

MAR 10 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE OWNER OF THE HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN TO PROVIDE
SUFFICIENT TIME TO FIND A NEW OWNER FOR THE NEWSPAPER TO
PRESERVE TWO INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN THE COMMUNITY.

1 WHEREAS, on February 25, 2010, Oahu Publications, Inc.
2 (OPI), the owner of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin announced that
3 OPI has entered into an agreement with Gannett Newspapers, Inc.,
4 to purchase the assets of The Honolulu Advertiser; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin has been a
7 distinguished independent daily newspaper and editorial voice in
8 Hawaii for one hundred twenty-six years; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reporters, columnists,
11 editorial writers, and photographers have won numerous awards
12 for incisive reporting, thought-provoking commentary, and
13 delightful satire; and
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15 WHEREAS, OPI announced it would offer the Honolulu
16 Star-Bulletin for sale, but would close or merge the newspaper
17 with The Honolulu Advertiser if a qualified buyer is not found
18 by April 2010; and
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20 WHEREAS, the closure of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or the
21 merger of the newspaper with The Honolulu Advertiser may mean
22 the loss of approximately two hundred jobs; and
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24 WHEREAS, the closure of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or the
25 merger of the newspaper with The Honolulu Advertiser will mean
26 the residents of the city and State will no longer have two
27 daily newspapers engaging in editorial and reportorial
28 competition; and
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30 WHEREAS, the community and the democratic process are
31 better served by maintaining a newspaper press that is
32 editorially and reportorially independent and competitive; and



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WHEREAS, in citing the reasons for The Honolulu Advertiser's sale to OPI, Gannett Newspapers, Inc., has not said The Honolulu Advertiser and Gannett Newspapers, Inc., are not profitable; indeed, Gannett has announced it had turned the corner and would earn a first quarter profit this year; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the House of Representatives concurring, that Oahu Publications, Inc., is urged to continue publication of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin or to provide sufficient time to find a qualified buyer for the newspaper in order to preserve publication of separate and independent daily newspapers in the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Oahu Publications, Inc., owner of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin; Gannett Newspapers, Inc., owner of The Honolulu Advertiser; the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii; and the United States Department of Justice.

OFFERED BY:
