

JAN 29 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE OF GOA IN THE COUNTRY OF INDIA AND FORWARD ITS RECOMMENDATION TO THE LEGISLATURE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 229-3, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES, FOR FURTHER ACTION.

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

5
6 WHEREAS, the Republic of India, one of the most diverse and
7 the most populous democratic countries in South Asia, is
8 recognized internationally as the future of economic
9 development; and

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11 WHEREAS, Goa is thought of as a leader in technology, and
12 could provide opportunities for student exchanges with the
13 University of Hawaii; and

14
15 WHEREAS, Goa, the twenty-fifth state of the Union of States
16 of India, is a small state on the west coast of India, and like
17 Hawaii, Goa's beautiful beaches and rich tropical landscape have
18 made it a popular vacation destination for national and
19 international visitors, and have attracted a robust surfing
20 community; and

21
22 WHEREAS, Goa is one of the richest states in India, having
23 the highest gross state domestic product per capita with tourism
24 leading its economic growth; and a relationship between Goa and
25 Hawaii would provide new opportunities to import and export
26 goods and services between the states; and

27
28 WHEREAS, a relationship between Hawaii and Goa will create
29 new possibilities to share markets involving medicinal, herbal,



1 and other food products, and to trade agricultural and culinary
2 knowledge related to these products; and
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4 WHEREAS, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and
5 Cultural Organization has recognized the Western Ghats mountain
6 range as a World Heritage Site; and the biological, geological,
7 cultural, and aesthetic resources of the Western Ghats that lie
8 within Goa's boundaries are preserved by the designation of
9 national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and reserve forests; and
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11 WHEREAS, similar to Hawaii, Goa has an ethnically diverse
12 population, and its people speak a variety of languages,
13 including Konkani, Marathi, Hindi, and English; and
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15 WHEREAS, Goa's people live harmoniously with each other
16 while practicing a variety of religions, including Hinduism,
17 Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, and Jainism; and
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19 WHEREAS, Goa's diversity is also evident in its
20 architectural landscape, with buildings showcasing a combination
21 of Indian, Islamic, and Portuguese influences; and
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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii and Goa are coastal states with diverse
24 ecosystems, populations, cultures, languages, and religions that
25 value the economic growth and sustainability that benefit all
26 residents; and
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28 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 229-3, Hawaii Revised
29 Statutes, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is tasked with
30 evaluating and developing recommendations for the initiation of
31 all sister-state relationships, and forwarding its
32 recommendations to the Legislature for implementation by either
33 adopting a concurrent resolution or enacting session law to that
34 effect; and
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36 WHEREAS, this body believes that a sister-state
37 relationship between Hawaii and Goa would promote mutual
38 commerce and trade in areas such as tourism and the film
39 industry, and would increase opportunities for economic, social,
40 cultural, educational, and environmental exchanges; now,
41 therefore,
42



S.C.R. NO. 20

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
 3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Sister-
 4 State Committee is requested to evaluate and develop
 5 recommendations to initiate a sister-state relationship between
 6 the State of Hawaii of the United States and Goa of the Republic
 7 of India for economic, social, cultural, educational, and
 8 environmental benefits; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Sister-State
 11 Committee report its findings and recommendation, including
 12 proposed legislation, relative to initiating a sister-state
 13 relationship between Hawaii and Goa to the Legislature no later
 14 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 15 of 2017; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the
 19 State of Hawaii; Governor of the State of Goa; Consul General of
 20 India in San Francisco; Director of Business, Economic
 21 Development, and Tourism; and Chair of the Hawaii Sister-State
 22 Committee.
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OFFERED BY:

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