
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN IRA BARNES DUTTON AND URGING THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO WORK TOWARD RELOCATING HIS STATUE FROM ITS CURRENT LOCATION AT SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH IN KAMALO TO THE KALAUPAPA PENINSULA.

1 WHEREAS, Ira Barnes Dutton, better known as "Brother Joseph
2 of Molokai" was born on April 27, 1843, in Stowe, Vermont, and
3 spent his formative years in Janesville, Wisconsin; and
4

5 WHEREAS, after the Civil War broke out, Ira Barnes Dutton
6 enlisted in the Union Army in September of 1861 as part of
7 Company B of the 13th Wisconsin Infantry and was discharged in
8 1866 as the military was downsized after the war; and
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10 WHEREAS, Ira Barnes Dutton was an expert horseman, showed
11 leadership and administrative skills, and advanced rapidly in
12 the military hierarchy; and
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14 WHEREAS, Ira Barnes Dutton served in the Quartermaster
15 Corps and was mentioned with respect by many Generals of the
16 Union Armies; and
17

18 WHEREAS, in June of 1864, Ira Barnes Dutton was assigned to
19 the command of General Robert S. Granger in Decatur a few miles
20 from Atlanta and with a small detachment managed to blow up
21 bridges, railroad lines, and stockpiles of ammunition, which
22 allowed the Union Army to recapture Decatur and General Sherman
23 to enter Atlanta soon thereafter; and
24

25 WHEREAS, following the Civil War, Ira Barnes Dutton
26 volunteered to find the dead that were scattered on the
27 battlefields and bring them to a common burial site; and



1 WHEREAS, after years of suffering from post-traumatic
2 stress disorder and other personal problems, Ira Barnes Dutton,
3 at the age of 40, sought atonement for his transgressions and
4 converted to the Catholic faith, taking the name of his favorite
5 Saint, Joseph, when baptized; and

6
7 WHEREAS, after hearing about the work of Father Damien on
8 Molokai, Brother Joseph Dutton gave away all of his possessions,
9 made his way by foot to San Francisco, and boarded a steamer
10 bound for Hawaii, arriving at Kalaupapa in July of 1886, where
11 he stayed for the next 45 years; and

12
13 WHEREAS, word of Brother Joseph Dutton's self-imposed exile
14 on Molokai swept through the United States, and on July 18,
15 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt ordered the Great White
16 Fleet, which was on a round-the-world voyage to demonstrate that
17 the United States was a world power, to divert their course and
18 sail past Kalaupapa and dip their colors in salute to this
19 heroic patriot and the residents of Kalaupapa; and

20
21 WHEREAS, Brother Joseph Dutton served as a lay brother on
22 Kalaupapa and, when Father Damien died in 1889, assumed the
23 duties of administrative assistant, striving to improve the
24 living conditions of the residents and, among his many
25 accomplishments, founded the Baldwin Home, a residence for men
26 and boys suffering from Hansen's Disease; and

27
28 WHEREAS, when Brother Joseph Dutton died on March 26, 1931,
29 he was buried in a grave next to Saint Damien at Saint Philomena
30 Church at Kalaupapa; and

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32 WHEREAS, Captain Ira Barnes Dutton, also known as "Brother
33 Joseph of Molokai", has become a role model and inspiration for
34 veterans today due to his status as a military veteran and the
35 struggles he overcame; now, therefore,

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37 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
38 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
39 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that this body
40 recognizes Captain Ira Barnes Dutton and urges the National Park
41 Service to work toward relocating his statue from its current
42 location at Saint Joseph Church in Kamalo to the Kalaupapa
43 Peninsula; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the
3 Interior, Director of the National Park Service, and Secretary
4 of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

John M. [Signature]
John [Signature]
Cindy Evans
[Signature]

MAR 04 2014

