

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1773

Honolulu, Hawaii

A-203, 2007

RE: H.C.R. No. 87

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns,
to which was referred H.C.R. No. 87 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CREATE A REPLACEMENT FOR THE
OUTDATED FAST TRACK TRADE AUTHORITY SYSTEM SO THAT UNITED
STATES TRADE AGREEMENTS ARE DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED USING A
MORE DEMOCRATIC, INCLUSIVE MECHANISM THAT ENSHRINES THE
PRINCIPLES OF FEDERALISM AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to protect
states' rights in the establishment of trade agreements by
requesting the United States Congress to replace the Fast Track
Trade Authority system (Fast Track) with a system that requires
the prior informed consent of state legislatures before states are
bound to the nontariff terms of any trade agreement that affects
state regulatory authority.

Public Citizen, the Hawaii Government Employees Association,
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO, and the Hawaii State AFL-CIO supported
this concurrent resolution.

Your Committee finds that Fast Track is a procedural device
established by former President Nixon which allows the executive
branch to negotiate and sign agreements and write conforming
federal legislation while excluding a meaningful role for
Congress, the public, and state and local officials affected by
the agreements. The current grant of Fast Track Trade Authority

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expires in July 2007. This concurrent resolution seeks replacement of Fast Track with a more democratic and accountable trade negotiation process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 87 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Economic
Development & Business
Concerns,


KYLE T. YAMASHITA, Chair



