

TULSI GABBARD
2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SEAPOWERS AND PROJECTION FORCES
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1102

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Testimony Supporting
House Concurrent Resolution 26

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY & INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**
Representative Ken Ito, Chair
Representative James Kunane Tokioka, Vice Chair

FEBRUARY 8, 2016

Aloha Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the Veterans, Military & International Affairs & Culture and the Arts.

I am pleased to submit this testimony in **strong support** of designating Hawaii and the state of Goa of the Republic of India sister states. Having travelled to Goa, I believe that Goa would make a perfect sister state for Hawaii, and that a sister-state relationship with Goa would greatly benefit the State of Hawaii and complement broader binational cooperation that our two national governments have undertaken.

Hawaii and Goa share more than a few similarities. Nestled along the west coast of India, the relatively small state of Goa is famous for its seascape and welcoming people. Small, tropical, and beautiful, Goa has become one of India's top tourist destinations. Last year alone, more than four million tourists travelled long distances to experience Goa's inviting coastline, excellent climate, inland mountains and protected areas, and the wonderful composite of cultures and traditions that is present-day Goa. While Goa is one of the smallest states in the Republic India, its tourism-driven economy has made it one of the most prosperous in that country.

As is true for the rest of India, Goa is composed of diverse ethnic groups, religions, and languages. However, Goa's unique mix of ancient traditions and colonial influences has fused with modern India in a way that makes Goa culturally distinct. Goa's architecture incorporates Portuguese, British, Indian, and Islamic influences. Its people speak English, Hindi, Matahi, and Konkani, and practice Hinduism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, and Jainism. About half of its population is urban, situated mostly along the coast. With Portuguese and Indian influences, Goan cuisine consists of a rich variety of fish dishes, often cooked with coconut and palm oil and local fruits vegetables. The variety that constitutes Goa is rich and interesting, as is the variety that makes Hawaii the incredible place that we know it is.

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TULSI GABBARD
2ND DISTRICT, HAWAII

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Goa belongs to a country that is undergoing rapid transformation. An ancient civilization of science and innovation, modern India today is wholly focused on economic growth and development. In fact, India has a top ten gross domestic product and is home to one of the world's fastest growing economies and one of largest middle classes in the world. An increasingly prosperous and open India means that in the coming decades Indians will travel more and invest more in the rest of the world – including to and in Hawaii. Considering the dramatic progress made over the past two decades, one can only speculate where India, and most of its population that is still under the age of 35, will be a decade or two from now.

As India evolves into an important economic, political, and strategic presence in Asia and the Pacific, so too is our bilateral relationship with India. President Obama's historic trip to India last year highlighted the importance that the United States places on growing partnership with India. With Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, our two countries launched a series of dialogues encompassing most every aspect of our bilateral relationship in an effort to rapidly bring our two great countries closer together in a common bond of peace and friendship.

Both born from British colonialism, we are at once the world's oldest and largest democracies, sharing a deep belief in the rule of law and a strong constitution. It is more than coincidence that India's constitution begins with the same phrase as does ours, i.e., "We the people" – reflecting a shared, fundamental belief that ultimate power rests with the common citizen, and that democracy hinges on assuring individual liberties. We also have influenced one another in other significant ways. In the 1940s, Mahatma Gandhi led a non-violent independence movement that served as a model for Martin Luther King in forever changing American society for the better. In the 1960s, American agriculturalist Norman Borlaug brought the Green Revolution to India, an act that helped to put food on the table for millions of impoverished Indians who might otherwise have faced a Malthusian catastrophe. Both societies celebrate education and innovation, which in today's global economy has naturally drawn us closer as our businesses build high-tech hubs together that propel the information age.

It is my hope that the Committee supports the recommendation of the Hawaii Sister State Committee and establishes the sister-state relationship with the State of Goa, Republic of India. I urge your approval of HCR26.

Thank you Chair Ito and Vice Chair Tokioka for holding this hearing today.

Sincerely,



TULSI GABBARD
U.S. House of Representatives (HI-2)

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**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director

AMENDED 2-6-16

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, &
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Monday, February 08, 2016
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HCR26

**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.**

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka and Members of the House Committee on Veterans,
Military & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports
HCR26, which requests 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 recommendations to the Legislature pursuant to Section 229-3,
Hawaii Revised Statutes, for further action.

