
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP THROUGH THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF RABAT-SALÉ-ZEMMOUR-ZAËR OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii maintains a heritage of international
2 participation and cultural sensitivity unparalleled in other
3 states due to its multicultural population since the reign of
4 the Hawaiian monarchy in the early 19th century; and
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6 WHEREAS, since 1981, the Legislature has instituted sister-
7 state relationships as a means of asserting its active
8 participation in international matters; and
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10 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently maintains 15 sister-state
11 relationships; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds it advantageous to continue
14 to pursue sister-state relationships, for both cultural and
15 economic development reasons, with attention focused on
16 fostering the most productive ties; and
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18 WHEREAS, Hawaii initiated informal relations with the
19 Moroccan state of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaër, as both states hosted
20 a World Youth Congress assembly administered by Peace Child
21 International of the United Kingdom; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Legislature extends its gratitude to His
24 Majesty King Mohammed VI for graciously hosting Hawaii's
25 designated representative to Morocco at the Moroccan-hosted
26 Second World Youth Congress in August, 2003; and
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28 WHEREAS, the Legislature notes many other connections
29 between our states, including the semester-long visit of Mr.



1 Driss Semlani, a teacher from El Malek Assaadi High School in
2 Kenitra, Morocco, to Hawaii in the spring of 2002 as part of the
3 New Initiative Teacher Exchange program, an initiative of the
4 United States Department of State and the Moroccan-American
5 Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange; and
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7 WHEREAS, Mr. Jan Rumi, who attended the Second World Youth
8 Congress in 2003 as an adult observer, is now serving as the
9 Honorary Consul for the Kingdom of Morocco located in Honolulu;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, the state of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaër maintains a
13 population of about 2,000,000 residents, three-fourths of whom
14 live in urban areas on the eastern Atlantic coast, including the
15 city of Rabat, the seat of the Kingdom of Morocco; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the negotiations have
18 been completed between the United States government and the
19 Kingdom of Morocco and a free trade agreement has been secured
20 as part of the Middle East Free Trade Area Initiative of
21 President George W. Bush; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes this relationship would
24 be mutually beneficial and sustainable, advancing its goals for
25 international peace and brotherhood; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is authorized
30 and requested to take all necessary actions to establish a
31 sister-state relationship through the Hawaii Sister-State
32 Committee between Hawaii and the state of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-
33 Zaër, Kingdom of Morocco, to include economic, social,
34 governmental, educational, and cultural exchange; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state of Rabat-Salé-
37 Zemmour-Zaër be offered the privileges and honors that Hawaii
38 extends to its sister-states and provinces; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and the Hawaii
41 Sister-State Committee are requested to report to the
42 Legislature on the progress made with respect to this Concurrent
43 Resolution no later than 20 days before the convening of the
44 Regular Session of 2012; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Secretary of
2 State and the Embassy in Rabat are requested to assist in the
3 matters proposed by this Concurrent Resolution; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the business community of
6 Hawaii is also requested to assist in the matters proposed by
7 this Concurrent Resolution, as in all matters concerning sister-
8 state relations; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States
12 Secretary of State, King of Morocco, Prime Minister of the
13 Kingdom of Morocco, United States Ambassador-designee to the
14 Kingdom of Morocco, Moroccan Ambassador to the United States,
15 Congressional delegation from Hawaii, Governor of Hawaii,
16 Governor of the state of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaër, Chairperson of
17 the Hawaii Sister-State Committee, President of the University
18 of Hawaii, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber
19 of Commerce of Hawaii, and Honorary Consul for the Kingdom of
20 Morocco in Hawaii.

