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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION ON ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE  
COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND  
ENCOURAGING THE COMMISSION TO EXPAND OUTREACH TO  
COMMUNITIES TO PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION.

1           WHEREAS, in 1973, the Revised City Charter of Honolulu  
2 featured the theme "The Responsible City," which called for a  
3 concept of full citizen participation in government to ensure  
4 that the powers of the City would properly serve and advance the  
5 aspirations of its citizens; and

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7           WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission was established to  
8 develop a Neighborhood Plan to create boundaries throughout the  
9 island of Oahu, forming neighborhood areas and neighborhood  
10 boards; and

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12           WHEREAS, the Oahu Neighborhood Board System was created to  
13 assure and increase community participation in the decision-  
14 making process of government through the establishment of an  
15 island-wide network of elected boards to function as  
16 communication channels, expanding and facilitating opportunities  
17 for community and government interaction; and

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19           WHEREAS, each of the 36 Neighborhood Boards serve as key  
20 mechanisms through which neighborhoods communicate needs and  
21 desires for basic government services, address economic  
22 development and land use questions, and establish community  
23 goals, objectives, and priorities; and

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25           WHEREAS, in addition to serving as elected Board members,  
26 members of the community are encouraged to participate in the  
27 Neighborhood Board System by voicing issues to Board members,  
28 attending regular monthly meetings, participating on Board  
29 subcommittees, or responding to surveys conducted by the Board;  
30 and



1 WHEREAS, Neighborhood Boards serve an important function in  
2 encouraging civic participation in community and government  
3 issues and are a convenient way for citizens to learn about the  
4 public process; and

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6 WHEREAS, the prevalence and advancement of communication  
7 technology, especially Internet tools such as email and social  
8 media, has made distributing information more convenient and  
9 accessible than ever; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission Office, which oversees  
12 the Neighborhood Boards, has already taken steps to launch the  
13 "Be Heard Do Good" campaign on outlets including Facebook,  
14 Twitter, and Instagram in an attempt to further engage and  
15 encourage citizens to get involved in their communities and  
16 Neighborhood Boards; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
19 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
20 Session of 2014, that this body hereby commends the Neighborhood  
21 Commission on its efforts to promote community fellowship and  
22 civic participation, and encourages the Commission to continue  
23 to expand such efforts; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each Neighborhood Board is  
26 encouraged to take measures to increase outreach to community  
27 members in each neighborhood through traditional or new media  
28 methods to provide notice of its monthly meetings, Board  
29 initiatives, and opportunities for Board membership to bring  
30 diverse voices to each meeting and ensure that all opinions of  
31 the community are heard; and

32  
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Neighborhood Commission Office  
35 and to the Chair of each of Oahu's 36 Neighborhood Boards.

OFFERED BY:

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