DBEDT is pleased to report that the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has already reviewed
and evaluated an application for a sister-state relationship submitted by the India-Hawaii
Friendship Council and has issued its recommendation that the State of Hawaii establish a sister-
state relationship with the State of Goa. The Committee forwarded its recommendation to the
House Speaker and Senate President on January 7, 2016, for their review and action.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Raj Kumar Ph.D.

Founder and President of Gandhi International Institute for Peace, Hawaii

Website: www.gandhianpeace.com

VMI

HCR 26

Hearing scheduled on February 8, 2016 at 9 a.m. in Conference Room 312

Testimony in support of HCR 26

I strongly support HCR 26, to establish a Sister-State Relationship Office between Hawaii, US and Goa, India. This Resolution is very important to build a mutual relationship not only between two great states but also between two large democratic countries in the world.

Currently, India is an economic leader in South Asia. Passing such an important resolution will allow Hawaii to explore new markets in Goa. This will increase trade and tourism creating more jobs, generating higher revenues and hence improving Hawaii's economy. Siva Hindu temple and Himalayan Academy on Kauai, and ISKCON temple in Honolulu will be the sites for pilgrimage, spiritual retreats, interfaith get together and Indian weddings.

This historic agreement will allow Hawaii to explore the knowledge and expertise in the areas of agriculture, wellness and health, culinary programs and Information technology that Goa has to offer. This will also encourage educational, sports and cultural exchange programs between schools and Universities in both states. We will be proud to introduce our Hawaiian music and dance to the people of Goa.

This venture will allow Hawaii merchants to export products made in Hawaii which include Hawaiian clothing, swimwear, Quilts, Hand Crafted products, Ukulele, Kona Coffee, Macadamia nuts, Hawaiian art and gold Jewelry to name a few.

These two states also share similar cultural values and live in harmony with people of different faith and religion.

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 1:35 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: ellingsong@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wallen Ellingson	GIIP	Support	No

Comments: I am writing this email in support of Mr. Raj Kumar's efforts in helping to establish a Sister State Relationship Office in Goa India. I feel that both Hawaii and India can only benefit from such a relationship as regards tourism, cultural and economic benefits, and the cause of mutual understanding and World Peace. I have known Mr. Kumar for over a decade and have participated in all of his efforts to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi's birthday down by the statue in Waikiki. This event annually brings together many peace leaders, spiritual visionaries, and entertainers before tourists and local people alike. As a result of his tireless efforts, I can attest to Mr. Kumar's integrity and vision. Rest assured that his efforts in establishing the Sister State status with Goa will similarly benefit all concerned. Sincerely, Wallen Ellingson musician, peace advocate, and board member GIIP (Gandhi International Institute for Peace)

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Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205
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Tel/Fax (808) 247-7942
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Re: HCR26

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.

For hearing on Monday, February 08, 2016

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Dear legislators, please consider very carefully the various hidden agendas that probably lie behind this resolution to establish a sister-state relationship between Hawaii (a State within the United States, whose statehood some activists deny) and Goa (a State within India whose status as part of India is protested by some activists).

Goa was a colony of Portugal for more than four centuries, continuing through the period when India was a colony of Britain. In the 1950s there was great political unrest in Goa from native Goans seeking independence from Portugal. Because Goa was immediately adjacent to India, and the newly independent India was feeling a desire for a robust and expansive foreign policy and wanted to push out Portugal, India provided economic and military assistance to the independence movement in Goa. In 1961 India staged a massive armed invasion of Goa by land and air, pushing out Portugal and then annexing Goa to become a part of India. There was strong international condemnation of India for its actions in Goa, including a resolution in the United Nations offered by U.S. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, and a resolution in the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. I was a college student at the time and recall campus protests by the same left-leaning activists who protested Israel's existence, protested CIA involvement and military advisers in Viet Nam, and protested domestic civil rights injustices against Negroes (as they called themselves back then). To this day there are claims that India's annexation of Goa was illegal under international law, and Goa should be recognized as an independent nation. Does that sound familiar? Have you heard that rhetoric somewhere in relation to Hawaii?

