
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING HAWAII AS A HUMAN RIGHTS STATE.

1 WHEREAS, December 10, 2012, marks the sixty-fourth
2 anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which
3 was spearheaded by the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt and based
4 on policies of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four
5 Freedoms"; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
8 guarantees the rights of all peoples and encompasses a broad
9 spectrum of economic, social, cultural, civil, political, and
10 collective rights; and
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12 WHEREAS, this anniversary provides an opportunity to call
13 attention to human rights violations that occur around the world
14 and to continue to promote the importance of educating the
15 citizens of Hawaii about human rights; and
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17 WHEREAS, a human rights state serves as a model for
18 communities around the world to witness practical ways the human
19 rights framework can make every citizen a partner of sustainable
20 social change; and
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22 WHEREAS, the state public school system has partnered with
23 the Hawaii Institute for Human Rights to create courses that
24 teach students about human rights issues; and
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26 WHEREAS, a human rights state is one whose residents and
27 local authorities, through ongoing discussions and creative
28 exchanges of ideas, come to understand that human rights, when
29 widely recognized as a way of life, assist in identifying the
30 issues and inform the actions in the communities of the State,
31 for meaningful and positive economic and social change; and



1 WHEREAS, developing human rights states is an attempt to
2 build infrastructure for conflict prevention, human security,
3 and sustainable development, and to create a place for active
4 civic engagement at the local, national, and global level; and
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6 WHEREAS, Hawaii will be declared among the first human
7 rights states in the United States, building upon the human
8 rights city movement, which includes Washington, D.C.; and
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10 WHEREAS, as a human rights state, Hawaii will be joining
11 human rights cities around the world in working to provide
12 leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human
13 rights for all people; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature recognizes
18 Hawaii as a human rights state; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the mayor
22 of each county, and members of Hawaii's congressional
23 delegation.

