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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP  
WITH THE MARITIME PROVINCE, RUSSIA, FOR ECONOMIC, CULTURAL,  
SECURITY, AND INTELLECTUAL BENEFITS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has become a gathering place for its  
2 neighbors in the Pacific Ocean; and

3  
4           WHEREAS, in expanding its international reach, Hawaii has  
5 established a number of sister-state agreements with its Pacific  
6 Ocean neighbors; and

7  
8           WHEREAS, the Maritime Province, also known as Primorsky  
9 Krai in Russia, is near to Korea, China, Japan, and other  
10 Southeast Asian countries that border the Pacific Ocean; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, historical precedent exists which exemplify a  
13 common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and  
14 financial bridge between Russians living in Hawaii and their  
15 relatives, friends, and business counterparts in Russia, and the  
16 establishment of sister-state relations between Hawaii and the  
17 Maritime Province in Russia would help reinforce and cement this  
18 common bridge; and

19  
20           WHEREAS, the Maritime Province and Hawaii have a rich  
21 history together, starting in 1803, when the Nadezhda, under the  
22 command of Captain Yury Lisiansky, became the first Russian ship  
23 from the voyaging era to arrive in Hawaii; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, more than five decades later in 1859, the Hawaiian  
26 Kingdom and Imperial Russia established consular representation  
27 in Nikolaevsk-on-Amur and Honolulu, respectively; and



1           WHEREAS, the relationship between Hawaii and Russia  
2 continued when Russian businessmen from Vladivostok vacationed  
3 in Hawaii's San Souci area in the 1890s, and Russian workers  
4 arrived from Vladivostok to work in Hawaii's sugar and pineapple  
5 plantations in the early 1900s; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, in addition, several Russians made important  
8 contributions to Hawaii, as the first President of the Hawaii  
9 Territorial Senate was Nikolas Russel Sudzilovskii, a medical  
10 doctor and a member of a Russian anti-Imperialist group, who  
11 ended up in Hawaii practicing on the Waianae coast, and then  
12 growing coffee on the Big Island; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, the Honorary Russian Consul General in Hawaii,  
15 Natasha Owen, has promoted and nurtured ties between Hawaii and  
16 Russia as she has worked for decades in Vladivostok assisting in  
17 the construction of a hospital for children's diseases that will  
18 serve the Maritime Province and has received support from many  
19 places, including Hawaii; and  
20

21           WHEREAS, Hawaii's academic foundation has been strengthened  
22 by Russia after former University of Hawaii President Gregg  
23 Sinclair established an Oriental Institute in 1932, and hired  
24 the first teachers of Russian history and language, which during  
25 the 1961 Pacific Science Association conference in Honolulu  
26 several Soviet scientists attended; and  
27

28           WHEREAS, since then, University of Hawaii has maintained  
29 scholarly ties with the Russian Academy of Sciences,  
30 universities and major libraries in the Russian Far East in the  
31 areas of marine science, astronomy, oceanography, geography,  
32 economics, history and Asian-Pacific studies; and  
33

34           WHEREAS, during the Soviet era, University of Hawaii hosted  
35 prominent Soviet scholars in Asian and Pacific specialties each  
36 year, and years later former University of Hawaii President  
37 Albert Simone signed the first agreement with the Far Eastern  
38 State University in 1988; and  
39

40           WHEREAS, in the past 20 years spanning most summers, Hawaii  
41 has sent University of Hawaii students to Russia's Far Eastern  
42 State University to study intensive Russian; and



1           WHEREAS, the newly created Far Eastern Federal University  
2 (formed from four universities, including Far Eastern State  
3 University) in Vladivostok provides Hawaii the opportunity to  
4 continue relations with Russia; and  
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6           WHEREAS, the geographic location of Hawaii presents an  
7 outstanding opportunity to promote global connectivity in the  
8 Asia-Pacific region, in particular with the Maritime Province in  
9 the Russian Far East, and to proliferate meaningful and mutually  
10 rewarding international friendships, understanding between  
11 cultures, economic and social interests and technological  
12 advancement, and enhanced regional security; now, therefore,  
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14           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
16 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is requested  
17 to set up a task force within the Department of Business,  
18 Economic Development, and Tourism to establish a relationship  
19 between Hawaii and the Maritime Province for economic, cultural,  
20 security, and intellectual benefits; and  
21

22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the task force shall be comprised of  
23 the Governor, and members representing the Department of  
24 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the University of  
25 Hawaii School of Pacific and Asian Studies, and the East-West  
26 Center; and  
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28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to  
29 keep this body fully informed of the process in establishing  
30 these relationships and to be involved in formalization; and  
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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
34 United States; President of the Russian Federation; Governor of  
35 the State of Hawaii; Russian Ambassador to the United States;  
36 Russian Consul General in San Francisco; Governor of the  
37 Maritime Province;



# H.C.R. NO. 149

1 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the  
2 President of University of Hawaii System; and President of the  
3 East-West Center.  
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OFFERED BY:

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[Signature]

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MAR 15 2011