Today the same people who protest against China's invasion and continuing occupation of Tibet also protest against India's invasion and continuing occupation of Goa; and they also protest against the so-called U.S. "armed invasion" of Hawaii during the 1893 overthrow of the monarchy, and the continuing U.S. "belligerent military occupation of Hawaii." The analogy to Hawaii is historically and morally incorrect; but the activists nevertheless love to assert it.

Among the factors you should consider is that the primary sponsor of this resolution in the Senate last year was the father of U.S. Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, who had made a highly publicized trip to India and gave her strong support to the newly elected Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose alleged oppression of minorities is a controversial issue in India's politics.

Why would this legislature wish to embroil itself in the internal politics of India, and the even more obscure internal politics of the Goa region?

If the Legislature of the State of Hawaii wants to establish a sister-state relationship with one of the states in India, I urge you to choose a different Indian state whose status as part of India is beyond dispute and has never been a part of international controversy (and stay away from Punjab and Kashmir too!).

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:17 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: KehaulaniLum@Ameritech.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM



HCR26

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Lum	Living Life Source Foundation	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and Members of the Committee, My name is Kehaulani Lum, and I am the Board Secretary of the Living Life Source Foundation, a 501(c)3 Hawai`i-based organization which promotes systems of living which foster the spirit of Aloha. I fully support HCR 26, to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawai`i and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will create meaningful jobs, help to generate increased revenues for our local economy and will strengthen the spirit of Aloha between the people of Hawai`i and India. I also support the appointment of Mr. Raj Kumar as a liaison for the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa, India. Mahalo nui loa, in advance, for your kokua.
Kehaulani Lum

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LATE



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP • 1727 PALI HIGHWAY • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • PH: 522-9200 • FAX: 522-9209

To: VMI Committee

Fax Number: (808) 586-6271

Subject: HCR 26 Testimony

To Establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa, India

I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs which should result in more mutual understanding and respect between peoples, cultures and nations. A relationship between Goa and Hawaii will contribute towards the exchange of culture and the arts and many other spheres. In my humble opinion, there seems to be a link between the culture of India and Polynesia. There is potential in sharing art forms with each other which would lead to cultural understanding and appreciation.

Further, India is the home of Mahatma Gandhi, advocate of non-violence and peace. Recently, our State passed a bill which designates October 2nd as Mahatma Gandhi Day in Hawaii. It would be most fitting for Hawaii to establish a Sister-State Relationship with a district like Goa in India to emphasize this relationship and for Hawaii to have an added way to share its Aloha Spirit including an aspiration for world peace and harmony with the rest of world. There is the potential of having more conferences on spirituality and world peace in Hawaii.

Also, it is hoped that this historic agreement will create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy and will strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world.

I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a liaison for the sister state office between Hawaii and Goa, India.

I would like to close by expressing my appreciation to the Committee for taking the time to read this recommendation.

Sincerely in gratitude,

Rev. Eric Matsumoto,
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
February 7, 2015

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 8:01 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: lmh96825@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Heatherly	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy and will strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 5:13 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: adaligcon@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Norma Daligcon	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy and will strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world. I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a liaison for the sister state office between Hawaii and Goa, India.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 7:32 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: ssmalin@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheryl Malin	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I am strongly in support of Senate Bill HCR26

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 6:36 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: nwong@queenkapiolani.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Newton Wong	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha, I would like to extend my support of the state of Goa in the country of India as a sister-state relationship. I believe that opening a relationship could be beneficial on so many different levels from financial to commerce to education and technology. It would be good for others to see how we can have an open relationship with another country.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 2:58 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: ynagpaul@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yash Nagpaul	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support HCR 26 resolution to establish sister state office between Hawaii and Goa, India. This venture will increase trade, tourism, education and cultural exchange program, which will further create employment and boost Hawaii's economy.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 1:43 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: szabocrawf@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cromwell Cràwford	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa, India. I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a liaison for the sister state office between Hawaii and Goa ,India

