
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER THE PRACTICE OF LAND EXCHANGES TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS IN LOCATIONS THAT BETTER SERVE THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE.

1 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians make up over 30 percent of the
2 homeless population in Hawaii and many of these individuals and
3 families receive or are waiting to receive services from the
4 State; and

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6 WHEREAS, the median household income of Native Hawaiians
7 consistently ranks below the state average, leaving over 15
8 percent of Native Hawaiians below the poverty level; and

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10 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians are over represented in high
11 school drop-out rates, and only 11 percent of the population
12 holds a bachelor's degree; and

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14 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands only has
15 awarded approximately 9,700 homestead leases since the creation
16 of this department nearly 100 years ago;

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18 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has not
19 significantly improved the housing rate for its beneficiaries in
20 the past several decades due to factors like unreliable funding
21 and competing needs; and

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23 WHEREAS, many Native Hawaiians choose not to apply for
24 Hawaiian homestead leases because of the daunting size of the
25 waiting lists, the slow rate at which people on the waiting
26 lists receive leases, and the relative geographic isolation of
27 the communities in which Hawaiian homestead leases are
28 available; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that there are over 34,000
2 potential applicants for homestead leases, in addition to the
3 27,000-plus applicants on the waiting list;

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5 WHEREAS, Kamehameha Schools is Hawaii's largest private
6 landowner, making it the third-largest landholder in the state,
7 behind only the state and federal governments in terms of total
8 acreage held; and

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10 WHEREAS, Kamehameha Schools' purpose is to create
11 educational opportunities in perpetuity to improve the
12 capability and well-being of people of Hawaiian ancestry; now,
13 therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
17 2019, in efforts to mitigate the struggles of Native Hawaiians,
18 that Kamehameha Schools is encouraged to pursue effective
19 partnerships with community organizations and non-profits to
20 support their educational and outreach efforts; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kamehameha Schools and the
23 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands are encouraged to partner with
24 each other in any useful format outside of H.R. No. 21, adopted
25 in 2016; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kamehameha Schools is
28 encouraged to review owned properties outside of the urban core
29 that may be useful for development by the Department of Hawaiian
30 Home Lands and consider land exchanges in pursuit of their
31 mission; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chair of the
35 Hawaiian Homes Commission, the Chief Executive Officer of the
36 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Chief Executive Officer of
37 Kamehameha Schools, and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of
38 Kamehameha Schools.

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H.R. NO. 203



OFFERED BY:

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