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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ALLOW PRISONERS TO  
ESTABLISH FAITH PODS IN ALL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IN THE  
STATE.

1           WHEREAS, as evidenced by the demonstrations on Mauna Kea  
2 and elsewhere, a resurgence of the Hawaiian renaissance is  
3 currently taking place; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Hawaiian renaissance movement uses a non-  
6 violent code of conduct known as kapu aloha; and  
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8           WHEREAS, many attempts have been made over the years to  
9 improve the State's correctional system; and  
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11           WHEREAS, puuhonua are traditional Hawaiian "safe places"  
12 where native Hawaiians could be healed before returning to their  
13 respective communities; and  
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15           WHEREAS, throughout the nation, prisoners, or paahao, have  
16 established programs to create puuhonua for themselves to heal  
17 and regain their identity as kanaka maoli; and  
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19           WHEREAS, in 1998, a native Hawaiian group led by Euel Ray  
20 Kaleihau Kamauu formed Puuhonua O Halawa, a clean and sober  
21 living environment at Halawa Correctional Facility; and  
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23           WHEREAS, also in 1998, a native Hawaiian group led by  
24 Kaleihau Kamauu formed a group called Ko Kakou Puuhonua at  
25 Prairie Correctional Facility in Appleton, Minnesota; and  
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27           WHEREAS, in 2001, a group named Ko Kakou Puuhonua was  
28 formed at Central Arizona Florence Correctional Complex; and  
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1 WHEREAS, in 2003, the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation  
 2 helped the Native Hawaiian Spirituality and Culture Group file a  
 3 lawsuit that led to a legal settlement that acknowledged the  
 4 right of native Hawaiians to celebrate makahiki and hold weekly  
 5 meetings at Diamondback Correctional Facility in Watonga,  
 6 Oklahoma; and

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 8 WHEREAS, in 2005, a makahiki celebration was held for the  
 9 first time at the Oahu Community Correctional Center; and

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 11 WHEREAS, on June 15, 2012, Governor Neil Abercrombie signed  
 12 Act 117, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, which sought to "[r]educe  
 13 recidivism, prevent crime, and ensure long-term positive change  
 14 by developing a plan to create a wellness center that  
 15 reestablishes highly recognized native Hawaiian cultural  
 16 practices to restore the overall well-being of persons,  
 17 families, and the native Hawaiian community"; and

18  
 19 WHEREAS, instituting a system of faith pods, a type of  
 20 puuhonua based on kapu aloha, in Hawaii's correctional  
 21 facilities will achieve Act 117's goals of reducing recidivism  
 22 and preventing crime; now, therefore,

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 24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 25 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
 26 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Public  
 27 Safety is urged to allow prisoners, or paahao, to establish  
 28 faith pods within each correctional facility in the State and  
 29 use these faith pods to reestablish recognized native Hawaiian  
 30 cultural practices and restore the overall well-being of  
 31 persons, families, and the native Hawaiian community; and

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 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and  
 35 Director of Public Safety.

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OFFERED BY: T. Stahl:

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