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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE STATE OF HAWAII FOR THE PROVISION OF VARIOUS STATE SERVICES TO MIGRANTS FROM THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, migrants from Federated States of Micronesia, the  
2 Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, are  
3 allowed to enter the State of Hawaii under the Compact of Free  
4 Association; and

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6 WHEREAS, the cost to the State to provide various state  
7 services to the Compact of Free Association migrants continues  
8 to increase each year; and

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10 WHEREAS, for example, in 2006, the State spent \$91,443,066  
11 to provide services for these migrants and in 2007, the State  
12 spent an estimated \$101,163,113 in state funds; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, many state agencies provide a broad range of  
15 health and social services to migrants from the Compact of Free  
16 Association who have moved to Hawaii; and

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18 WHEREAS, for example, in 2007, various state agencies spent  
19 a total of \$101,163,113 as follows to provide services to the  
20 Compact of Free Association migrants in Hawaii:

21  
22 (1) Department of Human Services -- \$37,116,012 to provide  
23 services including, among other things, financial  
24 assistance, medical assistance, and emergency housing  
25 and outreach for homeless persons;

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27 (2) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office  
28 of Community Services -- \$717,360 to provide social  
29 services, including employment readiness training and



- 1 cultural awareness education, to five hundred three  
2 Compact of Free Association migrants;  
3  
4 (3) Department of Health -- \$6,829,020 to provide a  
5 variety of community-based and direct health care and  
6 health-related education, most notably related to  
7 tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and other communicable  
8 diseases, which are over represented within the  
9 populations making up the Compact of Free Association;  
10  
11 (4) Department of Defense -- \$21,130 to provide educational  
12 and intervention services directed at children and young  
13 adults who are considered at risk for becoming juvenile  
14 offenders, who come from needy families, or who receive  
15 services from the State's Department of Human Services;  
16  
17 (5) Department of Education -- \$53,586,418 to educate  
18 students from the Compact of Free Association nations  
19 who typically require specialized language services that  
20 utilize extra resources of the Department of Education;  
21  
22 (6) The University of Hawaii -- \$1,958,627 in foregone  
23 revenue due to the practice of allowing all students  
24 from the Compact of Free Association nations to pay the  
25 lower state resident tuition, regardless of the date of  
26 their initial residence in Hawaii (discontinued  
27 beginning with the 2008 fall semester due to budget  
28 restrictions);  
29  
30 (7) Department of Public Safety -- \$839,500 for costs of  
31 1,425 arrests on 2,509 charges resulting in 613  
32 convictions and 224 incarcerations of Compact of Free  
33 Association migrants. Costs are exacerbated by a  
34 shortage of qualified and reliable interpreters that  
35 can result in delayed hearings and additional cost;  
36  
37 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and  
38  
39 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for  
40 interpretation services necessary to provide legal  
41 defense; and  
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1           WHEREAS, migrants from the Compact of Free Association  
2 nations are proportionally over represented in the population of  
3 persons who receive various state social services in Hawaii; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities  
6 Reconciliation Act of 1996 prevents needy persons from the  
7 Compact of Free Association nations from receiving federally  
8 funded financial and medical assistance; and  
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10          WHEREAS, when that law went into effect in 1997, Hawaii  
11 continued to provide equivalent services for the Compact of Free  
12 Association migrants using state funds; and  
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14          WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work  
15 Opportunities Reconciliation Act of 1996 is amended to allow the  
16 Compact of Free Association migrants to receive federally funded  
17 financial and medical assistance, the State would not have to  
18 expend state funds to provide the equivalent services, thus  
19 allowing more of the State's general funds to be used for  
20 services and programs for which federal funding is not  
21 available; and  
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23          WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of  
24 additional federal support for the State to continue providing  
25 state services arising from by the unique federally created  
26 relationship the United States has with the Compact of Free  
27 Association nations; now, therefore,  
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29          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
30 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
31 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the United States  
32 Department of the Interior and the Congress of the United States  
33 are strongly urged to provide additional federal aid to the  
34 State of Hawaii for the provision of various state services to  
35 migrants from the Compact of Free Association nations; and  
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37          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
38 the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, is strongly urged to  
39 review the funding of the Compact Impact Assistance grant and to  
40 make every effort to increase the amount of direct assistance  
41 available to Hawaii to offset costs incurred by the State; and  
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43          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress is  
44 strongly urged to support federal legislation to amend the



1 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act  
2 of 1996 allow the Compact of Free Association migrants to once  
3 again receive federally funded financial and medical assistance;  
4 and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
7 the Interior is strongly urged to identify and secure other  
8 forms of direct assistance to the State and the Compact of Free  
9 Association population in the United States, including grants  
10 from other sources and federal programs; and

11  
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
14 United States, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the  
15 Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, the Majority Leader  
16 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States  
17 House of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional  
18 delegation, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the  
19 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,  
20 the Adjutant General, and the Directors of Human Services, Labor  
21 and Industrial Relations, Health, and Public Safety, the Chief  
22 Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Public Defender.

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OFFERED BY: Calvin K. Aoy  
MAR 17 2009

