

MAR 13 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SEEK AND OBTAIN ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE STATE OF HAWAI'I FOR THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO MIGRANTS FROM THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, migrants from the Federated States of Micronesia,
2 Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau are
3 allowed to enter the State of Hawai'i under the Compact of Free
4 Association; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Compact of Free Association between the
7 Federated States of Micronesia and the United States provide for
8 economic assistance (including eligibility for certain U.S.
9 federal programs), defense of the Federated States of
10 Micronesia, and other benefits by the United States, including
11 educational services, in exchange for defense and certain other
12 rights for the United States in the Federated States of
13 Micronesia; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Compact of Free Association provides federal
16 funding to states for educational, health, social, or public
17 safety services, or infrastructure related to such services
18 provided to migrants from Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and
19 Palau; and

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21 WHEREAS, many Hawaii state agencies provide a broad range
22 of educational, health, and social services to migrants from the
23 Compact of Free Association who have moved to Hawaii; and

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25 WHEREAS, the cost to the State to provide various state
26 services to the Compact of Free Association migrants continues
27 to increase each year; and

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29 WHEREAS, the State Department of Education self-reported to
30 the federal government that in the 2010 school year that there
31 are an estimated 4,400 Micronesian students enrolled in public



1 and charter schools in Hawaii and that the numbers have since
2 grown because the federal government only recently required
3 schools to use newly implemented ethnic codes for self-
4 reporting, including separate categories for Micronesian,
5 Chuukese, Marshallese, and Phonpeian; and

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7 WHEREAS, the State Department of Education spent
8 approximately \$53,586,418 in 2007 to educate students from the
9 Compact of Free Association nations who typically require
10 specialized language services that utilize extra resources,
11 including hiring more teachers and building more schools and
12 expanding existing school facilities; and

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14 WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of
15 additional federal support for the State to continue providing
16 state educational services arising from the unique federally
17 created relationship the United States has with the Compact of
18 Free Association nations; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that Hawaii's Congressional
23 Delegation is urged to seek and obtain additional federal aid to
24 the State of Hawaii for the provision of educational services to
25 migrants from the Compact of Free Association nations; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to members of Hawaii's
29 Congressional Delegation.

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32 OFFERED BY: 