

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII AND HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION  
TO SUPPORT THE EMERGING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE SUPPLEMENT TO  
THE OCEAN LITERACY PRINCIPLES.

1           WHEREAS, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is  
2 dedicated to the care and preservation of Hawaiian practices  
3 such as fishing and fisheries development, art, crafts, chants,  
4 legends and lore, navigation, access to historic sites, care of  
5 nā iwi kupuna, and other related cultural issues, as well as the  
6 rights of practitioners of these Hawaiian customs; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, a commitment to the education and promotion of the  
9 understanding of Hawai'i's rich cultural history is one of the  
10 major tenets of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, the Centers for Ocean Sciences Educational  
13 Excellence (COSEE) is currently developing Ocean Literacy  
14 Principles, principles that are meant to enhance an educators'  
15 capacity to deliver a high-quality education in the ocean  
16 sciences and promote a deeper understanding of the ocean and its  
17 influence on and interconnection with human life, but that fail  
18 to address or recognize indigenous people's cultural, customary,  
19 and traditional knowledge; and  
20

21           WHEREAS, indigenous groups believe that these educational  
22 initiatives marginalize the knowledge of indigenous peoples, as  
23 well as their practices, and denigrate native traditions; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, the United States has benefitted greatly from the  
26 knowledge and culture of the indigenous native people of this  
27 country, yet has not ratified the United Nations Declaration of  
28 Indigenous Rights that would provide a foundation for the  
29 development of fair and equitable adjudication of native claims;  
30 and



# H.C.R. NO. 106

1 WHEREAS, there currently exists an effort to develop a  
2 national common core curriculum for education in the United  
3 States; and

4  
5 WHEREAS, the United States supports equal rights and equal  
6 access to education; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, traditional and cultural knowledge contains  
9 empirical, site-specific knowledge that can enhance education,  
10 learning, and understanding; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, science can be enhanced by traditional and  
13 cultural knowledge to provide a broader educational spectrum and  
14 alternative ways of understanding; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, traditional and cultural knowledge has been used  
17 to develop medicine and other commercial products thus enabling  
18 commercial and pharmaceutical industries to realize tremendous  
19 profits; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, without the support of the mainstream educational  
22 system, valuable traditional and cultural knowledge can and will  
23 be marginalized and eventually lost; now, therefore,

24  
25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
26 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
27 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the State of Hawaii and  
28 Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged to support the  
29 emerging Traditional Knowledge Supplement to the Ocean Literacy  
30 Principles; and

31  
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional  
34 delegation and the Governor of the State of Hawaii.

35  
36  
37

OFFERED BY: Mele Carroll  
Mark L. I. H. Kuroki  
Karen Anderson  
David Hansen  
Andrew Evans

Ministry of Education  
Felix B. Berg  
John

HCR HMS 2010-1169



FEB 18 2010