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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE  
TEACH FOR AMERICA PROGRAM.

1           WHEREAS, Teach For America, in partnership with the  
2 Department of Education, seeks to help address the problem of  
3 educational inequity by recruiting, selecting, training, and  
4 supporting outstanding individuals who commit two years to  
5 teaching in low-income schools and go on to become leaders in  
6 their own right, in the movement to achieve educational equity;  
7 and

8  
9           WHEREAS, Teach For America relies on federal funding to  
10 support its program annually, and has received \$21 million in  
11 2010 through Congressional appropriations, and have requested  
12 \$50 million for the 2011 Fiscal Year; and

13  
14           WHEREAS, the requested funds for Fiscal Year 2011 will  
15 enable Teach For America to place an additional 1,350 corps  
16 members, reaching 86,000 students, in low-income communities;  
17 and

18  
19           WHEREAS, without future funding, Teach For America would  
20 have to turn away well over a thousand applicants who otherwise  
21 would have started working immediately to close the achievement  
22 gap between students in low-income communities and their peers  
23 in higher-income areas; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, the requested \$50 million federal allocation in  
26 Fiscal Year 2011 will help to solidify Teach For America's  
27 mission to reach one million students in low-income communities  
28 each day by 2015; and

29  
30           WHEREAS, federal funding will help Teach For America-Hawaii  
31 to recruit high quality teachers and train them to be fully  
32 prepared to enter Hawaii's classrooms, and will also help



1 subsidize the Hawai'i regional office's operating costs, which  
2 are used to further support teachers over their two-year  
3 commitment, and  
4

5 WHEREAS, the Legislature has demonstrated its support for  
6 Teach For America-Hawai'i by appropriating \$165,000 in FY 2008,  
7 and  
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9 WHEREAS, there are currently 122 teachers, 17 percent of  
10 whom are kama'āina, teaching in 39 schools across O'ahu and the  
11 Big Island who are impacting over 10,000 students, as well as  
12 over 100 Teach For America alumni living in Hawai'i, the  
13 majority of whom remain in education-related jobs; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, Teach For America-Hawai'i is committed to serving  
16 Hawai'i's most underserved children by placing teachers in high-  
17 need areas, which include the Leeward Coast on O'ahu and the  
18 Kau/Kea'au/Pāhoa districts on the Big Island; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, each year, the Teach For America-Hawai'i staff  
21 focuses heavily on efforts to increase the number of Native  
22 Hawaiian applicants, and their eventual participation into its  
23 teacher corps, and  
24

25 WHEREAS, Teach For America-Hawai'i corps members and alumni  
26 teach with the conviction that all children can achieve, and  
27 work to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed  
28 academically and in life, regardless of their economic  
29 background; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, 100% of Hawai'i principals surveyed in 2009 stated  
32 that Teach For America-Hawai'i teachers were above average or  
33 average as compared to other teachers; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, research over time has conclusively shown that  
36 Teach For America corps members' impact on their students'  
37 achievement is equal to or greater than that of other new  
38 teachers, and exceeds that of experienced and certified teachers  
39 in the same schools; and  
40



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1 WHEREAS, the majority of Teach For America-Hawai'i corps  
 2 members become involved in their school communities outside of  
 3 the classroom by coaching extracurricular activities, tutoring,  
 4 and taking on leadership roles; and  
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6 WHEREAS, Teach For America-Hawai'i is building an essential  
 7 pipeline of leadership for our community by attracting future  
 8 leaders to the field of education who, with the insight,  
 9 conviction, and passion gained during their two-year teaching  
 10 commitment, pursue leadership positions in education and other  
 11 sectors and continue to pursue educational equity throughout  
 12 their lives; and  
 13

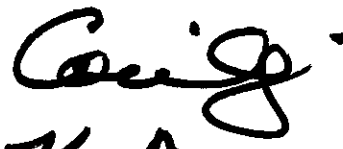
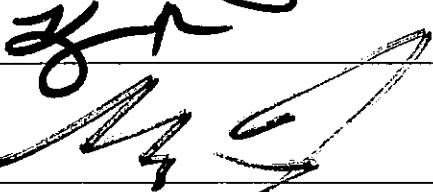
14 WHEREAS, ultimately, Teach For America-Hawai'i helps to  
 15 address a long-standing issue of teacher placement in lower-  
 16 income communities; now, therefore,  
 17

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 19 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 20 of 2011, that Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation is requested to  
 21 continue to support the Teach For America Program; and  
 22

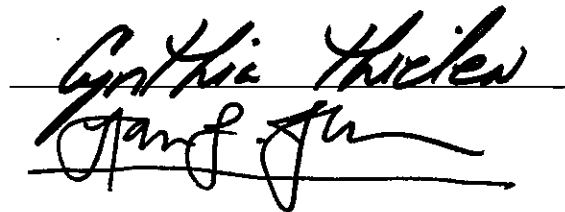
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 24 Resolution be transmitted to the offices of U.S. Senator Daniel  
 25 Inouye, U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka, U.S. Congresswoman Mazie  
 26 Hirono and U.S. Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa.  
 27  
 28  
 29  
 30

OFFERED BY:









H.R. NO. 14

John W. Manumato

