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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND THE ISLANDS OF POLYNESIA.

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is actively seeking to expand its international ties and has an abiding interest in developing goodwill, friendship, and economic relations between the people of Hawaii and the people of the many nations and territories comprising Polynesia; and

WHEREAS, as part of its effort to achieve this goal, Hawaii has established a number of sister-state agreements with provinces in the Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, historical precedent exists which exemplify a common desire to maintain a close cultural, commercial, and financial bridge between Polynesians living in Hawaii and their relatives, friends, and business counterparts in the islands of Polynesia, and the establishment of sister-state relations between the State of Hawaii and Polynesia would help reinforce and cement this common bridge; and

WHEREAS, the geographic location of Hawaii presents an outstanding opportunity to promote global connectivity among the islands of Polynesia for the purposes of proliferating meaningful and mutually rewarding international friendships, understanding between cultures, economic and social vitality, scientific and technological advancement, and enhanced regional security; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is requested to take action to establish a relationship between Hawaii and the islands of Polynesia, including the following:

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(1)
              Rarotonga District - Cook Islands;
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              Easter Island;
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         (3) Province of Tahiti - French Polynesia;
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              Pohnpei Province - Micronesia;
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         (5) Pitcairn Island District - Pitcairn Islands;
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         (6) 'Uvea Province - Wallis and Futuna;
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         (7) Western Province - Solomon Islands;
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             Westland Province - New Zealand;
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         (8)
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         (9) Mandang Province - Papua New Guinea;
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         (10) Upolu District - Western Samoa;
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         (11) Tongatapu District - Tonga; and
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         (12) Funafuti District - Tuvalu;
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    and
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         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to
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    keep the Legislature fully informed of the process in
    establishing the relationship and to be involved in its
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    formalization; and
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, Governor of the State of Hawaii, Governor of American Samoa, Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands, Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, Provincial Governor of Easter Island, President of Vanuatu, President of French Polynesia, President of the Federated States of Micronesia, Prime Minister of New Zealand, Governor General of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Governor of the Pitcairn Islands, President of Fiji, Prime Minister of Samoa, King of Tonga, Governor General

of Tuvalu, and President of the Territorial Assembly of Wallis and Futuna.