
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE THE
SISTER-STATE APPLICATION AND, UPON APPROVAL, PROCEED WITH
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER-PROVINCE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is continually seeking to
2 expand its international ties and has an enduring interest in
3 the development of beneficial economic, social, cultural,
4 educational, and environmental relationships between the people
5 of Hawaii and the people of other nations throughout the world;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, since 1981, Hawaii has entered into 17 sister-
9 state relationships, with the latest relationship being with the
10 Province of Goa, Republic of India, which still awaits
11 ratification; and
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13 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a large and vibrant Filipino
14 community that contributes culturally, socially, economically,
15 and educationally to Hawaii's well-being; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Governor of the Province of Aklan, Republic of
18 the Philippines, has submitted an application, which is
19 presently being reviewed by the Hawaii Sister-state Committee,
20 formally requesting the establishment of a sister-province
21 relationship between the State of Hawaii, United States of
22 America, and the Province of Aklan, Republic of the Philippines;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, the Province of Aklan is emerging as a
26 technological hub in the central Philippines, with growing
27 business-process-outsourcing and other technology-related



1 industries, and is a top international tourist destination,
2 making the province much like Hawaii; and

3
4 WHEREAS, in February 2017, the University of Hawaii at Hilo
5 and Aklan State University consummated a Memorandum of
6 Understanding on International Exchange Programs, which will
7 provide for the exchange of scholars, students, academic
8 information, and materials in the belief that the agreement will
9 enhance the research and educational processes at both
10 universities and that the establishment of such exchanges will
11 increase mutual understanding between their respective scholars
12 and students; and

13
14 WHEREAS, Section 229-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, provides
15 that "The Hawaii sister-state committee shall evaluate and
16 develop recommendations for the initiation of all sister-state
17 or province relationships and forward its recommendation to the
18 legislature. The legislature, if it so chooses, shall implement
19 the recommendation to initiate a sister-state or province
20 relationship by either adopting a concurrent resolution or by
21 enacting session law to that effect."; now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Sister-state
26 Committee is requested to:

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28 (1) Evaluate the sister-state application of the Province
29 of Aklan of the Republic of the Philippines; and
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31 (2) Upon approval of the application, proceed with the
32 establishment of a sister-province relationship
33 between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Aklan
34 of the Republic of the Philippines for the economic,
35 social, cultural, educational, and environmental
36 benefit of the people of both places; and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if by June 30, 2020, the
39 sister-province relationship between the State of Hawaii and the
40 Province of Aklan has not reached a sustainable basis by
41 providing mutual economic, social, cultural, educational, and
42 environmental benefits to the people of both places through



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1 local community support, the Hawaii Sister-state Committee may
 2 make a recommendation that the sister-province relationship
 3 should be terminated; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the
 7 State of Hawaii; Governor of the Province of Aklan, Republic of
 8 the Philippines; Consul General of the Republic of the
 9 Philippines in Honolulu; Director of Business, Economic
 10 Development, and Tourism; and Chairperson of the Hawaii Sister-
 11 state Committee.
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OFFERED BY:

Kanaloa

James O'Byrne
~~*[Signature]*~~
Calvin K. A.
~~*[Signature]*~~

MAR 10 2017