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 2:28 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: giarc49@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Shull	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, international Bollywood film fare awards, filming and concerts, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will also create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy. It will also strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world. I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a Liaison for the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa, India.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 3:59 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: lyntillus_boyd@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyntillus J. Boyd	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between the State of Hawaii (USA) and the State of Goa (India). This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, international Hollywood film fair awards, filming and concerts, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will also create more jobs and help to generate more revenue for our state economy. It will also strengthen the relationship between two of the worlds largest democratic countries. I also support and highly recommend the appointment of Dr. Raj Kumar as a Liaison for the Sister State Office between Honolulu, Hawaii and Goa, India.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:00 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: dahnworldhealer@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Fletcher	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I recommend and support the actions of HRC26 to create a Sister Stet relationship with Goa India and Hawaii. An agreement of his nature with the "Hawaii" of India is a financially intelligent and socially appropriate mandate. This agreement would create jobs, goodwill, and would serve to open an entirely new market of to the state of Hawaii. I endorse Mr. Raj Kumar as the Key Liaison to fulfill all the promise that this monumental agreement has. he has great wisdom , insight , and has been integral in the creation of the Gandhi Peace movement as well as this specific action.. My vote is Yea

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 5:13 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: joshuapatwood@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Atwood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support this measure to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This relationship would be mutually beneficially for Hawaii and Goa in increasing tourism and travel opportunities between these two locations. Further, I know Mr. Raj Kumar personally and support his appointment as a Liaison for the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa, India. Mahalo.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 12:18 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: adelachu2@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
adele Chu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: > > I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, international Bollywood film fare awards, filming and concerts, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will also create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy. I will also strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world. > > I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a Liaison for the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa, India. >

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 12:05 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: dimills00@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

Categories: Yellow category

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dick Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I'm in strong support to establish sister state office between Hawaii and GOA, India. This great venture once passed will increase trade, tourism, culture, education and wellness programs between the two states generating more revenue.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 3:55 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: reddickr002@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/7/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ronald reddick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support HCR26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa, India. In my opinion, this new venture between these two great states present unique opportunities to : enhance trade, tourism, pilgrimage, sports, education and a host of cultural exchange opportunities in a number of disciplines. Please be advised, that since Raj Kumar has been the unwavering architect in attempting to bring this initiative to fruition, I strongly recommend, his appointment as the initial liaison for the impending the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa India.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:48 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: 55.sharad@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM

HCR26

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharad	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I fully support HCR 26 to establish a Sister State Relationship Office between Hawaii and Goa. This new venture between two great states will increase trade, tourism, pilgrimage, international Bollywood film fare awards, filming and concerts, sports, wellness, education and cultural exchange programs. This historic agreement will also create more jobs and help to generate more revenues for our state economy. I will also strengthen the relationship between two large democratic countries in the world. I also support to appoint Mr. Raj Kumar as a Liaison for the Sister State Office between Hawaii and Goa, India.

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tokioka2 - Karina

From: ito3-George on behalf of Rep. Ken Ito
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 12:35 PM
To: tokioka2 - Karina
Subject: FW: Hcr26



-----Original Message-----

From: madana sundari [mailto:mspeat@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 9:02 AM
To: Rep. Ken Ito
Subject: Hcr26

Dear Representative Ito,

I am emailing you directly because I was unable to navigate the online testimonial system.

My name is Madana Sundari and I'm writing in support of bill HCR 26 to develop a relationship and sister city with Goa India. This measure would benefit both cities greatly. The possibilities of cultural exchange are so far reaching . When I was VP of the Maemae school board I was hard pressed to find diverse cultures for the student to experience ,based on local resources. The passing of this legislation would broaden the cultural horizons of all students in the Hawaiian islands .

HCR 26 would also benefit Hawaii economically thru increased tourism ,our main industry . Also India is a major participant in the movie industry ,an our islands mimics the background of India which would make filming here perfect, and add to our economy.

I could sight so many more benefits ,for now I can limit you reading time ,with your busy schedule

Thank you for your consideration .. Madana Sundari

Th

tokioka2 - Karina

From: Roxanne Kamalu
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 7:58 AM
To: Kristine Reitan; ito3-George
Subject: FW: HCR 26



From: Saleem Ahmed [mailto:alohasaleem@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:01 PM
To: Roxanne Kamalu <r.kamalu@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Cc: kumarhi@yahoo.com
Subject: HCR 26

Dear Rep. Ito,

I wholeheartedly support HCR 26 establishing sister-state relations with Goa, India.

