
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING LOCAL NEWS ORGANIZATIONS TO DILIGENTLY ENFORCE
COMMENT POSTING GUIDELINES ON THEIR ONLINE PUBLICATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the Internet serves as an essential tool in the
2 dissemination of news and other vital information; and

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4 WHEREAS, local news organizations provide an important
5 service and offer audiences invaluable access to critical
6 information through their online publications; and

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8 WHEREAS, user comments, blogs, chat rooms, and other public
9 forums provide the users of online publications with a public
10 forum in which they may offer points of view, comments, and
11 criticism, which are a valuable and necessary component of our
12 society; and

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14 WHEREAS, access to public forums on online publications
15 should be available to every person who agrees to the news
16 organizations' comment posting guidelines; and

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18 WHEREAS, comment posting guidelines should encourage the
19 free exchange of ideas and discourage libelous statements; and

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21 WHEREAS, to encourage users of all ages to participate in
22 public forums on online publications, news organizations should
23 diligently enforce their established guidelines on the posting
24 of comments in public forums; and

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26 WHEREAS, in particular, news organizations should
27 diligently enforce guidelines that govern the following areas:
28 comments that are threatening or designed to incite violence;
29 the use of explicit or disguised profanity; the use of profane



1 or crude names and identities; and potentially libelous
2 statements; now, therefore,
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that local news organizations
7 are encouraged to diligently enforce comment posting guidelines
8 on their online publications; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, who in
12 turn is requested to transmit copies to the Presidents and
13 Publishers of The Honolulu Advertiser and the Honolulu Star-
14 Bulletin, the General Managers of KHNL, KGMB, and KFVE, and the
15 Presidents and General Managers of KITV and KHON.
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OFFERED BY:

J. Phil. L. Green

MAR 10 2010

