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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN HAWAI'I.

1           WHEREAS on March 30, 1820, Hawai'i would witness the dawn of  
2 Christianity and the most influential religious group in Hawai'i  
3 when after 164 days of traveling the Thaddeus with fourteen  
4 missionaries would arrive in Hawai'i, landing at Kawaihae and  
5 Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, before their arrival, the Hawaiian kingdom was  
8 transforming, King Kamehameha I died and Kamehameha II and Queen  
9 Kaahumanu co-ruled Hawaii; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, one of the most powerful converts, Queen  
12 Kaahumanu, embraced Christianity, imposed it to the rest of the  
13 kingdom and banned Hawaiian religious practices which left  
14 behind a religious void; and

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16           WHEREAS, the missionaries converted Hawaiian people to the  
17 Christian faith, developed the written form of Hawaiian,  
18 discouraged many Hawaiian cultural practices, and encouraged the  
19 spread of English;

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21           WHEREAS, the missionaries-built churches, taught the  
22 Hawaiians to read and write in Hawaiian, and brought a printing  
23 press to Hawai'i to print Hawaiian-language Bibles, books and  
24 newspapers; and

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26           WHEREAS, there were some missionaries' that are still  
27 talked about today and have left imprints in Hawai'i that  
28 contributed to the spirituality and religious foundation of  
29 Hawai'i; and

30



1           WHEREAS, Reverend Hiram Bingham and wife Sybil Moseley in  
 2 1819 was part of the first company of missionaries sent to  
 3 Hawai'i where he was instrumental in translating the Bible and  
 4 was the founder of the Kawaiaha'o Church in Honolulu in 1836;  
 5 and

6  
 7           WHEREAS, BETSEY STOCKTON was born an enslaved person and  
 8 following her emancipation left Connecticut and arrived in  
 9 Hawai'i in 1823 and shortly after opened and led the first school  
 10 for maka'ainana but returned to America two and a half years  
 11 later; and

12  
 13           WHEREAS, Reverend Lorenzo Lyons came to Hawai'i as part of  
 14 the Fifth Company of ABCFM missionaries and in 1851 became a  
 15 naturalized Hawaiian citizen; and

16  
 17           WHEREAS, Reverend Lorenzo Lyons was remembered for  
 18 translating and writing over 600 hymns in his "Buke Himeni  
 19 Hawai'i" but is best known for writing "Hawai'i Aloha"; and

20  
 21           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 22 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
 23 2020, that we recognize the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christianity in  
 24 Hawai'i.

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 OFFERED BY:           *Sa*          

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