

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARING HAWAII TO BE A HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE AND
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT A HO'OKIPA COMMISSION.

1 WHEREAS, the motto of the State of Hawaii "Ua Mau ke ea o
2 ka 'āina i ka Pono" or "The life of the land is perpetuated
3 through righteousness" reminds us that our deepest community
4 values call us to welcome visitors and care for wanderers in our
5 midst; and
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7 WHEREAS, the traditional Hawaiian value of Ho'okipa, or
8 open-hearted hospitality, calls us to welcome visitors and
9 strangers alike and to unselfishly extend to others the best
10 that we have to give; and
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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii is justifiably proud of its rich immigrant
13 heritage, which has woven our many people into a rich tapestry
14 of races, ancestral groups, religions, cultures, and languages
15 from many parts of the world; and
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17 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique spirit of inclusiveness allows its
18 diverse people to live in relative harmony because of our
19 respect and aloha for each other and our commitment to peace and
20 justice; and
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22 WHEREAS, our state and county governments cultivate a
23 culture of inclusion when they ensure that all people in our
24 communities receive equal protection of the laws and respectful
25 treatment without regard to race, national origin, ancestry, or
26 citizenship status; and
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28 WHEREAS, Hawaii's inclusionary and peaceful culture is now
29 threatened by inflammatory rhetoric and harsh federal policies
30 that vilify immigrants, divide communities and families, and
31 create fear and suspicion among different racial, ethnic, and
32 ancestral groups; and
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1 WHEREAS, the federal Executive has recently revived a
2 program under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality
3 Act (8 U.S.C. 1357) that authorizes state and local governments
4 to enter into agreements with the Immigration Control and
5 Enforcement Agency of the Department of Homeland Security that
6 deputize these state and local law enforcement officers to
7 participate in the enforcement of federal immigration laws; and
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9 WHEREAS, the enforcement of federal immigration laws is a
10 function that is constitutionally reserved to the federal
11 government; and
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13 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the numerous contributions of
14 individuals of various immigration statuses who have sought a
15 better life by immigrating to the United States, and while this
16 body does not condone immigration without legal authorization,
17 it finds that the effects of trying to deport all undocumented
18 immigrants greatly outweigh any negative consequences their
19 presence in our country and State might have; and
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21 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii receives limited financial
22 support from the federal government to provide health care,
23 housing, education, and other social services to migrants from
24 various Pacific Island communities who have left their ancestral
25 homelands because of above-ground testing of nuclear weapons;
26 and
27

28 WHEREAS, the involvement of state and local law enforcement
29 officers in federal deportation programs and activities would
30 alienate members of our many communities from Hawaii's law
31 enforcement agencies and undermine the relationships with law
32 enforcement that are necessary to secure the peace and
33 successfully resolve criminal investigations; and
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35 WHEREAS, to preserve peace in their communities, many state
36 and city governments throughout the United States have acted to
37 protect their residents who are undocumented immigrants by
38 preventing local law enforcement agents from asking people about
39 their immigration status or from serving as federal agents
40 performing the duties reserved for federal agents, and by
41 ensuring that all residents have access to state and local
42 services, regardless of immigration status; now, therefore,



S.C.R. NO. 104

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 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
 4 House of Representatives concurring, that the State of Hawaii is
 5 declared a Ho'okipa State; and

6
 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii and its various
 8 jurisdictions and agencies recognize that immigration
 9 enforcement is a federal function; and

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 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that neither Hawaii nor any of its
 12 subdivisions expend state funds by entering into an agreement
 13 pursuant to section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality
 14 Act (8 U.S.C. 1357) or similar agreement with the Immigration
 15 Control and Enforcement Agency; and

16
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor appoint a Ho'okipa
 18 Commission to ensure a safe, secure, and welcoming community for
 19 everyone, including immigrants of every status, to promote
 20 respectful relations and collaboration between community members
 21 and agencies providing public safety services; and

22
 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chief
 25 Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court; each mayor of the several
 26 counties; each chair of the several county councils; and police
 27 chiefs of the Counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii and City and
 28 County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: Kal Rhoads
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