

1 **HAW 2012-01 Declare the Merrie Monarch Festival a Hawai'i Island Treasure**

2
3 WHEREAS, the preservation of native Hawaiian culture is a major plank in the Hawai'i
4 Democratic Party; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Merrie Monarch Festival is a non-profit organization that honors the
7 legacy left by King David Kalākaua, who inspired the perpetuation of Hawaiian
8 traditions, native language and the arts; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Merrie Monarch Festival was founded and coordinated in 1964 by
11 "Uncle" George Na'ope, a Hilo native and kumu hula; and

12
13 WHEREAS, in 1968 the private Merrie Monarch Festival community organization was
14 formed by Hilo native Dorothy "Auntie Dottie" Thompson who added the Hilo
15 competition in 1971; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the Merrie Monarch Festival has maintained strict standards of authenticity,
18 the true history and culture of the ancient Hawaiian people is being perpetuated; and

19
20 WHEREAS, without such educational and cultural organizations as the Merrie Monarch
21 Festival, the history and unique traditions of the hula would be lost forever; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the venue of Hawai'i Island is the natural setting for the Merrie Monarch
24 Festival because of the island's adherence to the Hawaiian culture and lifestyle; and

25
26 WHEREAS, relocation of the Merrie Monarch Festival to an urban metropolis will lead
27 to its commercialization akin to the cultural transformation of fabled Waikiki; now,
28 therefore,

29
30 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Hawai'i declares the Merrie
31 Monarch Festival to be a Hawai'i Island treasure; and

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33 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly
34 urges elected officials of Hawai'i to abide by this declaration

1 **HAW 2012-02 Sustain the Hawaiian Home Ownership Opportunity Act**

2
3 WHEREAS, the support of native Hawaiian rights is a major plank in the platform of the
4 Hawai'i Democratic Party; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Home Commission Act (HHCA) was enacted by
7 Congress in 1920 to assist the native Hawaiian people by providing government land to
8 re-establish native Hawaiian communities; and

9
10 WHEREAS, as a condition of statehood, responsibility for the administration of the
11 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act was transferred to the state of Hawai'i; and,

12
13 WHEREAS, DHHL was established as the executive agency to administer the Hawaiian
14 Home Lands program in order to develop affordable housing opportunities for native
15 Hawaiian families; and,

16
17 WHEREAS, native Hawaiians on Hawaiian Home Lands experience difficulty in
18 securing home loans due to the lease arrangement between DHHL and native Hawaiian
19 tenants; and,

20
21 WHEREAS, Congress authorized financial assistance to native Hawaiians through the
22 Federal Housing Administration's (FHA) section 247 program and HUD's section 184(a)
23 program, Title VIII, known as the "Hawaiian Home Ownership Opportunity Act"; and,

24
25 WHEREAS, efforts in Congress were introduced to enhance HUD's section 184(a)
26 guaranteed loans for refinancing in addition to construction; and,

27
28 WHEREAS, the Federal Housing Administration's (FHA) section 247 program and
29 HUD's section 184(a) program, Title VIII is successful in assisting low-income Hawaiian
30 families with their housing needs; and,

31
32 WHEREAS, Republicans in Congress have opposed legislative efforts directed towards
33 assistance to native Hawaiians in general, and the Hawaiian Home Ownership
34 Opportunity Act in particular; now therefore,

35
36 BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the Hawaiian Home
37 Ownership Act and encourages the Hawai'i congressional delegation to continue efforts
38 to reauthorize the Act and resist Republican efforts to repeal it.

1 **HAW 2012-03 Recognize the Efforts and Achievements of George Yokoyama to Fight Poverty and**
2 **Inequality of Underprivileged and Disadvantaged Residents of Hawai'i County**
3

4 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama is a lifetime resident of Hawai'i County; and
5

6 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama is a lifelong and tireless advocate of the Democratic Party beliefs
7 and ideology; and
8

9 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama is a tireless advocate on behalf of economically and socially
10 disadvantaged individuals and groups; and
11

12 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has been a champion in the fight against poverty by providing,
13 supporting and implementing programs to help the underprivileged; and
14

15 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has fought to address the education of disadvantaged high school
16 students through the Drop Out Prevention Program (DOPP); and
17

18 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has provided low income immigrant families with students in the
19 3rd and 4th grade additional educational and cultural skills through the Language Arts multi-Cultural
20 Program ("LAMP"); and
21

22 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has assisted underprivileged families meet their energy needs by
23 implementing projects in solar energy, solar water heating, energy bill assistance and bio-energy;
24 and
25

26 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has assisted underprivileged students and senior citizens in
27 meeting transportation needs; and
28

29 WHEREAS, George Yokoyama has developed numerous job training programs to assist low
30 income and other disadvantaged residents; now, therefore,
31

32 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party support the recognition of George Yokoyama as a
33 champion in the fight against poverty.
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party will support programs that fight
36 poverty and the causes of poverty.
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38 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to state and county
39 legislators.

