
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE 'IMILOA ASTRONOMY CENTER TO FURTHER ITS ROLE IN DEVELOPING AND LEADING EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS CONCERNING THE CULTURAL, NATURAL, AND HISTORIC RESOURCES ON MAUNA KEA AT HALE PŌHAKU AND ENCOURAGING THE TRANSFER OF EDUCATION OUTREACH AT THE HALE PŌHAKU TO THE 'IMILOA ASTRONOMY CENTER.

1 WHEREAS, this body commends the efforts of the 'Imiloa
2 Astronomy Center ('Imiloa) in its use of Native Hawaiian
3 knowledge, culture, and history at the Mauna Kea Visitor
4 Information Station Onizuka Center for International Astronomy,
5 also known as Hale Pōhaku or Mid-Level Support Facility; and
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7 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa was built upon unprecedented collaboration
8 between the Hawaiian community, led by the University of Hawai'i
9 at Hilo Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian
10 Language, and the astronomical community to establish its
11 mission and purpose; and
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13 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa has served as a piko, a gathering place,
14 that brings together various audiences to engage in experiences
15 grounded in the indigenous Hawaiian worldview that has showcased
16 academic and scientific research since 2006; and
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18 WHEREAS, over the past thirteen years, 'Imiloa has served
19 over 1,000,000 visitors, ranging in audiences from pre-
20 kindergarten to twelfth grade students, university students and
21 faculty, members of the local community, visitors to Hawai'i, and
22 local and global scientific communities, and has hosted outreach
23 events at various community sites throughout the world for
24 general public engagement; and
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26 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa, in partnership with the University of
27 Hawai'i at Hilo College of Hawaiian Language, has created
28 opportunities for Hawaiian language growth and normalization
29 through projects that establish the Hawaiian language as



1 standard operations, including the naming of major astronomical
2 discoveries in the Hawaiian language; and
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4 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa is a founding member of 'Ohana Wa'a, the
5 collective entity for all of the voyaging canoes in Hawai'i,
6 including Hōkūle'a, Makali'i, Hawai'iloa, Mo'okiha, Namahoe, and
7 Hoku'alaka'i, to which 'Imiloa contributed resources, tools, and
8 strategic support, including through its planetarium, to further
9 teach and perpetuate Hawaiian navigation; and
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11 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa has partnered with Mauna Kea Observatories
12 to bring scientific research and discoveries to the public via
13 education programs and collaborations; and
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15 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa deepened communication and partnerships
16 across a multitude of sectors, including formal higher
17 education, research institutions, Hawaiian epistemological views
18 and practice, and the local and global community, combining
19 indigenous and scientific efforts to create solutions that
20 benefit broader populations; and
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22 WHEREAS, 'Imiloa is the only astronomical science center in
23 the world that offers bilingual and bicultural educational
24 experiences honoring the Native Hawaiian culture and the
25 surrounding environment and provides a leading model for
26 integrated, culture-based science education and community
27 engagement; and
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29 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, as the parent
30 organization of 'Imiloa, has resolved to prioritize the
31 meaningful increase of education and engagement of Native
32 Hawaiian students, Hawai'i island residents, and residents of the
33 State in the areas of astronomy, celestial navigation, and
34 exploration; and
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36 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Hilo has also
37 prioritized providing financial support to implement an active
38 educational and outreach program that highlights Native Hawaiian
39 knowledge and enhances student access to and utilization of
40 Mauna Kea based astronomical resources in the field; and
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