

MAR 07 2014

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING MARCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH AND DESIGNATING HAWAII  
AS A HUMAN RIGHTS STATE.

1           WHEREAS, December 10, 2013, marked the sixty-fifth  
2 anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which  
3 was spearheaded by the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt and based  
4 on policies of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four  
5 Freedoms"; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
8 guarantees the rights of all peoples and encompasses a broad  
9 spectrum of economic, social, cultural, civil, political, and  
10 collective rights; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, this anniversary provides an opportunity to call  
13 attention to human rights violations that occur around the world  
14 and to continue to promote the importance of educating the  
15 citizens of Hawaii about human rights; and

16  
17           WHEREAS, a human rights state serves as a model for  
18 communities around the world to witness practical ways the human  
19 rights framework can make every citizen a partner of sustainable  
20 social change; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, a human rights state is one whose residents and  
23 local authorities, through ongoing discussions and creative  
24 exchanges of ideas, come to understand that human rights, when  
25 widely recognized as a way of life, assist in identifying the  
26 issues and inform the actions in the communities of the State,  
27 for meaningful and positive economic and social change; and

28  
29           WHEREAS, developing human rights states is an attempt to  
30 build infrastructure for conflict prevention, human security,  
31 and sustainable development and to create a place for active  
32 civic engagement at the local, national, and global levels; and  
33



# S.C.R. NO. 117

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii could be declared among the first human  
2 rights states in the United States, building upon the human  
3 rights city movement, which includes Washington, D.C.; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, if declared as a human rights state, Hawaii will  
6 join human rights cities around the world in working to provide  
7 leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human  
8 rights for all people; and  
9

10          WHEREAS, International Women's Day is celebrated on  
11 March 8, a day when thousands of events are held throughout the  
12 world to inspire women and celebrate their achievements; and  
13

14          WHEREAS, while December 10 has been designated as  
15 International Human Rights Day, March is an appropriate month to  
16 be designated as Human Rights Month in the State because the  
17 Legislature is in session and March 8 is International Woman's  
18 Day; now, therefore,  
19

20          BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the  
22 House of Representatives concurring, that March is designated as  
23 Human Rights Month and Hawaii is designated as a human rights  
24 state; and  
25

26          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body commemorate Human  
27 Rights Month with related activities at the State Capitol in  
28 conjunction with International Women's Day; and  
29

30          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President  
32 of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mayor of  
33 each county, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.  
34  
35  
36

OFFERED BY:  \_\_\_\_\_