also provide a basis for
31 settlement of native claims by providing a foundation for the
32 fair and equitable adjudication of native claims; and
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1 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians are indigenous and part of the
2 estimated 370,000,000 indigenous people in seventy countries
3 worldwide; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2010, that the Congress of the United States is urged to
8 ratify and adopt the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous
9 Rights; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of the United
13 States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
14 Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional
15 delegation, the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Water,
16 Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs, the Chairperson of the
17 House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, the Chairperson of the
18 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and to the
19 Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.
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OFFERED BY: Mele Carove
Karen Auana
Mark Hakaheima
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