Thanks,
Saleem Ahmed
781 Eleele Place, Honolulu, HI 96825
371-9360

tokioka2 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:11 AM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: jnmori@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR26 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM



HCR26

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for VMI on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martin Mori	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of establishing a sister state relationship between the State of Hawaii and the State of Goa, Republic of India. The relationship will help to foster social and economic benefits for the State of Hawaii and will help promote Hawaii as a tourism destination throughout the world.

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House Concurrent Resolution No. 11
Monday, February 8, 2016, Room 312 9:00am

LATE

Submitted for Public Testimony

Aloha, Honorable Chair Ito, Vice-Chair Tokioka, Member of the Committee
Veteran, Military, International Affairs and Cultural Arts in jubilant support
of HCR No 11

**“Diversity is not how we differ. Diversity is about
embracing one another’s uniqueness.”**

Ola Joseph

Simply put I support HCR No. 11 for several reasons and they are as follows:

By establishing this commission it not only commemorates but celebrates the contributions of African ancestry and Hawaiian African descendants who have been trivialized, marginalized and invisible.

By establishing this commission it not only makes the mosaic fabric of the ohana incursive but comprehensive.

By establishing this commission it not only begins the development of a historical repository of local, state and international codification that can be used for teach resource K-12 lesson planning, as well as advance research, genealogical foot printing.

By establishing this commission it not only acknowledges African descent and Hawaiian African that they existed and exist but proclaims to the world that they shall never be forgotten.

Mahalo

House Concurrent Resolution No. 26
Monday, February 8, 2016, Room 312 9:00am



Submitted for Public Testimony

Aloha, Honorable Chair Ito, Vice-Chair Tokioka, Member of the Committee
Veteran, Military, International Affairs and Cultural Arts in jubilant support
of HCR No 11

**“The increasing interconnectivity of nations in today’s global economy underscores
the need for a robust partnership between communities around the world.”**

President Barack Obama

Quite simply put I support HCR No. 26 for several reasons and they are as follows:

1st and foremost the State of Goa has over seven (7) Special Economic Zones which function is to promote local, domestic, and international trade and commerce with individuals, cities, provinces and countries.

2nd as Asia’s 3rd largest economy (India) Goa is a bright spot for iron, bauxite and manganese mining.

3rd Goa is home to three(3) AAA+(triple A plus) rated Colleges of Engineering that are privately funded and two(2) which are governmentally funded in addition to one(1) medical school which yields the potential of being a flint stone to spark scientific research, international partnerships on both a student and scholar collaborative level

4th Goa offers a potentially lucrative EB5 business site where USA Visa seeking candidates can invest in economically challenged communities throughout Hawaii.

5th Goa’s mosaic cultural fiber consist of two (2) USA Critical Languages of Hindi and Urdu creating a platform for language learning and exchange.

In closing Mary D. Kane, Executive Director of Sister Cities International in her 2014 report, entitled Measures that Matter indicated that the relationship between the United States and other Sister Cities has an economic impact of over \$525.7 million dollars upon the American economy. That sister cities not only promote peace but promote prosperity.

Mahalo

LATE

Jacqueline Ching
Office Assistant
Stone Concepts

VMI

Testimony for HCR 26 resolution
Hearing: Monday Feb 8, 2016 in Conference Room 312

I fully support the Resolution HCR 26 to establish a sister-state relationship office between Hawaii and Goa, India. I am requesting Hawaii Legislature to pass such an important Resolution as this will increase trade, tourism, cultural and education programs between Hawaii and Goa.

Currently, India is an economic leader in the South Asia. This new venture with India will create more jobs and bring more revenue to our state economy. This will also promote good relationship not only between Hawaii and Goa, but also between United States and India.

Thanks.



Jacqueline Ching

LATE

VMI

Testimony from Sarika Notani

RE: Hearing for HCR 26 resolution on Monday Feb 8, 2016
in Conference Room 312

I support the Resolution HCR 26 to establish a sister-state
relationship office between Hawaii and Goa, India.

This will promote good relationship between the two states.
With India being an economic leader in South Asia, it will
create more jobs and boost our Hawaii economy. It will also
increase trade, tourism, cultural and education programs
between two states.

Thanks.



Sarika Notani
Pacific Craftworks