
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE 2024 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM DELEGATE, 2023 PRUDENTIAL EMERGING VISIONARIES WINNER, 2023 U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR, AND 2024 HAWAI'I LIFESMARTS STATE COMPETITION WINNERS.

1 WHEREAS, LEHUA NORRIS was recently named a 2024 United
2 States Senate Youth Program Delegate; and

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4 WHEREAS, to qualify for the program, students must hold or
5 have held student body office or another elected or appointed
6 position in their communities and show academic interest and
7 aptitude in government, history, and politics; and

8
9 WHEREAS, a senior at Konawaena High School who embodies the
10 aloha spirit, LEHUA NORRIS served as the treasurer on the
11 student council and excelled in other leadership roles on the
12 school's class council, including vice president, treasurer,
13 historian, and secretary; she also represented over 170,000
14 Hawai'i public school students on the executive board of the
15 Hawai'i State Student Council; and

16
17 WHEREAS, passionate about her culture and community, LEHUA
18 NORRIS is an officer on the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council
19 and is involved in various service clubs and academic teams; she
20 has organized local community outreach events focusing on
21 climate change, spreading kindness in Kailua-Kona, and
22 encouraging civic engagement among Hawai'i's youth; and

23
24 WHEREAS, LEHUA NORRIS seeks to positively impact her
25 community through advocacy and political engagement; her ongoing
26 efforts and academic achievements are a testament to her
27 outstanding leadership skills and dedication to serving her
28 community; and
29



1 WHEREAS, KYLEE HAMAMOTO was recently named a 2023
2 Prudential Emerging Visionaries winner; and

3

4 WHEREAS, Prudential Emerging Visionaries recognizes 25
5 extraordinary young people throughout the country who are
6 leading innovative projects to address financial and societal
7 challenges in their communities; and

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9 WHEREAS, KYLEE HAMAMOTO is a senior at Punahou School and a
10 celebrated visionary leader; she is the founder and President of
11 WeGo! Hawai'i, a non-profit organization aimed at empowering
12 strong and independent female leaders; and

13

14 WHEREAS, KYLEE HAMAMOTO's groundbreaking WeGo! Hawai'i
15 Leadership Program has touched the lives of over 200 young women
16 and follows a 4-step curriculum that provides participants with
17 the necessary tools to discover their passions, boosts their
18 self-confidence, supports project creation that positively
19 impacts their communities, and encourages mentorship and
20 networking; the program's innovative leadership model not only
21 cultivates a new generation of female leaders, but also
22 emphasizes the value of mentorship, which promotes a self-
23 sustaining cycle of empowerment; and

24

25 WHEREAS, KYLEE HAMAMOTO developed the WeGo! Hawai'i
26 Leadership Program to inspire women and leaders within her
27 community and internationally; chapters have been established in
28 California and Japan, creating a global network of empowered
29 women that has sparked 50 projects rooted in the values of
30 aloha, kuleana, laulima, and mālama; and

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32 WHEREAS, among 25 nationally recognized young students,
33 KYLEE HAMAMOTO is the sole 2023 Prudential Emerging Visionaries
34 winner from Hawai'i; and

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36 WHEREAS, VAEANUI PECK was recently named a 2023 U.S.
37 Presidential Scholar; and

38

39 WHEREAS, the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program,
40 established in 1964 by executive order of the President,



1 recognizes and honors some of the nation's most distinguished
2 graduating high school seniors; VAEANUI PECK was selected as a
3 U.S. Presidential Scholar in Career and Technical Education
4 (CTE), a category that only honors up to 20 students nationwide;
5 and

6
7 WHEREAS, an exceptional student and dedicated learner,
8 VAEANUI PECK ranked first in her class at Kahuku High and
9 Intermediate School with a remarkable GPA of 4.145 and graduated
10 as a valedictorian with STEM Capstone, National Honor Society,
11 and CTE honors; and

12
13 WHEREAS, displaying enthusiasm for higher education early
14 on, VAEANUI PECK participated in the Windward Community College
15 Early College Program, earning 26 college credits towards an
16 associate degree; she currently studies mechanical engineering
17 and renewable energy at Yale University, where she is involved
18 in the Indigenous Peoples of Oceania Student Club and Bulldogs
19 Racing, an engineering club that builds electric racecars; and

20
21 WHEREAS, committed to sustainability and passionate about
22 innovation, VAEANUI PECK interned as an agricultural engineer at
23 Kualoa Ranch, where she developed a vertical saltwater
24 hydroponic system for sea asparagus; this experience inspired
25 the deployment and utilization of hydroponic systems for Kahuku
26 High and Intermediate School's Agriculture Program; and

27
28 WHEREAS, displaying exceptional talent outside the
29 classroom, VAEANUI PECK was a member of her school's CTE club
30 and hydroponics program and participated in track and field and
31 cross country; her involvement in many extracurricular
32 activities demonstrates her leadership skills and commitment to
33 personal growth; and

34
35 WHEREAS, the 2024 Hawai'i LifeSmarts State Competition tests
36 students on their knowledge of personal finance, consumer rights
37 and responsibilities, health and safety, technology, and the
38 environment, and is an excellent opportunity for students to
39 learn and develop academically and personally; the competition
40 is run by the National Consumers League and sponsored in Hawai'i
41 by the Business Registration and Insurance Divisions of the



1 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs in partnership with
2 the Hawai'i Credit Union League; and

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4 WHEREAS, KALANI HIGH SCHOOL'S TEAM KALANI 4.2 recently
5 earned first place at the 2024 Hawai'i LifeSmarts State
6 Competition; and

7
8 WHEREAS, after dedicating numerous hours of preparation,
9 KALANI HIGH SCHOOL'S TEAM KALANI 4.2, consisting of captain
10 Brandon Tran, Andy Chen, Michelle He, Kyla Iglesia, and Mason
11 Vuong and coached by Mike Zane, competed in the statewide final
12 hosted at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Campus Center
13 Ballroom and emerged victorious, securing first place in the
14 competition; and

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16 WHEREAS, WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL'S TEAM WAIPAHU MARAUDERS
17 recently earned third place at the 2024 Hawai'i LifeSmarts State
18 Competition; and

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20 WHEREAS, after dedicating numerous hours of preparation,
21 WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL'S TEAM WAIPAHU MARAUDERS, consisting of
22 captain Reagan Chinen, Ross Angel Bagaoisan, Stephanie Menor,
23 Jordan Nguyen, and Joybel Parinas and coached by Cindy Takara,
24 competed in the statewide final at the University of Hawai'i at
25 Mānoa's Campus Center Ballroom and secured third place; now,
26 therefore,

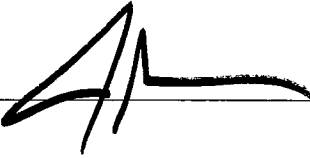
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular
30 Session of 2024, that this body hereby congratulates LEHUA
31 NORRIS for being selected as a 2024 United States Senate Youth
32 Program Delegate, KYLEE HAMAMOTO for being selected as a 2023
33 Prudential Emerging Visionaries winner, VAEANUI PECK for being
34 recognized as a 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholar, and KALANI HIGH
35 SCHOOL'S TEAM KALANI 4.2 and WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL'S TEAM WAIPAHU
36 MARAUDERS as 2024 Hawai'i LifeSmarts State Competition winners,
37 commends their outstanding accomplishments and community
38 involvement, and extends to them its warmest aloha and best
39 wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.
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H.R. NO. 221

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OFFERED BY:



MAR 21 2024

