

Resolution

No. _____

CONGRATULATING PUKALANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STEM IMAGINEERS FOR WINNING THE HAWAII STATE VEX IQ ROBOTICS CHAMPIONSHIP

WHEREAS, Pukalani Elementary School's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Imagineers captured top honors in the State for their STEM Research Project, at the Hawaii State VEX IQ Robotics Championship, held on February 20, 2017, at the Hawaii Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, the students focused on how robotic technology is used in an educational setting, in line with this year's VEX research challenge to learn how robots are used in everyday life; and

WHEREAS, they surveyed kindergarten to grade five students at their school and identified bullying as a big issue that needs to be addressed and eliminated; and

WHEREAS, through their research, the students learned that bullies lack emotional intelligence, and reached out to Professor Marc Brackett who leads the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, to focus their project on how robots can be used; and

WHEREAS, after winning the Research Project Award, the team received an invitation to the VEX IQ World Championship in Louisville, Kentucky in April, their third appearance in three years, and the only team from Maui among 13 teams representing Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the STEM Imagineers include fourth and fifth graders Dutch Akana, Giare Calibuso, Ricky Enriquez, Bailey Hofmann, Kiele Kepler, Rio Kovacic, Imaikalani Kramer, Max Lozada, Arianna Matanane, Lawrence Nakoa, Kauhikoa Oania, Joshua Rodriguez, Akira-Lei Tamayose, and Josie Vierra-Naleicha; along with their coaches Jasmine Domingo and Debbie Hisashima; and

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WHEREAS, the exceptional performance, dedication, and team spirit of the Pukalani Elementary School STEM Imagineers have brought pride and honor to the people of the County of Maui; now, therefore,

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

1. That it hereby congratulates the Pukalani Elementary School STEM Imagineers for winning the Hawaii State VEX IQ Robotics Championship; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to each team member and their coaches; Kathleen Dimino, Principal, Pukalani Elementary School; Leila Hayashida, Maui District Complex Area Superintendent; 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.