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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE  
BUREAU'S PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM ON ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
AND COMMENDING ITS CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

1           WHEREAS, the richness and vitality of our state are due in  
2 large part to the invaluable contributions and meritorious acts  
3 of individuals who are committed to enhancing the knowledge of  
4 the community through leadership, professionalism, and personal  
5 contributions; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, the Legislative Reference Bureau's Public Access  
8 Room (Public Access Room) opened twenty years ago on March 6,  
9 1990, to help people learn more about the Legislature and how  
10 they can contribute to the process; and  
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12           WHEREAS, the Public Access Room is the first stop for  
13 Hawaii's citizens when conducting business at the Legislature  
14 and the only full service public access resource in any state  
15 capitol in the nation; and  
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17           WHEREAS, the Public Access Room makes available work space  
18 and computers with Internet access, offers photocopying  
19 services, provides access to legislative documents and reference  
20 materials, and offers expert assistance from staff; and  
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22           WHEREAS, the staff of the Public Access Room selflessly  
23 dedicate their time to providing answers and information  
24 regarding legislative and government matters and assisting in  
25 preparing legislative documents such as testimonies; and  
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27           WHEREAS, for over ten years, the Public Access Room has  
28 been a processing and delivering center for e-mail testimony  
29 submitted for consideration by legislative committees; and



1 WHEREAS, the amount of e-mail testimony received has grown  
2 tremendously from less than 500 emails in the first year to over  
3 12,000 only six years later; and

4  
5 WHEREAS, e-mail testimony is an especially important tool  
6 for residents of the neighbor islands and outlying areas of Oahu  
7 to participate in the legislative process; and

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9 WHEREAS, a Neighbor Island Outreach Program began in 2003,  
10 with workshops to help people become more effective and informed  
11 citizens, and web-based workshops have had participants as far  
12 away as Calcutta, India; and

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14 WHEREAS, starting in 2002, the Public Access Room began  
15 coordinating America's Legislators Back-to-School Program,  
16 through which legislators visit classrooms to talk about the  
17 legislative process and bring civics lessons to life for  
18 students; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, in 2008, the Public Access Room's coordination of  
21 the Legislators Back-to-School Program resulted in 44  
22 legislators talking to almost 6,000 students at various Hawaii  
23 schools; and

24  
25 WHEREAS, the tools and resources provided by the Public  
26 Access Room are invaluable in teaching the public how to  
27 understand legislative documents and how each individual can  
28 make a difference; now, therefore,

29  
30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
31 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
32 of 2010, that this body hereby honors and commends the Public  
33 Access Room for its notable contributions to the citizens,  
34 Legislature, and State of Hawaii, and extends its deepest aloha,  
35 appreciation, and congratulations on the occasion of its 20<sup>th</sup>  
36 anniversary.

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OFFERED BY:

  


