

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND FRIENDS OF HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS TO DISCUSS THE EXPANSION OF HONOLULU CITY LIGHTS FESTIVITIES TO INCLUDE THE STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS.

1 WHEREAS, in 1985, then Mayor Frank F. Fasi created a free
2 event that included a lit tree on the main lawn, decorated tree
3 display in the courtyard, holiday concert, and displays of light
4 on the trees and buildings from Downtown Honolulu to the civic
5 center; and

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7 WHEREAS, in 1987, the official "Honolulu City Lights" was
8 established as a month-long holiday event centered around
9 Honolulu's largest decorated Christmas tree; and

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11 WHEREAS, in 1989, the famous "Shaka Santa", standing
12 twenty-one feet high and weighing two tons, was the first large
13 display sculpted by Kurt Nelson at the direction of event
14 designer Owen Ho; and

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16 WHEREAS, the popularity of the festival naturally led to
17 expansion from Honolulu Hale through Thomas Square and Downtown
18 Honolulu; and

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20 WHEREAS, the Friends of Honolulu City Lights is a non-
21 profit organization dedicated to supporting this festive display
22 of the Holiday Spirit through fundraising and coordinating
23 efforts that enable the month-long event to remain free to local
24 families and visitors alike; and

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26 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Capitol, as a neighboring
27 property to Honolulu Hale, could be a site for expanded
28 festivities of the Honolulu City Lights; and

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30 WHEREAS, examples like the Union Square Holiday Park in New
31 York City demonstrate the potential for the Honolulu City Lights



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1 given an expansion of the event and the cooperation between the
2 State, City and County of Honolulu, and Friends of Honolulu City
3 Lights; and
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5 WHEREAS, an expanded Honolulu City Lights festival could
6 stimulate the economy by showcasing locally-owned small
7 businesses that provide food, crafts, and other goods to eager
8 holiday shoppers from around the world; now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
11 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
12 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Accounting
13 and General Services, City and County of Honolulu, and Friends
14 of Honolulu City Lights are urged to discuss the potential for
15 expanded Honolulu City Lights festivities to include the State
16 Capitol grounds that will feature locally-owned small businesses
17 and other events to celebrate the holiday season; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller, Mayor
21 of the City and County of Honolulu, and Director of the Friends
22 of Honolulu City Lights.
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24
25

OFFERED BY: _____


Clarena Whishian
Jerrine L. Brown
Kurt Jensen ²

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A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.