

MAR 07 2014

SENATE 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
34 WHEREAS, Hawaii could be declared among the first human
35 rights states in the United States, building upon the human
36 rights city movement, which includes Washington, D.C.; and
37



1 WHEREAS, if declared as a human rights state, Hawaii will
2 join human rights cities around the world in working to provide
3 leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human
4 rights for all people; and

5
6 WHEREAS, International Women's Day is celebrated on
7 March 8, a day when thousands of events are held throughout the
8 world to inspire women and celebrate their achievements; and

9
10 WHEREAS, while December 10 has been designated as
11 International Human Rights Day, March is an appropriate month to
12 be designated as Human Rights Month in the State because the
13 Legislature is in session and March 8 is International Woman's
14 Day; now, therefore,

15
16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,
18 that March is designated as Human Rights Month and Hawaii is
19 designated as a human rights state; and

20
21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body commemorate Human
22 Rights Month with related activities at the State Capitol in
23 conjunction with International Women's Day; and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the
27 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mayor of each
28 county, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

29
30
31

OFFERED BY: 