1 **HAW 2012-04 RESOLUTION TO ENFORCE COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS**
2 **WRITTEN CONTRACTS AND LEASE AGREEMENTS IN KEAUKAHA AND ALL DEPARTMENT OF**
3 **HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS**
4

5 WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii and the Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) have a “right of entry”
6 agreement (#103 signed by both parties and dated October 9, 1991) to connect sewage lines to the
7 county sewage system at no cost to the Hawaiian Homesteaders on the Big Island in exchange for a
8 sewer line easement on beneficiaries lands; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii does not currently have agreements with the First Nations peoples
11 (Hawaiians) which carry the force of law to guarantee payment, or payment in kind, for use of Hawaiian
12 Home Lands used for civil engineering projects, and to enforce existing agreements with those living on
13 “Homelands” for property used for the benefit of the general public; and
14

15 WHEREAS, people have felt that force and intimidation was used to extract payment of hookup and
16 sewer fees contrary to prior written agreement; and
17

18 WHEREAS, agreements entered into by the State of Hawaii, Hawaiian Home Lands and County of
19 Hawaii must be honored by all parties for the benefit of the general public; and
20

21 WHEREAS, a specific agreement between the State of Hawaii, County of Hawaii and the Department of
22 Hawaiian Home Lands, Keaukaha lease beneficiaries, in exchange for the installation of a “Sewer Main”
23 within the homestead leases located along the route of the waste water pipeline area were guaranteed an
24 exemption from hook-up and payment of service fees until all of the other residences in the critical areas
25 of Hilo have been required to be hooked up; and
26

27 WHEREAS, all of the critical areas of Hilo have not been hooked up to the sewer line, the affected
28 Keaukaha lease beneficiaries are not required to pay any sewer assessment fees for the wastewater
29 pipelines, as identified by the Right of Entry No. 103 agreement; and
30

31 WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii has attempted to levy assessments and threatened to levy liens, for
32 nonpayment of service fees in violation of the agreement, and engaged in acts of reprisal such as cutting
33 off drinking water supplies in violation of the Hawaii State Constitution guaranteeing water free of cost;
34 and
35

36 WHEREAS, there is a controversy regarding providing water, free of cost, to Native Hawaiians; now,
37 therefore, be it
38

39 *RESOLVED*, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii demands the State of Hawaii use its power to
40 enforce and honor, in full, their commitments, promises and contractual agreements to the Hawaiian
41 people holding leases in Keaukaha and elsewhere in the state, and the law of the land (to) protect all
42 equally; and be it
43

44 *RESOLVED*, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, the Chair and Commissioners
45 of the State Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, all members of the Hawaii State Legislature, and to
46 the Hawaii County Mayor and Council; and be it
47

48 *RESOLVED*, That the state Attorney General be tasked to research federal Hawaiian Homes Commission
49 Act re: the proviso that water shall be provided free of all charge to all Hawaiian Homes beneficiaries, and
50 report findings back to the Hawaii State Legislature no less than 20 days prior to the start of the 2013
51 session.

1 **HAW 2012-05 Support for Pu'uhonua, Re-establishing the Practice of Rehabilitation and Healing in**
2 **a Pu'uhonua Setting**

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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian culture had a system of protecting all levels of life, including human beings,
5 animals, and the environment; and

6
7 WHEREAS, today, the rate of high risk behaviors, such as substance abuse, and rates of crime,
8 incarceration, and recidivism are high and increasing; and

9
10 WHEREAS, a return to *Pu'uhonua* is due, to provide offenders with places of refuge, where the problems
11 that bind them will be confronted at the source, the core, the why, with forgiveness, healing, and learning,
12 and where they will get the preparation they need to move forward, building productive relationships with
13 family, friends, the community, and society; now, therefore,

