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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND  
CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE/PROVINCE RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES.

1           WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand  
2 its international ties and has an abiding interest in the  
3 developing goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between  
4 the people of Hawaii and the people of Asian and Pacific  
5 countries; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, as part of its effort to achieve this goal, Hawaii  
8 has established a number of sister-state relationships with  
9 provinces in the Pacific region; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, because of the historical relationship between the  
12 United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines,  
13 there continue to exist valid reasons to promote international  
14 friendship and understanding for the mutual benefit of both  
15 countries to achieve lasting peace and prosperity as it serves  
16 the common interests of both countries; and  
17

18           WHEREAS, there are historical precedents exemplifying the  
19 common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial,  
20 educational, and financial bridge between ethnic Filipinos  
21 living in Hawaii with their relatives, friends, and business  
22 counterparts in the Philippines, such as the previously  
23 established sister-city relationship between the City and County  
24 of Honolulu and the City of Cebu in the Province of Cebu; and  
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26           WHEREAS, similar state-province relationships exist between  
27 the State of Hawaii and the Provinces of Cebu, Ilocos Norte,



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1 Ilocos Sur, Pangasinan, and Isabella where cooperation and  
2 communication have served to establish exchanges in the areas of  
3 business, trade, education, agriculture and industry, tourism,  
4 disaster preparedness, beach restoration, sports, health care,  
5 social welfare, and other fields of human endeavor; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, a similar state-province relationship would  
8 reinforce and cement this common bridge for understanding and  
9 mutual assistance between ethnic Filipinos of both the State of  
10 Hawaii and the Province of Aklan, Republic of the Philippines;  
11 and  
12

13 WHEREAS, the Province of Aklan has vast fertile land  
14 resources, fishery and fabric industries, the world renowned  
15 Boracay Island, and Aklan State University; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the major industries of the Province of Aklan are  
18 agriculture, including sugarcane, corn, coconut, and rice;  
19 tourism; pina fabric; and materials for mats, pots, bags, fans,  
20 and décor; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the Province of Aklan is emerging as a  
23 technological center in the Central Philippines with its growing  
24 business process outsourcing and other technology-related  
25 industries; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, the Province of Aklan is a top international  
28 tourist destination in the Republic of the Philippines, making  
29 the province much like Hawaii; now, therefore,  
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
32 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
33 Session of 2016, Senate concurring, that there is authorized and  
34 established a sister-state/province relationship, as advised by  
35 the Hawaii Sister-State Committee, between the State of Hawaii  
36 and the Province of Aklan, Republic of the Philippines; and  
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor or the Governor's  
39 designee is requested to keep the Legislature fully informed of  
40 the process in establishing the sister-state/province  
41 relationship and involved in its formalization to the extent  
42 practicable; and



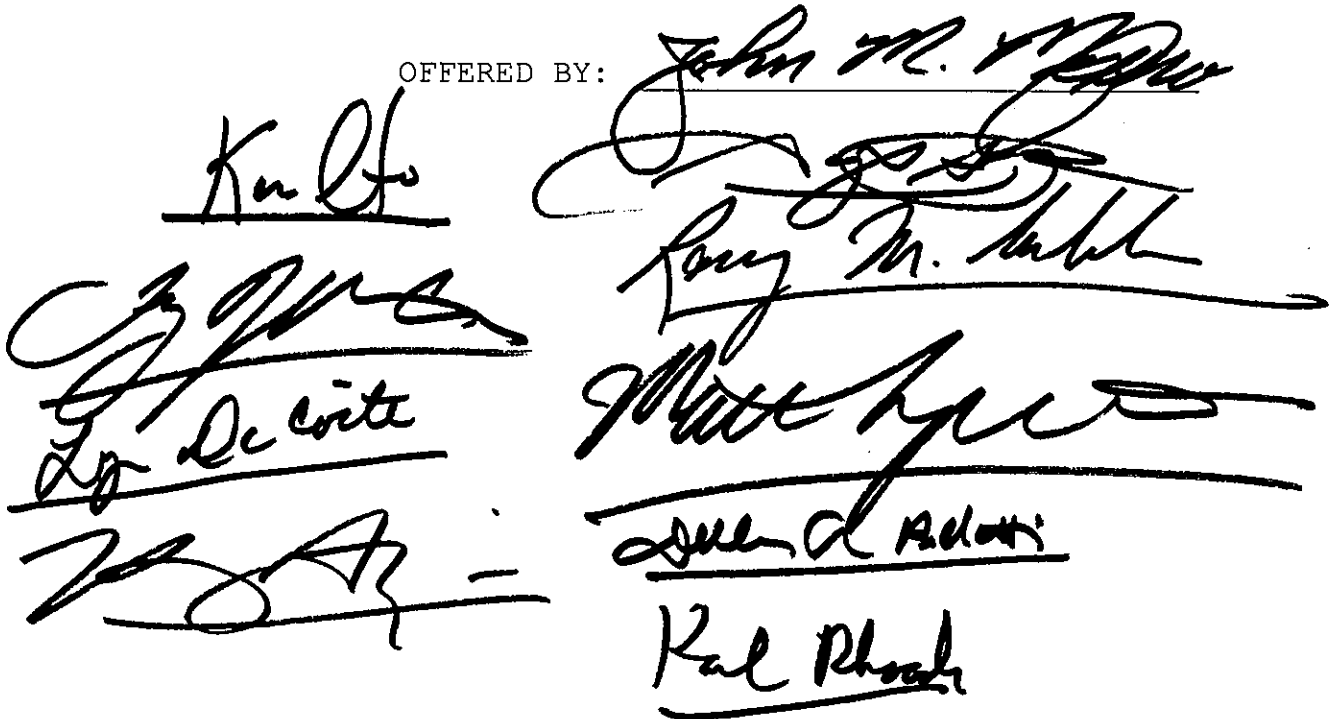
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Province of Aklan be  
 2 afforded the privileges and honors that Hawaii extends to its  
 3 sister-states and provinces; and

4  
 5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if by June 30, 2020, the  
 6 sister-state/province relationship with the Province of Aklan  
 7 has not reached a sustainable basis by providing mutual economic  
 8 benefits through local community support, the sister-  
 9 state/province relationship shall be withdrawn; and

10  
 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
 13 United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of  
 14 the United States House of Representatives, Hawaii's  
 15 Congressional Delegation, President of the Republic of the  
 16 Philippines through its Honolulu Consulate General, Governor and  
 17 Provincial Board of the Province of Aklan, Republic of the  
 18 Philippines, Governor of the State of Hawaii, the Director of  
 19 the State Department of Business, Economic Development and  
 20 Tourism, and the Chairperson of the Hawaii Sister-State  
 21 Committee.

OFFERED BY:


  
 The text contains several handwritten signatures, some of which are underlined. On the left side, there are three signatures, with the middle one appearing to read "De Coite". On the right side, there are four signatures, with the top one appearing to read "John M. ...". The signature "Kal Phoad" is written at the bottom right of the signature block.

MAR 11 2016

