

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1383-08

Honolulu, Hawaii
March 27, 2008

RE: H.C.R. No. 181

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on International Affairs, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 181 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "AMERASIANS" IN THE AMERASIAN IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1982,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to urge the United States Congress to amend the definition of "Amerasians" in the Amerasian Immigration Act of 1982, to include the Philippines in the list of Asian countries where children fathered by United States citizens between 1950 and October 22, 1982, may be eligible for preferential admissions treatment.

Your Committee received written testimony offering comments indicating that the legacy of the Amerasian experience is so pervasive that it has affected popular culture and led to a number of films and plays reflecting the challenges which face Amerasians left behind, including the popular play "Miss Saigon" which spoke of the "Bu Doi" children ("the dust of life") and even "Braddock: Missing In Action III" a 1988 film starring Chuck Norris and others which portrayed many Amerasian children being left behind in Vietnam after the Fall in Saigon.

Your Committee finds that the unique emotional, social, economic, and spiritual challenges faced by the descendants of American fathers left behind in places such as the Philippines and others represents a significant concern which may transcend

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generations and therefore, amendment of the Amerasian Immigration Act of 1982 merits special and further consideration. As Herman Melville writes, "A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men." Your Committee finds that reconnecting Amerasians will serve to strengthen those fibers which have been stretched yet ultimately remain tenuously intact by the separation of American fathers from their children.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on International Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 181 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on International
Affairs,



RIDA T.R. CABANILLA, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSCR 1383-08

Record of Votes of the Committee on International Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HCR 181	Committee Referral: INT, JOD	Date: 17 March 2008		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
INT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. CABANILLA, Rida T.R. (C)	✓			
2. AWANA, Karen Leinani	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III				✓
5. GREEN, Josh, M.D.	✓			
6. MIZUNO, John	✓			
7. RHOADS, Karl	✓			
8. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.				✓
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.	✓			
TOTAL (10)	7	0	0	3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;"><i>Karen Awana</i></div>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				