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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES  
CONGRESS TO ENACT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM.

1           WHEREAS, the United States was founded as a nation of  
2 immigrants, a place where persons could escape persecution in  
3 their home country in hopes of a brighter future based on  
4 freedom and democratic ideals; and

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6           WHEREAS, the cultural diversity of immigrants to the United  
7 States adds to the social fabric of this nation, and the new  
8 ideas and energies immigrants contribute to the economy  
9 strengthen the nation as a whole; and

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11           WHEREAS, there are currently 11,000,000 to 12,000,000  
12 undocumented immigrants residing in the United States, the vast  
13 majority of whom abide by the laws, work hard, and pay taxes;  
14 and

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16           WHEREAS, undocumented immigrants are at risk of abuse by  
17 employers and live in fear of arrest and deportation; and

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19           WHEREAS, the nation's immigration system is laden with  
20 backlogs and as a result, legal immigrants may wait decades for  
21 family reunification; and

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23           WHEREAS, at present, the "line" for legal immigration is  
24 about 4,000,000 people long; and

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26           WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to many immigrants and has a  
27 special pride rooted in the diversity of its people as a  
28 "cultural melting pot", which defines Hawaii's unique local  
29 culture; and



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1           WHEREAS, Hawaii, therefore, has a strong interest in  
2 immigration policy and the impact it has on immigrants seeking a  
3 new life in the United States; now, therefore,  
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5           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
7 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the President of  
8 the United States and the United States Congress are urged to  
9 enact comprehensive immigration reform and provide a practical  
10 and inclusive path to permanent citizenship that promotes  
11 fairness and justice, while upholding human dignity and mutual  
12 respect; and  
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14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any meaningful and  
15 comprehensive immigration reform should not abridge the rights  
16 or priority of those individuals currently in the United States  
17 who have been waiting patiently over the years to become United  
18 States citizens; and  
19

20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
22 United States, Speaker of the United States House of  
23 Representatives, President of the United States Senate, and  
24 members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation.  
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 07 2013

