HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE EMPOWERMENT OF YOUNG WOMEN BY RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 11, 2021, AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL.

WHEREAS, women's rights are human rights; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that girl children worldwide are often at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence; and

WHEREAS, some of these forms of discrimination and violence include cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation, abuse, rape, incest, honor-related crimes and harmful traditional practices, such as female infanticide, child and forced marriages, prenatal sex selection, and female genital mutilation; and

WHEREAS, this discrimination and violence often result in less access for girls to quality education, nutrition, and physical and mental health care; and

WHEREAS, this severe disadvantage leads to girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities, and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys enjoy; thus limiting their potential for full development and leaving them open to further discrimination, violence, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the empowerment of girls is crucial in breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and in promoting and protecting the full and effective enjoyment of their rights; and

WHEREAS, the empowerment and advancement of girls enhance their ability to realize their full potential in society and shape their lives in accordance with their own aspirations; and

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WHEREAS, empowering girls requires the active support and engagement of their parents, legal guardians, families, boys, and men, as well as the wider community; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the United Nations designated October 11th as the International Day of the Girl Child, to be observed every year; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ige proclaimed October 11, 2020, as Day of the Girl Child, asking the people of Hawaii to build awareness of the challenges faced by girls in the United States and around the world, end gender discrimination, support more opportunities for girls, safeguard their rights, and encourage their full social, political, and economic participation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the Senate concurring, that October 11, 2021, be recognized in Hawaii as the International Day of the Girl; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.