
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; DEEM MIGRANTS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FEDERALLY FUNDED FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE; AND PROVIDE DIALYSIS AND CHEMOTHERAPY CENTERS IN MICRONESIA AND ALL AREAS WITHIN THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS.

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

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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:

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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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- 1 (2) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office
2 of Community Services -- \$717,360 to provide social
3 services, including employment readiness training and
4 cultural awareness education, to 503 Compact of Free
5 Association migrants;
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- 7 (3) Department of Health -- \$6,829,020 to provide a
8 variety of community-based and direct health care and
9 health-related education, most notably related to
10 tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and other communicable
11 diseases, which are over-represented within the
12 populations making up the Compact of Free Association;
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- 14 (4) Department of Defense -- \$21,130 to provide educational
15 and intervention services directed at children and young
16 adults who are considered at risk for becoming juvenile
17 offenders, who come from needy families, or who receive
18 services from the State's Department of Human Services;
19
- 20 (5) Department of Education -- \$53,586,418 to educate
21 students from the Compact of Free Association nations
22 who typically require specialized language services that
23 utilize extra resources of the Department of Education;
24
- 25 (6) The University of Hawaii -- \$1,958,627 in foregone
26 revenue due to the practice of allowing all students
27 from the Compact of Free Association nations to pay the
28 lower state resident tuition, regardless of the date of
29 their initial residence in Hawaii (discontinued
30 beginning with the 2008 fall semester due to budget
31 restrictions);
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- 33 (7) Department of Public Safety -- \$839,500 for costs of
34 1,425 arrests on 2,509 charges resulting in 613
35 convictions and 224 incarcerations of Compact of Free
36 Association migrants. Costs are exacerbated by a
37 shortage of qualified and reliable interpreters that
38 can result in delayed hearings and additional cost;
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- 40 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and
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- 42 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for
43 interpretation services necessary to provide legal
44 defense; and



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2 WHEREAS, migrants from the Compact of Free Association
3 nations are proportionally over-represented in the population of
4 persons who receive various state social services in Hawaii; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities
7 Reconciliation Act of 1996 prevents needy persons from the
8 Compact of Free Association nations from receiving federally
9 funded financial and medical assistance; and
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11 WHEREAS, when that law went into effect in 1997, Hawaii
12 continued to provide equivalent services for the Compact of Free
13 Association migrants using state funds; and
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15 WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work
16 Opportunities Reconciliation Act of 1996 is amended to allow the
17 Compact of Free Association migrants to receive federally funded
18 financial and medical assistance, the State would not have to
19 expend state funds to provide the equivalent services, thus
20 allowing more of the State's general funds to be used for
21 services and programs for which federal funding is not
22 available; and
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24 WHEREAS, there is a need for dialysis and chemotherapy
25 centers in Micronesia and all areas within the Compact of Free
26 Association nations; and
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28 WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of
29 additional federal support for the State to continue providing
30 state services arising from the unique federally created
31 relationship the United States has with the Compact of Free
32 Association nations; now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
35 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
36 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the United States
37 Department of the Interior and the Congress of the United States
38 are strongly urged to provide additional federal aid to the
39 State of Hawaii for the provision of various state services to
40 migrants from the Compact of Free Association nations; and
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
43 the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, is strongly urged to
44 review the funding of the Compact Impact Assistance grant and to



1 make every effort to increase the amount of direct assistance
2 available to Hawaii to offset costs incurred by the State; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress is
5 strongly urged to support federal legislation to amend the
6 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
7 of 1996 to render Compact of Free Association migrants eligible
8 to receive federally funded financial and medical assistance;
9 and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
12 the Interior is strongly urged to provide dialysis and
13 chemotherapy centers in Micronesia and all areas within the
14 Compact of Free Association nations; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
17 the Interior is strongly urged to identify and secure other
18 forms of direct assistance to the State and the Compact of Free
19 Association population in the United States, including grants
20 from other sources and federal programs; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
24 United States, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the
25 Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, the Majority Leader
26 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
27 House of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional
28 delegation, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the
29 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
30 the Adjutant General, and the Directors of Human Services, Labor
31 and Industrial Relations, Health, and Public Safety, the Chief
32 Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Public Defender.
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OFFERED BY:

John M. Burns
Tammy Bruce *Shawn & Jo*
Paul Berman *Michelle* *Wesley*
Josephine

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