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MAR 0 8 2024

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF USING PRONOUNS AND GENDER-AFFIRMING LANGUAGE.

WHEREAS, the use of gender-affirming language, such as chosen names and pronouns, fosters an inclusive and equitable environment, and signals respect; and

WHEREAS, gender-affirming language is associated with better mental health outcomes including reduced depression and suicide risk; and

WHEREAS, gender-affirming language supports one of our most underrepresented communities; and

WHEREAS, gender-inclusive language recognizes and values the diversity of our community, including diversity in gender identity and expression, encompassing trans, non-binary, and agender identities; and

WHEREAS, there are psychological, social, and cultural implications associated with the usage of gender-affirming language, recognizing diverse pronouns and identities across different cultures; and

WHEREAS, there are also legal and policy considerations regarding pronoun recognition in various contexts; and

WHEREAS, pronouns and gender-affirming language convey vital aspects of identity and are fundamental to safety, respect, inclusion, diversity, and care for others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body recognizes the importance of using pronouns and gender-affirming language; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President 6 of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Director of Human Services.

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OFFERED BY:

