
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF
HAWAII, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE AUTONOMOUS REGION
OF MADEIRA, PORTUGAL.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has developed and maintained a rich
2 heritage of international relations and cultural exchange since
3 the days of the Hawaiian monarchy in the nineteenth century; and
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5 WHEREAS, since 1981, the Legislature has instituted sister-
6 state relationships as a means of asserting and promoting the
7 State's active participation in international matters; and
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9 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently maintains nineteen sister-state
10 relationships, only one of which is with a European country; and
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12 WHEREAS, Madeira is an autonomous region of Portugal and is
13 located in the northern Atlantic, approximately five hundred
14 miles southwest of Lisbon; and
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16 WHEREAS, the archipelago of Madeira consists of two
17 inhabited island—Madeira and Porto Santo; the Desertas Islands
18 comprised of three uninhabited islands; and the Selvagens
19 Islands, an archipelago including three main islands and sixteen
20 uninhabited islets; and
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22 WHEREAS, in 1976, the Archipelago of Madeira, along with
23 the Archipelago of Azores, became autonomous regions under the
24 Constitution of the Portuguese Republic; and
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26 WHEREAS, tourism is currently the main economic driver and
27 largest source of revenue in Madeira; and
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29 WHEREAS, Hawaii and the people of Madeira share a long
30 history and strong bond, which began when one hundred eighty



1 contract laborers from Madeira arrived in Honolulu Harbor on
2 September 30, 1878, on the S.S. Priscilla; and

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4 WHEREAS, during the three decades that followed,
5 approximately eight thousand Madeiran immigrants arrived to work
6 on Hawaii's sugarcane plantations; and

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8 WHEREAS, immigrants from Madeira brought elements of their
9 home culture to Hawaii, many of which became integral parts of
10 life in Hawaii, such as the braguinha, which became the 'ukulele;
11 linguça, which became known as Portuguese sausage; and their
12 skills as cattlemen, whose traditions shaped Hawaii's
13 paniolo; and

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15 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 229-3, Hawaii Revised
16 Statutes, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee is tasked with
17 evaluating and developing recommendations for the initiation of
18 all sister-state relationships and forwarding its
19 recommendations to the Legislature; if the Legislature so
20 chooses, it shall implement the recommendation to initiate a
21 sister-state or province relationship by either adopting a
22 concurrent resolution or by enacting session law to that effect;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand
26 its international ties and has an abiding interest in developing
27 goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people
28 of Hawaii and the people of many nations; and

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30 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has reviewed the
31 Hawaii-Madeira sister-state application and on November 16, 2021
32 has recommended that a sister-state relationship be established
33 between Hawaii and the Autonomous Region of Madeira; and

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35 WHEREAS, this body believes that a sister-state
36 relationship between Hawaii and the Autonomous Region of Madeira
37 will be highly beneficial in expanding tourism, strengthening
38 cultural and historical bonds, and advancing common goals of
39 international peace and fellowship; now, therefore,

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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
42 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
43 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that a sister-state relationship



1 between the State of Hawaii, United States of America, and the
2 Autonomous Region of Madeira, Portugal, is hereby established;
3 and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States
7 Secretary of State; Ambassador of Portugal to the United States;
8 Governor; President of the Regional Government of Madeira;
9 Honorary Consul of Portugal in Hawaii; Director of Business,
10 Economic Development, and Tourism; and Chairperson of the Hawaii
11 Sister-State Committee.
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