
HOUSE 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 -- \$37,116,912, although
23 the amount increased to \$52,129,664 in 2010, to
24 provide services including, among other things,
25 financial assistance, medical assistance, and
26 emergency housing and outreach for homeless persons;



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



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2 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and
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4 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for
5 interpretation services necessary to provide legal
6 defense; and
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8 WHEREAS, migrants from the Compact of Free Association
9 nations are proportionally over-represented in the population of
10 persons who receive various state social services in Hawaii; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities
13 Reconciliation Act of 1996 prevents needy persons from the
14 Compact of Free Association nations from receiving federally
15 funded financial and medical assistance; and
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17 WHEREAS, when that law went into effect in 1997, Hawaii
18 continued to provide equivalent services for the Compact of Free
19 Association migrants using state funds; and
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21 WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work
22 Opportunities Reconciliation Act of 1996 is amended to allow the
23 Compact of Free Association migrants to receive federally funded
24 financial and medical assistance, the State would not have to
25 expend state funds to provide the equivalent services, thus
26 allowing more of the State's general funds to be used for
27 services and programs for which federal funding is not
28 available; and
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30 WHEREAS, there is a need for dialysis and chemotherapy
31 centers in Micronesia and all areas within the Compact of Free
32 Association nations; and
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34 WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of
35 additional federal support for the State to continue providing
36 state services arising from the unique federally created
37 relationship the United States has with the Compact of Free
38 Association nations; now, therefore,
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40 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
41 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2011, that the United States Department of the Interior and
2 the Congress of the United States are strongly urged to provide
3 additional federal aid to the State of Hawaii for the provision
4 of various state services to migrants from the Compact of Free
5 Association nations; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
8 the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, is strongly urged to
9 review the funding of the Compact Impact Assistance grant and to
10 make every effort to increase the amount of direct assistance
11 available to Hawaii to offset costs incurred by the State; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress is
14 strongly urged to support federal legislation to amend the
15 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act
16 of 1996 to render Compact of Free Association migrants eligible
17 to receive federally funded financial and medical assistance;
18 and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
21 the Interior is strongly urged to provide dialysis and
22 chemotherapy centers in Micronesia and all areas within the
23 Compact of Free Association nations; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
26 the Interior is strongly urged to identify and secure other
27 forms of direct assistance to the State and the Compact of Free
28 Association population in the United States, including grants
29 from other sources and federal programs; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
33 United States, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the
34 Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, the Majority Leader
35 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
36 House of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional
37 delegation, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the
38 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
39 the Adjutant General, and the Directors of Human Services, Labor
40 and Industrial Relations, Health, and

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1 Public Safety, the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court,
2 and the Public Defender.

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