14
15 BE IT RESOLVED that at the 2012 Hawaii State Democratic Party Convention, the Hawaiian Affairs
16 Committee of the Hawaii State Democratic Party (Hawaiian Affairs Committee) take up the issue of
17 reestablishing the practice of rehabilitation and healing with a *Pu'uhonua* setting; and

18
19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaiian Affairs Committee plan and develop a rehabilitation and
20 healing program with a *Pu'uhonua* setting, working with the State Task Force established for this
21 purpose; and

22
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaiian Affairs Committee submit a report of its findings and
24 recommendations to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Democratic Party prior to the convening of
25 the 2013 Regular Session of the Hawaii State Legislature; and

26
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors and Hawaiian Affairs Committee of the Hawaii
28 State Democratic Party, after reviewing the foregoing findings and recommendations, submit their
29 recommendations to the Hawaii State Democratic Party for its support; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Democratic Party work to implement these
32 recommendations by communicating to the appropriate legislators and legislative committees, by letters
33 of support and other means, and by encouraging its members to present written or oral testimony thereto;
34 and

35
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the State Central
37 Committee of the Hawaii State Democratic Party, all delegates and their alternates at the Hawaii State
38 Democratic Party Convention and all members of the Hawaii State Democratic Party.

1 **HAW 2012-06 RESOLUTION TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY IN**
2 **HAWAII LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

3
4 Whereas, it is the people of the State of Hawaii from whom the State government derives its
5 constitutional powers; and

6
7 Whereas, the people of the State of Hawaii are must participate in the process of legislative development and
8 deliberation in order for our representative democracy to function as intended; and

9
10 Whereas, a significant amount of the State's population lives on the neighbor islands and is faced with the
11 barrier of geography in participating in person at legislative hearings and deliberative processes; and

12
13 Whereas, the only means of travel to O'ahu for the purpose of providing testimony to the State Legislature
14 by citizens residing on the neighbor is via airplane; and

15
16 Whereas, the cost of air travel to and from O'ahu represents a significant financial barrier to many of the State's
17 residents; and

18
19 Whereas, the residents of neighbor islands have attempted to participate in the legislative process by
20 providing online written testimony; and

21
22 Whereas, a uniform method of ensuring that the voices of the residents of the neighbor islands is heard would
23 be of benefit to all and ensure that our representative democracy functions as intended; now, therefore, be it

24
25 Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the use of State of Hawaii funds, personnel and
26 capital resources to ensure that video conferencing capabilities are deployed to the neighbor islands such that
27 the many barriers to participation in the legislative process mentioned above and experienced by the residents
28 of the neighbor islands are reduced or eliminated; and be it

29
30 Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly urges elected officials of Hawai'i County to partner
31 with the State of Hawaii as consultants in providing technical assistance in emulating the model of remote
32 video conferencing already adopted by the County of Hawaii to provide convenient access to the residents of
33 Hawaii County in the County's legislative process, regardless to the geographic area of the island in which
34 they reside.

1 **HAW 2012-07- REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC**
2 **DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TO CONVENE A SPECIAL TASK FORCE ON HAWAIIAN**
3 **HISTORICAL SITES PRESERVATION.**
4
5

6 Whereas, certain places in Hawaii are of paramount importance for their historical and cultural
7 significance, such as the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Hulihe'e Palace in Kailua-Kona, Washington
8 Place, 'Iolani Palace, and Mauna Ala; and
9

10 Whereas, to perpetuate and preserve the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Hulihe'e Palace, Washington
11 Place, 'Iolani Palace, and Mauna Ala, these sites need a perpetual funding mechanism; now, therefore,
12 be it
13

14 **Resolved**, that by the Hawaii State Democratic Party, State Convention of 2012, that the Senate
15 Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Economic Development and Technology are requested to convene
16 a Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation; and be it
17

18 **Resolved**, that the Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation develop a plan to
19 provide fiscal stability and a source of continuous funding for each of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum,
20 Hulihe'e Palace, Washington Place, 'Iolani Palace, and Mauna Ala; and be it
21

22 **Resolved**, That the members of the Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation include
23 the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Comptroller; two Senators representing the
24 Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs; two Senators representing the Senate Committee on Economic
25 Development and Technology; two Representatives representing the House Committee on Hawaiian
26 Affairs; two representatives from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; two Representatives representing the
27 House Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business; and one representative from each of the
28 Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Hulihe'e Palace, Washington Place, 'Iolani Palace, and Mauna Ala, to
29 be selected by the co-chairs of the special task force; and be it
30

