
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT TO TREAT HAWAII FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WITH REGARD TO PAY AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS THE SAME AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WHO RESIDE IN THE FORTY-EIGHT CONTIGUOUS UNITED STATES.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Hawaii firmly
2 believes in the principle of equal pay for equal work; and

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4 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, the cost of living ranks consistently
5 among the highest in the nation; and

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7 WHEREAS, although federal employees who reside in Hawaii do
8 receive non-foreign area cost of living adjustments in their
9 pay, the federal government fails to credit non-foreign area
10 cost of living allowances to "basic pay" for retirement purposes
11 of federal employees residing in Hawaii and Alaska; and

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13 WHEREAS, with the exception of those residing in Hawaii and
14 Alaska, federal employees throughout the United States receive
15 locality pay in addition to their salaries in amounts varying
16 between twelve per cent to twenty-eight per cent; and

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18 WHEREAS, federal employees who reside in Hawaii and Alaska
19 are denied these payments solely because they reside in these
20 states; and

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22 WHEREAS, the locality pay received by federal employees is
23 counted as "basic pay" for retirement purposes thereby resulting
24 in federal employees in the contiguous United States receiving
25 retirement pay in amounts between twelve per cent and twenty-
26 eight per cent greater than federal employees who worked and
27 resided in Hawaii and Alaska; and

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29 WHEREAS, this practice denies residents of Hawaii and
30 Alaska substantial pay and benefits for no other reason than
31 that their residence is outside the contiguous United States;
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WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that this practice is an unconstitutional and irrationally discriminatory policy enacted and enforced by the United States government; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned policies deprive Hawaii federal employees the fundamental right to interstate travel and constitute unjustified and unwarranted personnel actions, resulting in withdrawal or decrease of earned income; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature of the State of Hawaii expresses its support of congressional efforts to ensure that:

- (1) Federal employees in Hawaii will be treated fairly and equitably with respect to their pay and retirement benefits; and
- (2) The irrationally discriminatory pay practices of the United States government that penalize federal employees in Hawaii and Alaska solely because they do not reside in the forty-eight contiguous states will be abolished immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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