HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE FAIRNESS OF HAWAII TAXATION LAW WITH REGARD TO ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT ENACTMENT OF THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 2012.

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2011, the Governor of the State of Hawaii approved Act 97, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011, which addressed deductions on Hawaii State income tax returns; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Act 97 placed permanent limitations on who may make certain itemized deductions for all taxable years commencing after 2010; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Act 97 also placed temporary limitations on the amounts of itemized deductions that a person may make for taxable years commencing after 2010 and ending before 2016; and

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2013, the President of the United States approved the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012; and

WHEREAS, while addressing a broad array of taxation issues, the Taxpayer Relief Act also implements its own phase-outs and limitations on itemized deductions; and

WHEREAS, the taxation law language of the Hawaii Revised Statutes normally adopts the language of the Internal Revenue Code, except to the extent that Hawaii lawmakers choose to insert different language into the Statutes; and

WHEREAS, itemized deductions allowable under the Internal Revenue Code include such items as:

- Medical and Dental Expenses; (1)
- (2) State income taxes;
- (3) Sales Taxes;
- (4) Real Estate Taxes;

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(5) Personal Property Taxes; 1 (6) Home Mortgage Interest; 3 (7) Mortgage Insurance Premiums; (8) 4 Investment Interest; (9) 5 Charitable Gifts; (10) Casualty and Theft Losses; 6 7 (11) Job Expenses; 8 (12) Unreimbursed Employee Expenses; 9 (13) Tax Preparation Fees; and (14) Gambling Losses; and 10 11 12 WHEREAS, the Governor and members of the Legislature are 13 the policymakers who have the discretion, through the passage of 14 laws, to increase or decrease the availability of the use of itemized deductions on state income tax returns; now, therefore, 15 16 17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 18 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Department of 19 20 Taxation is requested to study the fairness of Hawaii taxation 21 law with regard to itemized deductions, especially in light of 22 the recent enactment of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012; and 23 24 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, more specifically, the authors of the study are requested to consider: 26 27 28 (1)The repeal of Act 97, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011, retroactive to all taxable years commencing after 29 30 The feasibility of bringing current Hawaii taxation (2) 31 law regarding itemized deductions into greater 32 33 conformity with the language of the Internal Revenue Code: 34 35 (3) The impact of current Hawaii taxation law's impact on those who take itemized deductions, with a particular 36 37 emphasis on those who take itemized deductions for: 38 (A) Casualty and Theft Losses; Gambling Losses; (B) 39

Investment Interest; and

Any other relevant factors; and

Medical and Dental Expenses; and

(4)

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Taxation is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014, containing the results of the study, including any proposed legislation; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Taxation.

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OFFERED BY

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