
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
CHANGE THE NAME OF PRESIDENT WILLIAM MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL
BACK TO HONOLULU HIGH SCHOOL AND REMOVE THE STATUE OF
PRESIDENT MCKINLEY FROM THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

1 WHEREAS, what is currently named President William McKinley
2 High School was previously named Honolulu High School, which was
3 established in the Hawaiian Kingdom in 1865 and is one of the
4 oldest secondary schools in the Hawaiian islands; and
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6 WHEREAS, the name of Honolulu High School was changed to
7 President William McKinley High School in 1907 as a key
8 component of the political indoctrination strategy to
9 deliberately convince the people living in the Hawaiian islands
10 that they are American; and
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12 WHEREAS, when the statue of William McKinley was erected in
13 1911, several years after the renaming of the school, it was not
14 to honor the President of the United States, but rather as a
15 symbol to perpetuate the subjugation of Native Hawaiians and
16 reinforce the lie that the Hawaiian islands belong to the United
17 States of America; and
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19 WHEREAS, the name of the school and the statue of William
20 McKinley holding the fabricated "Annexation Treaty" perpetuates
21 the allegation that people in the Hawaiian islands wanted to
22 become Americans, even though eighty percent of the adult
23 population signed the Kū'e Petitions against annexation in 1897;
24 and
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26 WHEREAS, on July 6, 1898, President McKinley committed
27 fraud to continue the occupation of the Hawaiian islands by the
28 United States by signing a Joint Resolution of Congress,



1 entitled the "Newlands Resolution" that purported the annexation
2 of Hawai'i; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Newlands Resolution illegitimately claimed
5 United States annexation of the Hawaiian islands, even though
6 such a document does not have any power or legitimacy to annex
7 an internationally recognized nation with official treaties in
8 eighteen foreign states dating as far back as 1846; and

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10 WHEREAS, the result of the illegal annexation turned Hawai'i
11 into an overseas colony completely dependent on the United
12 States of America and displaced Native Hawaiians, robbing them
13 of their birth right, cultural identity, nationality, language,
14 and homes, while negatively impacting their physical, mental,
15 emotional, and spiritual well-being; and

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17 WHEREAS, following the enactment of the Newlands
18 Resolution, Hawaii's public education system was pressed into
19 service to indoctrinate, denationalize, "Americanize", and
20 convert generations of Hawaii's children into patriotic United
21 States citizens; and

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23 WHEREAS, U.S. Public Law 103-150, informally known as the
24 "Apology Resolution", a Joint Resolution of the United States
25 Congress signed by President Bill Clinton in 1993, acknowledges
26 that "the Native Hawaiian people never directly relinquished to
27 the United States their claims to their inherent sovereignty
28 over their national lands, either through a plebiscite or
29 referendum"; and

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31 WHEREAS, William McKinley also turned a blind eye to racial
32 atrocities being committed throughout the United States during
33 his presidency, including the genocide of Native Americans in
34 California and lynching of African-Americans in the southern
35 states; and

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37 WHEREAS, William McKinley also signed the Curtis Act of
38 1898, which was intended to dismember the sovereign status of
39 the Five Civilized Tribes, abolish the tribes' governments,
40 invalidate their laws, dissolve their court systems, and subject
41 native people to United States federal law; and
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1 WHEREAS, in recent years, the Department of Education has
2 recognized the need to replace school names and symbols that
3 have racially complicated origins with place-based alternatives;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, examples of the Department of Education's
7 commitment to healing the State's school system from historical
8 trauma include the renaming of Central Middle School to Princess
9 Ruth Ke'elikolani Middle School in 2021, noting that the
10 princess' home, Keoua Hale, once stood on the grounds of the
11 current campus; and

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13 WHEREAS, the Board of Education purchased the property for
14 what became Honolulu High School in 1895, which later became
15 Ke'elikolani School before the name was changed to Central Junior
16 High School in 1928, then Central Intermediate School in 1932,
17 and Central Middle School in 1997; and

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19 WHEREAS, according to the principal of Princess Ruth
20 Ke'elikolani Middle School, Joseph Passantino, Central Middle
21 School was established as the school's name "in the 1930s
22 because people couldn't pronounce the Hawaiian name"; and

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24 WHEREAS, regarding the restoration of the school's Hawaiian
25 name, Mr. Passantino also said that "the significance is huge,
26 especially for the staff who's dedicated over two years to give
27 her that duty and honor"; and

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29 WHEREAS, additional actions have been taken at other public
30 schools to address racially insensitive signifiers, such as the
31 replacement of Kahuku High School's "Red Raiders" mascot, logo,
32 and offensive chants after the Department of Education's Civil
33 Rights Compliance Branch deemed them to be disrespectful and
34 potentially discriminatory toward Native Americans; and

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36 WHEREAS, in an effort to overcome structural racism,
37 communities across the United States have removed statues and
38 symbols that deepen historical trauma, racial suppression, and
39 white supremacy, including a statue of William McKinley in
40 Arcata, California in 2019; and



S.C.R. NO. 59

1 WHEREAS, in 2021, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent
2 Resolution No. 112, declaring racism to be a public health
3 crisis; and

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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public school system has a responsibility
6 to promote historical understanding, racial equity, and civil
7 rights; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education
12 and Department of Education are urged to replace the name of
13 President William McKinley High School with the previous name of
14 Honolulu High School and remove the statue of President William
15 McKinley from the school premises; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to the greatest extent
18 possible, the Board of Education and Department of Education are
19 requested to ensure that public school curricula are inclusive
20 of content on the historical injustice and discrimination
21 endured by Hawaii's indigenous people; and

22
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of the
25 Hawaii's Congressional delegation, Governor, Chairperson of the
26 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson
27 of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education,
28 Kaimuki-McKinley-Roosevelt Complex Area Superintendent, and
29 President of the McKinley High School Foundation.

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32 OFFERED BY:



