

Resolution

No. _____

CONGRATULATING KALANI PE`A FOR WINNING THE BEST REGIONAL ROOTS ALBUM AT THE 59TH ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS

WHEREAS, Maui singer, songwriter, and producer Kalani Pe`a captured his first-ever Grammy for Best Regional Roots Music Album at the Grammy Awards held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles on February 12, 2017, an event held annually to recognize outstanding achievements in the music industry; and

WHEREAS, Kalani Pe`a was selected among other prominent performance artists for his debut album “E Walea”, the only Hawaiian music album in the category and the first time a native Hawaiian artist rose to the top, providing worldwide exposure for Hawaiian music and recording artists; and

WHEREAS, “E Walea”, named after his eldest nephew, which means “relaxing at ease with the gentle voices of the birds”, was released on August 5, 2016 and hit Number 1 on the iTunes World Music charts the same day and Number 12 on the Billboard World Music charts on August 15, 2016; and

WHEREAS, of the 12 tracks on the album, seven are haku mele, or original Hawaiian musical compositions, of which the song “Nani A Maika`i” pays tribute to his late grandmother and the other five are Kalani Pe`a’s favorite covers, including a Hawaiian version of “You Are So Beautiful”; and

WHEREAS, Kalani Pe`a has shown courage and tenacity in his own personal life by using music and singing to overcome a speech impediment when he was a child, and is now a Hawaiian resource coordinator, cultural instructor, and an illustrator and publisher of Hawaiian language children stories, in addition to being a Grammy Award-winning artist; and

WHEREAS, Kalani Pe`a’s exceptional musical performance and talent have brought pride and honor to the county; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby congratulates Kalani Pe`a for winning the Best Regional Roots Album at the 59th Annual Grammy Awards; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Kalani Pe`a; the Honorable David Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; the Honorable Shan Tsutsui, Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawaii; and the Honorable Alan Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui.

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