
HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE RESIDENTS OF KALAUPAPA AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THE SACRIFICES THEY MADE LIVING IN ISOLATION ON THE ISLAND OF MOLOKAI AND FOR BEING SEPARATED FROM SOCIETY.

1 WHEREAS, from 1866 until 1969, people who were afflicted
2 with Hansen's disease, many of them part- or native-Hawaiian,
3 were separated from their families and forced into isolation to
4 the remote northern Kalaupapa peninsula on the island of
5 Molokai; and

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7 WHEREAS, this century-long policy of forced segregation
8 came at a high personal cost for more than eight thousand people
9 in Hawaii who were also affected by the physical, emotional, and
10 psychological isolation brought on by a disfiguring illness; and

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12 WHEREAS, most of the patients who were confined on Molokai
13 were stigmatized for the rest of their lives and spent their
14 remaining years cut off from society; and

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16 WHEREAS, chapter 326, Hawaii Revised Statutes, recognizes
17 the disruptions and hardships experienced by former Hansen's
18 disease patients residing at Kalaupapa and declares its intent
19 to ensure that all residents at Kalaupapa are treated with
20 dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity; and

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22 WHEREAS, Hansen's disease is curable and is one of the
23 least contagious of all communicable diseases and there is no
24 longer any need to isolate people afflicted with the disease;
25 and

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27 WHEREAS, the people who have chosen to remain in Kalaupapa
28 comprise a unique and historical community and share a special
29 kind of fellowship; now, therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 3 Session of 2008, that this body expresses its gratitude to the
 4 residents of Kalaupapa and their families for the sacrifices
 5 they made by living in isolation on the island of Molokai and
 6 for being separated from society; and

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 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 9 Resolution be transmitted to the President of Ka Ohana O
 10 Kalaupapa and the Director of Health.

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[Signature]

OFFERED BY: *Mele Canell*
Cindy Evans
Ray Hawkers
Wunni Hau
[Signature]

MAR 12 2008

