

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1561

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 05 2009

RE: H.C.R. No. 304

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 304 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE HUMAN-RIGHTS ATROCITIES AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN NORTHERN UGANDA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, AND URGING CONGRESS TO LEAD THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN OF UGANDA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governments of Uganda and Democratic Republic of the Congo to abolish child soldiering in their armed forces in conjunction with the United States' Child Soldiers Accountability Act signed into law by President Bush on October 3, 2008.

This measure also urges the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation to support legislation allocating sufficient funds for continued humanitarian aid to the people of Uganda and the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as legislation urging the Lord's Resistance Army to engage in good faith negotiations to pursue a political solution to this conflict.

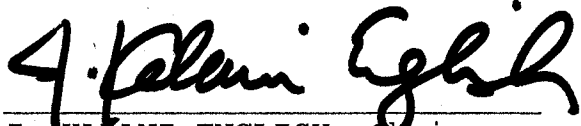
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Family Forum; Hawaii Catholic Church in Hawai'i; and one hundred sixteen individual petitions. Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.



After twenty-three years of civil war, the Lord's Resistance Army, led by Joseph Kony, has engaged in an armed conflict with the Government of Uganda, resulting in thousands of murders, at least twice that number of children abducted, and nearly two-million people displaced. The continuing violence and instability obstruct the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people of northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo and impede national and regional trade, development and democratization efforts, and counter-terrorism efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 304, and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,
International and
Intergovernmental Affairs,

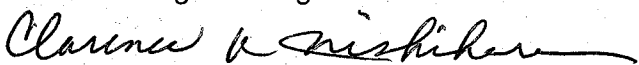


J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs
TIA

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HCR 304	TIA	5-4-09		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes