

MAR 11 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL OF DIWALI
IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Diwali (or Deepavali), the "Festival of Lights",
2 is celebrated on the darkest night of the year by lighting rows
3 of decorative clay lamps, or diyas, to signify the destruction,
4 through knowledge, of all negative qualities -- be it violence,
5 anger, jealousy, greed, fear, or suffering; and
6

7 WHEREAS, Diwali celebrates the triumph of good over evil
8 and embodies universal symbolism of light, virtuousness,
9 knowledge, and truth; and
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11 WHEREAS, Diwali for millennia has served as a time for
12 celebration for families and communities, as well as an
13 opportunity for personal spiritual reflection; and
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15 WHEREAS, Diwali is a holiday that originates in ancient
16 India and is also officially observed in Fiji, Guyana, Malaysia,
17 Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, and
18 Trinidad and Tobago; and
19

20 WHEREAS, Diwali is celebrated throughout Hawaii, across the
21 United States of America, and around the world by Hindus, Sikhs,
22 Jains, and Buddhists; and
23

24 WHEREAS, Diwali is celebrated by United States
25 Representative Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii's second congressional
26 district, the first Hindu to serve in the United States
27 Congress, alongside many citizens across the State; now,
28 therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,
32 that this body and all state citizens are requested to recognize
33 and celebrate the Festival of Diwali; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of
3 Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY:



Anna Mercedes K.



Halemi English

Michelle Sidani

