MAR 1 4 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY, AND THE HAWAII VISITORS AND CONVENTION BUREAU TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF VISITORS FROM TAIWAN.

WHEREAS, in 2006, 593,000 visitors from Taiwan arrived in 1 the United States; and 2 3 WHEREAS, Taiwan travelers to the United States represented 4 only 6.8 per cent of the total outbound travelers from Taiwan; 5 6 and 7 WHEREAS, the United State's 6.8 per cent share of all 8 outbound Taiwan travelers was less than the United State's 10.0 9 per cent share of outbound Taiwan travelers in previous years; 10 11 and 12 WHEREAS, the number of Taiwanese visitors to Hawaii in 2006 13 was not a significant percentage of all visitors, approximately 14 15,450 visitors; and 15 16 17 WHEREAS, data indicates that the Taiwan market may be a potential source of new visitors to Hawaii; and 18 19 WHEREAS, diversification of the tourism markets from which 20 Hawaii draws visitors is a logical and important public policy 21 goal necessary to provide some protection for the State's 22 economy; and 23 24 WHEREAS, activities should be undertaken by the State and 25 tourism industry to promote Hawaii as a destination for visitors 26 from Taiwan; activities to promote travel from Taiwan to Hawaii 27 would be especially appropriate since the peoples of Taiwan and 28 Hawaii have much in common; now, therefore, 29 30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth 31 32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and 33

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Tourism, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and the Hawaii Visitors
and Convention Bureau are requested to undertake activities to
increase the number of visitors from Taiwan who travel to the
State; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, 7 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to work with the 8 appropriate United States government agencies to ease the travel 9 requirements for visitors from Taiwan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau are requested to coordinate their efforts to increase the number of visitors from Taiwan to the maximum extent possible; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic 19 Development, and Tourism, the Chairperson of the Hawaii Tourism 20 Authority, the President of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention 21 Bureau, and the Director General of the Taipei Economic and 22 Cultural Office.

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OFFERED BY:

Fizanne Chun aalland

