
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING GOVERNOR LINDA LINGLE TO RECOGNIZE LOCAL KOREANS BY ALLOWING A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE TO BE PLACED ON MILLER STREET ADJACENT TO WASHINGTON PLACE, FORMER SITE OF THE KOREAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

1 WHEREAS, on January 13, 1903, the first wave of 102
2 immigrants from Korea arrived at Honolulu Harbor on the S.S.
3 Gaelic to work on Hawaii's sugar plantations as contract
4 laborers, to be followed in the next two and one-half years by
5 approximately 7,400 Koreans; and
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7 WHEREAS, on February 1, 1909, Koreans in Hawaii organized
8 the Korean National Association, which would eventually become
9 the oldest Korean organization in America; and
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11 WHEREAS, Washington Place is the official residence of the
12 Governor of Hawaii; and
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14 WHEREAS, on December 14, 1914, the Korean National
15 Association constructed its headquarters at 1306 Miller Lane,
16 the same property as today's Washington Place, where it stood
17 until 1946, when it was subjected to friendly condemnation in
18 December 1945 by the Territory of Hawaii for expansion of the
19 Governor's Mansion; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Korean National Association worked from the
22 Washington Place site for thirty-two years to provide financial
23 assistance, publish a Korean vernacular newspaper, and promote
24 general welfare programs for the aging population of local
25 Koreans; and
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27 WHEREAS, the Korean National Association, also known as
28 Kook Min Hur of Hawaii, is currently dedicated to serving
29 others, preserving the history of the State of Hawaii, donating
30 to various nonprofit charities and organizations, and supporting
31 community events, and the Association is a major participant in
32 the Korean Festival in Hawaii - all a reflection of the
33 indomitable spirit of the Korean people; and
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1 WHEREAS, February 1, 2009, marked the 100th anniversary of
2 the Korean National Association, coincidental with the 50th
3 anniversary of Hawaii statehood; and

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5 WHEREAS, a plaque to honor, commemorate, and remember the
6 immigration of Koreans to Hawaii would be proper and fitting;
7 and

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9 WHEREAS, the location of the plaque should rightfully be on
10 the premises of Washington Place, previously the headquarters of
11 the Korean National Association; now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,
15 that Governor Linda Lingle is requested to direct the placement
16 of a plaque to be funded by the Korean community on the grounds
17 of Washington Place as follows:

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19 (1) The plaque is to be made of bronze, measuring no
20 larger than twenty-four by fifteen inches, to be
21 mounted on a twenty-four inch high pedestal made of
22 stone or cement block;

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24 (2) The plaque is to be placed at the sidewalk on the Ewa
25 end of Miller Street near the back gate of the
26 Governor's Mansion; and

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28 (3) The plaque should read "Korean National Association
29 Headquarters Site, December 1914 - July 1946"; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawaii and to the
33 Korean National Association.

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OFFERED BY:

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