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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSING OF HAWAII REVISED STATUTES §432:1-604 AND THE SUCCESS OF IN VITRO FERTILIZATION IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, Hawai'i has deep roots in 'ohana-related  
2 traditions, and family has always been highly regarded as the  
3 foundation of society and culture; and

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5           WHEREAS, family building is a fundamental human desire, and  
6 the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that reproduction and  
7 parenthood are human imperatives; and

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9           WHEREAS, all different kinds of families exist, and all  
10 families should be valued and supported equally; and

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12           WHEREAS, in vitro fertilization provides a solution for  
13 those who wish to expand their family but may be faced with  
14 endometriosis, low sperm counts, problems with ovulation, or  
15 other unexplained fertility problems; and

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17           WHEREAS, founded in 1985, Pacific In Vitro Fertilization  
18 Institute was Hawai'i's first IVF clinic and the place of  
19 conception for Hawai'i's first in vitro baby, Janice Low, to  
20 parents James and Jacqueline Low in the same year; and

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22           WHEREAS, prior to 1987, only five percent of couples with  
23 infertility issues sought in vitro fertilization treatment due  
24 to its high cost; and

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26           WHEREAS, in 1987, Hawai'i was the second state, after  
27 Maryland, to pass Act 332, a law mandating insurance coverage  
28 for in vitro fertilization procedures; and

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30           WHEREAS, prior to Act 332, Session Laws of Hawaii 1987,  
31 which requires insurance coverage of in vitro fertilization,



1 people were expected to pay \$12,000 out of pocket for the  
2 treatment along with other associated medical costs which ranged  
3 anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000; and  
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5 WHEREAS, Hawai'i today has five in vitro fertilization  
6 providers with dedicated doctors and staff who believe in the  
7 value of 'ohana and persistently work to provide families the  
8 opportunity to grow; and  
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10 WHEREAS, since the passing of Act 332, many babies were  
11 conceived through in vitro fertilization and born to families  
12 who otherwise might not have had the opportunity to conceive  
13 children; and  
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15 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is one of only fifteen states which  
16 requires insurance coverage of in vitro fertilization to ease  
17 the financial burden on growing families; and  
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19 WHEREAS, Hawaii has five in vitro fertilization providers  
20 with doctors and staff that believe in the value of 'ohana and  
21 tirelessly work to provide families the opportunity to grow; and  
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23 WHEREAS, over seven million babies worldwide have been born  
24 from in vitro fertilization; now, therefore,  
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
27 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
28 of 2017, that this body hereby recognizes and celebrates the 30<sup>th</sup>  
29 anniversary of the passing of Hawaii Revised Statutes §432:1-604  
30 and the success of in vitro fertilization in the State of  
31 Hawaii, extends its warmest aloha to the families blessed by in  
32 vitro fertilization, and sincerely appreciates the outstanding  
33 efforts of fertility doctors and in vitro fertilization  
34 providers.  
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