
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO INVESTIGATE AND COORDINATE THE PROVISION OF
MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL, HOUSING, AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO
MIGRANTS FROM FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

1 WHEREAS, The Compact of Free Association defines the
2 relationship that the Federated States of Micronesia, the
3 Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau have
4 as associated states with the United States; and

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6 WHEREAS, under the Compact, the United States provides
7 direct economic assistance, federal services, and military
8 protection to the associated states in exchange for defense
9 rights; and

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11 WHEREAS, under the Compact of Free Association, Freely
12 Associated States citizens can migrate in and out of Hawaii
13 without visas or other immigration requirements; and

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15 WHEREAS, it is estimated that over eight thousand Freely
16 Associated States citizens have migrated to Hawaii; and

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18 WHEREAS, this migration has had a significant financial
19 impact on Hawaii in terms of un-reimbursed health care,
20 education, public safety, and welfare costs; and

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22 WHEREAS, since the federal government continues to provide
23 inadequate federal medical and welfare assistance to Freely
24 Associated States citizens who migrated to Hawaii and other
25 parts of the United States, many rely on state aid; and

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27 WHEREAS, it is reported that the health care and education
28 cost of migrants from the Freely Associated States to Hawaii
29 alone was \$86,000,000 between 1996 and 2000; and
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1 WHEREAS, there are high rates of tuberculosis, hepatitis B,
2 and syphilis reported among migrants from the Freely Associated
3 States; and
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5 WHEREAS, there is no centralized plan for the provision of
6 medical and social services to this population; and
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8 WHEREAS, a task force should be convened to investigate and
9 coordinate the provision of medical and social services to
10 migrants from Freely Associated States; now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of the
15 Attorney General is requested to convene a task force to
16 investigate and coordinate the provision of medical and social
17 services to migrants from Freely Associated States; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force include a
20 representative of:
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- 22 (1) The Department of Health;
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- 24 (2) The Department of Human Services;
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- 26 (3) The Department of Education;
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- 28 (4) The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations;
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- 30 (5) The University of Hawaii at Manoa, John A. Burns
31 School of Medicine;
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- 33 (6) The Micronesian Community Network;
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- 35 (7) Micronesians United;
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- 37 (8) The Institute for Human Services; and
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- 39 (9) The University of Hawaii- West Oahu; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:
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- 43 (1) Consult with the Department of the Interior's Office
44 of Insular Affairs in Hawaii regarding what federal



1 funds and services are available to assist Freely
2 Associated States citizens in Hawaii;

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4 (2) Research whether a current census exists regarding the
5 number of Freely Associated States citizens living,
6 working, and attending school in Hawaii, and if no
7 data exists, consult with the United States Census
8 Bureau on obtaining this information in future
9 national or regional census; and

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11 (3) Investigate the medical, educational, housing, and
12 social services needs of migrants from Freely
13 Associated States, including the impact these service
14 needs have on schools, and make recommendations
15 regarding how to plan for and coordinate the provision
16 of services to this population; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
19 submit an interim report to the Legislature no later than twenty
20 days prior to the convening of the 2008 Regular Session, and to
21 submit a final report to the Legislature no later than twenty
22 days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session on the
23 actions taken, information gathered, and any recommendations
24 made by the task force; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General,
28 the Director of Health, the Director of Human Services, the
29 Chair of the Board of Education, the Director of Labor and
30 Industrial Relations, the Dean of the John A. Burns School of
31 Medicine, the Dean of the University of Hawaii- West Oahu, the
32 Director of the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular
33 Affairs in Hawaii, the President of Micronesians United, the
34 President of the Micronesian Community Network, the Director of
35 the Institute for Human Services, and the members of Hawaii's
36 delegation to the Congress of the United States.

