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SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO NAME THE NEW KIHEI HIGH SCHOOL IN HONOR OF UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK.

WHEREAS, United States Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink was born Patsy Matsu Takemoto in 1927 in Paia, Maui, in the Territory of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, in her senior year at Maui High School, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink was elected as the first female student body president, and graduated as her class valedictorian: and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink quickly rose to national prominence as a barrier-breaker and dedicated champion of equality; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink was elected to Hawaii's territorial House of Representatives and then went on to win election to the territorial Senate; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink became the first woman of color, first Asian-American woman, and only the second woman from Hawaii to serve in the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink courageously testified in opposition to President Richard Nixon's United States Supreme Court nominee, citing his refusal to hear a case about a woman who had been denied a job because she had young children: and

WHEREAS, while in the United States House of Representatives, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink introduced the first comprehensive initiatives under the Early Childhood 31 Education Act, which included the first federal childcare bill, and also worked on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act, otherwise known as Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX); and

WHEREAS, Title IX, co-authored by Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink in 1972, is but one jewel in the crown of her many shining achievements; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure in the United States House of Representatives, Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink worked tirelessly for the fundamental rights of and equity for women, children, immigrants, and other disenfranchised people, especially in educational settings; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education is in the process of building a new high school in Kihei to serve South Maui families, located a short distance from where Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink herself attended high school; and

WHEREAS, given her extraordinary dedication to advocating for educational equity and the overall well-being of children, there would be no better way to honor the legacy of Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink than to have an educational institution in her birthplace bear her name; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, that the Department of Education is requested to name the new Kihei High School in honor of Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education and Mayor of the County of Maui.