

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE VISA IMPROVEMENTS TO STIMULATE INTERNATIONAL  
TOURISM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACT.

1 WHEREAS, tourism is a vital part of Hawaii's economy; and

2

3 WHEREAS, the Pacific region is a vast market for new  
4 visitors; and

5

6 WHEREAS, in 2010 more than fifty-four million Chinese  
7 citizens traveled abroad; and

8

9 WHEREAS, in that same year, only eight hundred thousand  
10 Chinese visitors traveled to the United States and of those,  
11 only sixty-two thousand Chinese visitors traveled to Hawaii; and

12

13 WHEREAS, reforming the travelers visa process is a cost-  
14 effective way to make it easier for more international business  
15 and tourists to visit Hawaii and the United States; and

16

17 WHEREAS, the Visa Improvements to Stimulate International  
18 Tourism to the United States of America Act (VISIT USA Act)  
19 would establish a five year multiple entry visa for Chinese  
20 visitors, extend the time Canadian retirees can stay in the  
21 United States, and make other amendments in the visa process  
22 that would increase tourism in the United States; and

23

24 WHEREAS, the average visitor from China staying in Hawaii  
25 spends approximately \$350 a day, the growth in visitors  
26 stimulated by the VISIT USA Act could yield an estimated  
27 \$573,000,000 for the State; and

28

29 WHEREAS, the proposed improvements in the VISIT USA Act  
30 would help make visiting Hawaii more convenient for many  
31 international visitors, thus providing a significant boost to



# H.C.R. NO. 46

1 Hawaii's economy through increased commerce and job growth; now,  
2 therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature supports  
7 the Visa Improvements to Stimulate International Tourism to the  
8 United States of America Act; and

9  
10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of  
12 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House  
13 of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's Congressional  
14 Delegation, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of  
15 the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the  
16 Governor.

17  
18  
19

OFFERED BY:

Tom Brown  
Sam Jones  
Karen Awana  
Rick Caberilla  
Calvin K. Ay

FEB 08 2012

