
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING CONGRESS TO CONSIDER INTER-ISLAND AIR TRAVEL IN HAWAII AS
A SPECIAL CASE AND PROVIDE AN EXEMPTION TO ALLOW THE STATE
TO REGULATE THE INDUSTRY FOR PURPOSES OF EFFICIENCY.

1 WHEREAS, as an island chain where the counties are
2 separated by many miles of open ocean, the State of Hawaii is
3 critically and uniquely dependent upon air transportation as the
4 only efficient way to transport passengers, both residents and
5 visitors alike, between the islands; and

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7 WHEREAS, many residents commute daily between the islands
8 by air and are thus highly dependent for their livelihood on
9 convenient, reliable, safe, and affordable air transportation
10 services; and

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12 WHEREAS, there is limited competition for inter-island air
13 transportation services, which tends to create a monopolistic
14 market that manipulates fee structures, flight schedules, and
15 standards of service; and

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17 WHEREAS, currently, rates are extremely high and routes are
18 limited, which causes flights to sell out frequently; and

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20 WHEREAS, originally, the intra-state airline industry in
21 Hawaii was regulated on a localized level; however, the federal
22 Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 preempted states from
23 regulating interstate air transportation; and

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25 WHEREAS, inter-island air transportation in Hawaii, even
26 though it is fully within the State, is considered interstate
27 air transport by virtue of the air carriers' receiving
28 certification to operate such services from the United States



1 Department of Transportation, under the Federal Aviation
2 Administration; and

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4 WHEREAS, the State has no control over the routes and the
5 rates established by the Federal Aviation Administration or the
6 subsequent effects such regulations have on the unique inter-
7 island air transport industry in Hawaii; and

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9 WHEREAS, the only way Hawaii can regulate its inter-island
10 air transport industry is through the enactment of federal
11 legislation that deems air travel in Hawaii as a special case
12 and allows the State to regulate intra-state air travel, rates,
13 and routes; now, therefore,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that Congress is urged
18 to consider inter-island air travel in Hawaii as a special case
19 and allow the State to regulate the industry for purposes of
20 efficiency; 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, Majority Leader of the United States Senate,
25 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and
26 Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.

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OFFERED BY: Wade E. Low

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MAR 13 2013

