
HOUSE RESOLUTION

HONORING KING KAMEHAMEHA THE GREAT AND HIS DESCENDANTS BY
SHARING HIS STORY WITH A GLOBAL AUDIENCE, PROMOTING
CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES THAT CELEBRATE HIS VISION AND
HAWAII'S CULTURE AND HERITAGE, AND URGING ALL OF THE PEOPLE
OF HAWAII TO DO THE SAME.

1 WHEREAS, King Kamehameha the Great established his legacy
2 by uniting the eight major islands of the Hawaiian archipelago
3 under a single government by the year 1810; and
4

5 WHEREAS, appropriately known as the Napoleon of the Pacific
6 for his courage and leadership, King Kamehameha the Great also
7 displayed a rare humanity in battle and is credited for
8 developing an early model for human rights policies on civilians
9 and noncombatants; and
10

11 WHEREAS, this early humanitarian law called Ke Kanawai
12 Mamalahoe, or "the Law of the Splintered Paddle," is preserved
13 in Hawaii's constitution and serves as a unique and living
14 symbol of the State's concern for public safety; and
15

16 WHEREAS, in recognizing and honoring King Kamehameha Day,
17 and celebrating the history and heritage of the Aloha State, the
18 Hawaiian narrative is noted as one of both profound triumph and,
19 sadly, deep injustice; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the story of Hawaiians oppressed by crippling
22 disease, aborted treaties, and the eventual conquest of their
23 sovereign kingdom, is filled with numerous accounts of feats of
24 strength, unity, courage, and love; and
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26 WHEREAS, the stories of this oppression are grim milestones
27 that serve as a reminder of an unjust time in history, as well
28 as the many pitfalls in the Hawaiian nation's long and difficult
29 journey to perfect itself; and



