

MAR 13 2013

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING HAWAII AS A HUMAN RIGHTS STATE.

1           WHEREAS, 2013 marks the sixty-fifth anniversary of the  
2 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was spearheaded by  
3 the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt and based on policies of  
4 President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms"; and  
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6           WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
7 guarantees the rights of all peoples and encompasses a broad  
8 spectrum of economic, social, cultural, civil, political, and  
9 collective rights; and  
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11           WHEREAS, this anniversary provides an opportunity to call  
12 attention to human rights violations that occur around the world  
13 and to continue to promote the importance of educating the  
14 citizens of Hawaii about human rights; and  
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16           WHEREAS, a human rights state serves as a model for  
17 communities around the world to witness practical ways the human  
18 rights framework can make every citizen a partner of sustainable  
19 social change; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the state public school system has partnered with  
22 the Hawaii Institute for Human Rights to create courses that  
23 teach students about human rights issues; and  
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25           WHEREAS, a human rights state is one whose residents and  
26 local authorities, through ongoing discussions and creative  
27 exchanges of ideas, come to understand that human rights, when  
28 widely recognized as a way of life, assist in identifying the  
29 issues and inform the actions in the communities of the State  
30 for meaningful and positive economic and social change; and  
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32           WHEREAS, developing human rights states is an attempt to  
33 build infrastructure for conflict prevention, human security,



# S.C.R. NO. 140

1 and sustainable development, and to create a place for active  
2 civic engagement at the local, national, and global level; and  
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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the opportunity to be declared among  
5 the first human rights states in the United States, building  
6 upon the human rights city movement, which includes Washington,  
7 D.C.; and  
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9 WHEREAS, as a human rights state, Hawaii would be joining  
10 human rights cities around the world in working to provide  
11 leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human  
12 rights for all people; now, therefore,  
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the  
16 House of Representatives concurring, that this body recognizes  
17 Hawaii as a human rights state; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Concurrent Resolution may  
20 be cited as the Hawaii Human Rights Day Recognition Resolution  
21 of 2013; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the mayor  
25 of each county, and members of Hawaii's Congressional  
26 delegation.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

