

Honolulu, Hawaii

April 13, 2006

RE: H.C.R. No. 145
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and International Affairs, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 145 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE TO PURSUE THE INSERTION OF AN INTERPRETIVE NOTE IN THE UNITED STATES-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT TO CLARIFY THAT MEDICAID AND PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS UNDER THE MEDICARE MODERNIZATION ACT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGREEMENT, "

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to urge the United States Trade Representative to consult with the states, to pursue the exchange of an interpretive note with Australia to clarify that the state and local administration of Medicaid programs and pharmaceutical assistance programs under the Medicare Modernization Act are not included in the definition of "federal healthcare program" under Annex 2-C of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement.

Your Committees distributed a proposed draft of H.C.R. No. 145 H.D. 1, for review and consideration before hearing this measure. Specifically, the proposed draft:

- (1) Urges the President and Congress to legalize illegal immigrants;



- (2) Requests the federal and state Departments of Health to provide medical service to this population in medical emergencies; and
- (3) Disapproves of criminalizing citizens who work with and for immigrants and immigrants themselves.

The Hawaii Human Rights Center supported this measure.

Your Committees have amended this concurrent resolution by:

- (1) Changing the title to read: "URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO LEGALIZE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND REQUESTING THE FEDERAL AND STATE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE MEDICAL SERVICES TO THIS POPULATION IN MEDICAL EMERGENCIES";
- (2) Substituting its contents with the proposed draft;
- (3) Adding a provision that references the proposed Hawaii Dream Act that would permit qualifying immigrants who have graduated from a local public high school to pay in-state tuition in college; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for consistency, clarity, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and International Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 145, as amended herein, and recommend its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 145, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and
International Affairs,



HELÈNE H. HALE, Chair



DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair



