
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTS THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE DECLARE 'AWA AS THE
OFFICIAL BEVERAGE OF THE ALOHA STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the State has designated a state song, flower,
2 gem, tree, land mammal, marine mammal, fish, dance, insect,
3 sport, team sport and instrument; and
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5 WHEREAS, there is no state beverage even though more than
6 half of the states in the U.S. have official beverages; and
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8 WHEREAS, designation of an official state beverage should
9 serve as an expression of appreciation for the significance of
10 that beverage in the Hawaiian culture; and
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12 WHEREAS, the plant roots of *Piper methysticum* have been
13 used to make the beverage, 'awa, here in Hawaii since before
14 European contact; and
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16 WHEREAS, the best state for cultivating *Piper methysticum*
17 is Hawaii due to the state's sunny, humid conditions and year
18 round warm temperatures; and
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20 WHEREAS, the residents of this state, including the kanaka
21 maoli, Hawaii's indigenous peoples, recognize 'awa as an
22 important traditional and cultural beverage; and
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24 WHEREAS, drinking 'awa promotes "aloha" by eliciting a
25 feeling of relaxed contentedness and aids in discussion and
26 conflict resolution; and
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28 WHEREAS, 'awa symbolizes the environmental, social and
29 cultural values important to Hawaii; and
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H.C.R. NO. 146

1 WHEREAS, it is time to formally recognize 'awa's historical
 2 and cultural significance to the state and its peoples; now,
 3 therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 6 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 7 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State
 8 legislation declare 'awa to be the official beverage of the
 9 aloha state; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the
 13 Chairperson of the board of trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
 14 Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

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