

MAR 8 - 2019

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE DECLARE 'AWA AS THE  
OFFICIAL BEVERAGE OF THE ALOHA STATE.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has designated a state song, flower, gem,  
2 tree, land mammal, marine mammal, fish, dance, insect, sport,  
3 team sport, and instrument; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, Hawaii has not designated a state beverage even  
6 though more than half of the states in the United States have  
7 official beverages; and  
8

9           WHEREAS, the beverage that is designated the official  
10 beverage of Hawaii should be one that can serve as an expression  
11 of appreciation for the significance of that beverage in the  
12 Hawaiian culture; and  
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14           WHEREAS, the plant roots of *Piper methysticum* have been  
15 used to make the beverage, 'awa, in Hawaii prior to European  
16 contact with Hawaii; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the best state for cultivating *Piper methysticum*  
19 is Hawaii due to the State's sunny, humid conditions, and year-  
20 round warm temperatures; and  
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22           WHEREAS, the residents of this State, including the kanaka  
23 maoli, Hawaii's indigenous peoples, recognize 'awa as an  
24 important traditional and cultural beverage; and  
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26           WHEREAS, drinking 'awa promotes aloha by eliciting a feeling  
27 of relaxed contentedness and aids in discussion and conflict  
28 resolution; and



# S.C.R. NO. 207

1 WHEREAS, 'awa symbolizes the environmental, social, and  
2 cultural values important to Hawaii; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, it is time to formally recognize 'awa's historical  
5 and cultural significance to the State and its peoples; now,  
6 therefore,

7  
8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
9 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
10 Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State Legislature is  
11 requested to declare 'awa to be the official beverage of the  
12 Aloha State; and

13  
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the  
16 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian  
17 Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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