
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP THROUGH THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE 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 WHEREAS, the relationship between Hawaii and Russia
29 continued when Russian businessmen from Vladivostok vacationed
30 in Hawaii's San Souci area in the 1890s, and Russian workers
31 arrived from Vladivostok to work in Hawaii's sugar and pineapple
32 plantations in the early 1900s; and



1
2 WHEREAS, in addition, several Russians made important
3 contributions to Hawaii, as the first President of the Hawaii
4 Territorial Senate was Nikolas Russel Sudzilovskii, a medical
5 doctor and a member of a Russian anti-Imperialist group, who
6 ended up in Hawaii practicing on the Waianae coast, and then
7 growing coffee on the Big Island; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Honorary Russian Consul General in Hawaii,
10 Natasha Owen, has promoted and nurtured ties between Hawaii and
11 Russia as she has worked for decades in Vladivostok assisting in
12 the construction of a hospital for children's diseases that will
13 serve the Maritime Province and has received support from many
14 places, including Hawaii; and
15

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

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

29 WHEREAS, during the Soviet era, University of Hawaii hosted
30 prominent Soviet scholars in Asian and Pacific specialties each
31 year, and years later former University of Hawaii President
32 Albert Simone signed the first agreement with the Far Eastern
33 State University in 1988; and
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35 WHEREAS, in the past 20 years spanning most summers, Hawaii
36 has sent University of Hawaii students to Russia's Far Eastern
37 State University to study intensive Russian; and

38 WHEREAS, the newly created Far Eastern Federal University
39 (formed from four universities, including Far Eastern State



1 University) in Vladivostok provides Hawaii the opportunity to
2 continue relations with Russia; and

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4 WHEREAS, the geographic location of Hawaii presents an
5 outstanding opportunity to promote global connectivity in the
6 Asia-Pacific region, in particular with the Maritime Province in
7 the Russian Far East, and to proliferate meaningful and mutually
8 rewarding international friendships, understanding between
9 cultures, economic and social interests and technological
10 advancement, and enhanced regional security; now, therefore,

11
12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
14 of 2011, that the Governor is requested to establish a sister-
15 state relationship through the Hawaii Sister-State Committee
16 between Hawaii and the Maritime Province, Russia for economic,
17 cultural, security, and intellectual benefits; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and the Hawaii
20 Sister-State Committee are requested to keep this body fully
21 informed of the process in establishing these relationships and
22 to be involved in formalization; and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States;
26 President of the Russian Federation; Governor of the State of
27 Hawaii; Russian Ambassador to the United States; Russian Consul
28 General in San Francisco; Governor of the Maritime Province;
29 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
30 Chairperson of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee; President of
31 the University of Hawaii System; and President of the East-West
32 Center.

