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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE HAWAII FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL AND DECLARING THE FESTIVAL TO BE THE NEXT AGRICULTURAL AND CULINARY MOVEMENT IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the Hawaii regional cuisine movement started in 1991 with twelve of Hawaii's most accomplished chefs making a commitment to use the finest locally grown produce and to support local farmers; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii regional cuisine was a major impetus to drive the growth of diversified agriculture in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival began twenty years later, in 2011, with more than eighty chefs from all over the world coming together to showcase Hawaii's incredible bounty of fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, beef, eggs, fish, pork, coffee, honey, and more; and

WHEREAS, the festival is a testament to the impact that Hawaii regional cuisine chefs and local farmers have had upon Hawaii's culinary arts and its agricultural industry; and

WHEREAS, the festival moves Hawaii regional cuisine forward by bringing together interests in tourism, education, culture, environmentalism, and sustainability to ensure that Hawaii maintains a healthy and vibrant economy for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the overarching message of the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival is "Taste our Love for the Land" and promotion of the return of sustainability to Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Festival brings multiple industries and partners together to promote Hawaii as a destination and creates

new opportunities to build relationships that grow beyond Hawaii's shores; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority and its industry partners support the Festival as a major signature event and recognize the importance of building a world-class festival that brings visitors from all over the world to Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival has put Hawaii on the world's food and wine map in a monumental way and is truly a showcase of our local produce, our islands, our people, our culture, and our talents; and

WHEREAS, the Festival is organized as a nonprofit organization that contributes to community organizations promoting the agricultural and culinary industries, education, and sustainability in Hawaii; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature expresses its support of the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival and declares it to be the next agricultural and culinary movement in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature also recognizes the pivotal role the Hawaii Food and Wine Festival has played, and will continue to play, in showcasing Hawaii's local produce, people, culture, and culinary talents, thereby furthering Hawaii's reputation as a culinary destination and providing numerous benefits to the people of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States; Majority Leader of the United States Senate; Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; United States Secretary of Agriculture; President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; President of the Food Network and the Cooking Chanel; President of Le Cordon Bleu; Editor of Cooks Illustrated; Editor-in-Chief of Bon Appetit; Department Chair of the Culinary Arts Program at Kapiolani Community College; Program Director of the Culinary Arts Program at Leeward Community College; and Hawaii Food and Wine Festival event chairs Chef Alan Wong and Chef Roy Yamaguchi.