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## HOUSE 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  
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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  
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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  
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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  
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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

31           WHEREAS, there currently exists an effort to develop a  
32 national common core curriculum for education in the United  
33 States; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the United States supports equal rights and equal  
2 access to education; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, traditional and cultural knowledge contains  
5 empirical, site-specific knowledge that can enhance education,  
6 learning, and understanding; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, science can be enhanced by traditional and  
9 cultural knowledge to provide a broader educational spectrum and  
10 alternative ways of understanding; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, traditional and cultural knowledge has been used  
13 to develop medicine and other commercial products thus enabling  
14 commercial and pharmaceutical industries to realize tremendous  
15 profits; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, without the support of the mainstream educational  
18 system, valuable traditional and cultural knowledge can and will  
19 be marginalized and eventually lost; now, therefore,

20  
21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
23 of 2010, that the State of Hawaii and Hawaii's congressional  
24 delegation are urged to support the emerging Traditional  
25 Knowledge Supplement to the Ocean Literacy Principles; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional delegation  
29 and the Governor of the State of Hawaii.

30  
31 *[Signature]*

32 OFFERED BY: *Mell Carroll*

*Jyle B. Berg*  
*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

33 *Herman Brown*

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*Karen Awana*

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