31 **Resolved**, that one Senator representing the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs and one Senator
32 representing the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology serve as co-chairs of the
33 Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation; and be it
34

35 **Resolved**, that the Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation report to the Legislature
36 its findings and recommendations no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
37 of 2014; and be it
38

39 **Resolved**, that the Special Task Force on Hawaiian Historical Sites Preservation be dissolved upon the
40 filing of its report to the Legislature; and be it
41

42 **Resolved**, that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Hawaii State
43 Legislature Chairpersons of the Senate and House of Representatives' of the committees of Hawaiian
44 Affairs and Economic Development, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,
45 Comptroller, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson of the Senate
46 Committee on Economic Development and Technology, Chairperson of the House Committee on
47 Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson of the House Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business, and the
48 heads or curators of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Hulihe'e Palace, Washington Place, 'Iolani
49 Palace, and Mauna Ala.

1 **HAW 2012-08 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN ROLL COMMISSION**

2
3 Whereas, the Hawai'i State Democratic Party, at its Biennium Convention of 2010, adopted the
4 following in its Platform: "Native Hawaiians are indigenous peoples of Hawai'i and deserve a just
5 relationship with the state and federal governments. We support recognition by Congress of native
6 Hawaiians as indigenous people as provided by the U.S. Constitution... We especially value our host
7 culture that has allowed diversity to thrive"; and

8
9 Whereas, in 2011 the Hawai'i State legislature passed SB1520, SD2, HD3, CD1, Relating to
10 Government; and

11
12 Whereas, on July 6, 2011, Governor Neil Abercrombie signed SB1520, SD2, HD3, CD1 making it Act
13 195, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2011; and

14
15 Whereas, by enactment of Act 195, the State of Hawai'i did "explicitly" acknowledge "that Native
16 Hawaiians are the only indigenous, aboriginal, maoli population of Hawai'i"; and

17
18 Whereas, Act 195 also called for the creation of the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission, whose five
19 members shall be appointed by the Governor; and

20
21 Whereas, Governor Abercrombie appointed Na'alehu Anthony, Robin Danner, Lei Kihoi and
22 Mahealani Wendt, Commissioners of the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission; and

23
24 Whereas, Governor Abercrombie appointed former Governor, John Waihee the Chairman of the
25 Native Hawaiian Roll Commission; and

26
27 Whereas, the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission is charged with the responsibility of developing and
28 overseeing the process of enrolling Native Hawaiians for the purpose of organizing a sovereign entity
29 that will benefit all of Hawai'i; and

30
31 Whereas, the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission is committed to establishing a Roll which brings
32 together Hawaiians and Non-Hawaiians in an effort to unite all of Hawai'i and make Hawaii a better
33 place to live; and

34
35 Whereas, the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission should designate Hawai'ians who are residents of
36 Hawai'i to be the actual developers of the Hawaiian Nation, after consultation with Hawai'ians world-
37 wide and the myriad of our supporters in Hawai'i and globally, a true reflection of Aloha Spirit, and

38
39 Whereas, the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission, has designated this effort as "Kana'iolowalu", "the
40 great sound that arises and moves forward when many people come together"; now, therefore, be it

41
42 Whereas, The Native Hawaiian Roll Commission should designate Hawaiians who are residents of
43 Hawai'i to be the actual developers of the Hawaiian Nation, after consultation with Hawaiians world-
44 wide and the myriad of our supporters globally, a true reflection of the Aloha Spirit; and

45
46 **Resolved**, that the Hawai'i State Democratic Party hereby acknowledges Native Hawaiians as the
47 only indigenous, aboriginal, maoli population of Hawaii and fully supports Kana'iolowalu; and be it

48
49 **Resolved**, that certified copies of this Resolution to Governor, Neil Abercrombie, U.S. Senator Daniel
50 K. Akaka, U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, U.S. Representative Colleen Hanabusa, U.S.
51 Representative Mazie Hirono, the Speaker of the Hawai'i State House, the Hawai'i State Senate
52 President, Mayor Billy Kenoi, County Council Chairman Dominic Yagong, Chairperson of the Office of
53 Hawaiian Affairs, Trustee Colette Y. Machado and Chairman John Waihee of the Native Hawaiian Roll
54 Commission.