HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI AND EXTENDING CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF JAPAN.

WHEREAS, Fukushima is the capital city of Fukushima Prefecture, Japan; and

WHEREAS, the people of Fukushima are a proud, industrious, and resilient people who have faced the immeasurable devastation of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and its resulting tsunami and nuclear meltdowns with unrivaled determination and grace; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude 9.0 Tohoku earthquake in 2011 was the most powerful known earthquake ever to hit Japan and the fifth most powerful earthquake in the world since modern recordkeeping began in 1900; and

WHEREAS, the Tohoku earthquake triggered powerful tsunami waves that reached heights of up to one hundred and thirty-three feet and travelled up to six miles inland; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the Tohoku earthquake moved Honshu, the main island of Japan, eight feet east and shifted the Earth on its axis between four and ten inches; and

WHEREAS, a Japanese National Police Agency report confirmed that the tsunami resulted in 15,881 deaths, 6,142 injuries, and 2,668 missing people across twenty prefectures, as well as 129,225 buildings totally collapsed, 254,204 buildings half-collapsed, and 691,766 buildings partially damaged; and

WHEREAS, the tsunami after the earthquake caused nuclear accidents, including level seven meltdowns at three reactors in the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant complex, that forced the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of residents; and

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WHEREAS, the World Bank estimated the economic cost of the Tohoku earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accidents at \$235,000,000,000, making it the costliest natural disaster in world history; and

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WHEREAS, the earthquake and its aftermath caused a humanitarian crisis with more than 340,000 displaced people and shortages of food, water, shelter, medicine, and fuel; and

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WHEREAS, since the disaster, the people of Japan have worked tirelessly to rebuild the proud capital city of Fukushima and all of the affected areas; and

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WHEREAS, the relationship between Hawaii and Japan is born of shared ancestry, customs, and values, and has never been stronger; and

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WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii have and continue to provide an outpouring of support to the people of Japan as they continue their efforts to recover from the tragic loss of life and property after the earthquake and tsunami of 2011; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the State of Hawaii expresses condolences on the second anniversary of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami and extends continued support to the people of Japan; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda and respectfully requests that he deliver this measure to the people of Japan.

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