

MAR 13 2013

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ENHANCED TRADE AND INVESTMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE TRANS-PACIFIC  
PARTNERSHIP AND ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR FINALIZATION OF THE  
PARTNERSHIP.

1           WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership is a proposed free  
2 trade agreement among the United States and various countries  
3 having the purpose of stimulating the economies of member  
4 nations; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, according to the "The Trans-Pacific Partnership  
7 Negotiations and Issues for Congress", a Congressional Research  
8 Service Report dated January 24, 2013:  
9

10           "The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a proposed  
11 regional free trade agreement (FTA) being negotiated  
12 among the United States, Australia, Brunei, Canada,  
13 Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore,  
14 and Vietnam. U.S. negotiators and others describe and  
15 envision the TPP as a "comprehensive and high-  
16 standard" FTA, presumably because they hope it will  
17 liberalize trade in nearly all goods and services and  
18 include commitments beyond those currently established  
19 in the World Trade Organization (WTO). The broad  
20 outline of an agreement was announced on the sidelines  
21 of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)  
22 ministerial in November 2011 in Honolulu, HI. If  
23 concluded as envisioned, the TPP potentially could  
24 eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and  
25 investment among the parties and could serve as a  
26 template for a future trade pact among APEC members  
27 and potentially other countries. Congress has a direct  
28 interest in the negotiations, both through influencing  
29 U.S. negotiating positions with the executive branch,  
30 and by passing legislation to implement any resulting  
31 agreement. . . .

32  
33           The 11 countries that make up the TPP negotiating  
34 partners include advanced industrialized, middle



1 income, and developing economies. While new market  
2 access opportunities exist among the participants with  
3 whom the United States presently does not have FTAs,  
4 the greater value of the agreement to the United  
5 States may be setting a trade policy template covering  
6 issues it deems important and which can be adopted  
7 throughout the Asia-Pacific region, and possibly  
8 beyond."  
9

10 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is located in the middle of the Pacific  
11 Ocean between the continents of Asia, Australia, North and South  
12 America, whose countries bordering the Pacific are part of the  
13 Pacific Rim nations; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, the economy, environment, and social fabric of  
16 Hawai'i is impacted by the four continents, the Pacific Rim  
17 nations, and the many island nations of the Pacific; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, Hawai'i successfully hosted the Asia-Pacific  
20 Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting held in Honolulu,  
21 Hawai'i, in November 2011, demonstrating that Hawai'i is a  
22 capable partner in major international engagements; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement will  
25 create jobs and promote job retention in the United States and  
26 consequently in Hawai'i by increasing exports in the Pacific Rim  
27 region that represents more than forty percent of global trade;  
28 now, therefore,  
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,  
32 that this body supports the enhanced trade and investment  
33 opportunities among member countries of the Trans-Pacific  
34 Partnership and encourages Hawai'i's Congressional delegation and  
35 other leaders to support negotiations to finalize the  
36 Partnership; and  
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Resolution be transmitted to President of the United States,  
40 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of  
41 the United States House of Representatives, United States  
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1 Secretary of State, United States Secretary of Commerce,  
2 Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, and the Governor.

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OFFERED BY:

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