H.C.R. NO. 105

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURERS TO TEMPORARILY DISCOUNT PREMIUMS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES TO ASSIST THOSE BUSINESSES IN RECOVERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC.

WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic 1 2 continues to endanger the health, safety, welfare, and economic well-being of the people of Hawaii; and 3 4 WHEREAS, in this State, more than one in three workers has 5 6 filed an unemployment claim during the pandemic, incomes in 7 nearly half of all households have declined, and one in four households have been delinquent in paying for at least some of 8 9 their expenses; and 10 11 WHEREAS, there are approximately 125,000 small businesses in Hawaii, which collectively employ more than 250,000 12 individuals; and 13 14 15 WHEREAS, nationwide, eighty percent of small business 16 owners polled expressed that the COVID-19 pandemic had negatively impacted their business; and 17 18 19 WHEREAS, while the Paycheck Protection Program and other programs have assisted small businesses in retaining employees 20 21 and remaining in operation, many small businesses continue to struggle financially; and 22 23 24 WHEREAS, small businesses experiencing a reduction in business levels, including reduced transportation activities, 25 lower foot traffic, decreased sales, and reduced employee hours, 26 27 have reduced liability exposure levels, leading to a reduction in insurance claims; and 28 29

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WHEREAS, stay-at-home orders across the nation have caused 1 people to drive less, which has resulted in fewer motor vehicle 2 accidents, saving insurance companies billions of dollars in 3 insurance claims; now, therefore, 4 5 6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 7 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that property and casualty 8 9 insurers are requested to temporarily discount premiums for businesses employing ten or fewer employees to assist those 10 11 businesses in recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 12 pandemic; and 13 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that property and casualty insurers 15 are requested to keep the premiums discounted for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic or for one year, whichever is longer; 16 17 and 18 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Insurance 20 Commissioner who is requested to provide copies to all insurance 21 companies that transacted property and casualty insurance in 22 Hawaii during 2019. 23 24 25 26

OFFERED BY:



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