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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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URGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY AND DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION TO EXPAND THE KĀHEA AIRPORT GREETINGS  
PROGRAM TO DISPLAY KEIKI ART IN ALL NEIGHBOR ISLAND  
AIRPORTS.

1 WHEREAS, the goal of the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Visitor  
2 Experience Initiative is to boost visitors' experiences in the  
3 State while preserving and promoting Native Hawaiian culture in  
4 addition to Hawaii's multi-ethnic cultures and communities; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the Kāhea Airport Greetings Program plays a  
7 valuable role in the Visitor Experience Initiative by offering  
8 free, year-round Hawaiian entertainment, cultural enrichment,  
9 and support for young artists by showcasing student artwork at  
10 Daniel K. Inouye International Airport, which fosters a  
11 welcoming and pleasant experience for visitors and residents  
12 across the State; and  
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14 WHEREAS, showcasing keiki art displays the artistic talents  
15 of the State's students and creates a deeper appreciation for  
16 Hawaiian culture and the unique identities of each island; and  
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18 WHEREAS, funding for the Kāhea Airport Greetings Program  
19 was cut in fiscal year 2025, but the Hawaii Tourism Authority  
20 has requested funding in the amount of \$888,889 for fiscal years  
21 2026 and 2027 to continue this culturally vital program, and  
22 this funding request remains under consideration; and  
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24 WHEREAS, expanding this program to display keiki art to  
25 neighbor island airports, including Kahului Airport, Līhu'e  
26 Airport, Kona International Airport, Hilo International Airport,  
27 Moloka'i Airport, and Lāna'i Airport, would provide equitable  
28 opportunities for neighbor island student art to be proudly  
29 displayed and lauded outside of O'ahu and by their own  
30 communities; and  
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1 WHEREAS, such an expansion would further enhance the travel  
2 experience for visitors while reinforcing the cultural and  
3 educational values of the State's keiki; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
7 of 2025, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of  
8 Transportation are urged to expand the Kāhea Airport Greetings  
9 Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports;  
10 and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority  
13 and Department of Transportation are encouraged to secure  
14 sufficient funding for the continuation and expansion of this  
15 program for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 and to collaborate with  
16 the Department of Education and local communities in its  
17 implementation; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of  
21 Transportation, Superintendent of Education, and Chief Executive  
22 Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.  
23  
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25

OFFERED BY:



MAR 07 2025

