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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING KULEANA LANDS AS HISTORICAL LANDS AND URGING THE COUNTIES TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CONTINUED ANCESTRAL OWNERSHIP OF KULEANA LANDS.

WHEREAS, following the Māhele, several thousand native tenants, or maka'āinana, were granted title to the lands they had occupied and improved under the Kuleana Act of 1850; and

WHEREAS, the health and the well-being of the Native Hawaiian people is intrinsically tied to the deep feelings and attachment to the 'āina (land); and

WHEREAS, the "value" placed on these kuleana lands is without measure, and represents a lasting relationship between Native Hawaiians and their ancestors, their people, and the Hawaiian monarchy; and

WHEREAS, over the generations, these families have continued to mālama 'āina (care for the land) and are determined to preserve, develop, and transmit to the future generations, their ancestral lands, so that their descendants can carry on the legacy; and

WHEREAS, the rapid escalation of land values in the recent years have resulted in emotional and financial struggles for Native Hawaiian families that are trying to keep kuleana lands in their family, and ultimately contributed to the continual loss of these historical and traditional family lands; and

WHEREAS, today, very few Native Hawaiian families live on their ancestral kuleana lands; now, therefore,

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 Legislature recognizes the historical, cultural, and ancestral importance of

kuleana lands to the Native Hawaiian families and urges the counties to support efforts to promote continued ancestral ownership of kuleana lands; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the mayors and councilmembers of the City and County of Honolulu, the County of Hawai'i, the County of Kaua'i, and the County of Mau'i, and to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: MM-

By Request

JAN 1 7 2013