
HOUSE 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

28
29 WHEREAS, the relationship between Hawaii and Russia
30 continued when Russian businessmen from Vladivostok vacationed
31 in Hawaii's San Souci area in the 1890s, and Russian workers



1 arrived from Vladivostok to work in Hawaii's sugar and pineapple
2 plantations in the early 1900s; and
3

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

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

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

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

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

37 WHEREAS, in the past 20 years spanning most summers, Hawaii
38 has sent University of Hawaii students to Russia's Far Eastern
39 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,
13

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, that the Governor is requested to set up a task force
17 within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
18 Tourism to establish a relationship between Hawaii and the
19 Maritime Province for economic, cultural, security, and
20 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
27

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 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States;
34 President of the Russian Federation; Governor of the State of
35 Hawaii; Russian Ambassador to the United States; Russian Consul
36 General in San Francisco; Governor of the Maritime Province;



H.R. NO. 130

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:

Karen Awana

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MAR 15 2011

