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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE TO RECOGNIZE AND ADDRESS  
THE AIR TRANSPORTATION CRISIS ON MOLOKAI AND LĀNA`I.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is an island state where residents rely  
2 primarily on air transportation services; and

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4           WHEREAS, Molokai and Lāna`i residents face a unique  
5 struggle with the high cost and inconsistency of air travel and  
6 the lack of sufficient access to critical medical care; and

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8           WHEREAS, prior to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic,  
9 Makani Kai Air, Ohana by Hawaiian Airlines, and Mokulele  
10 Airlines provided air transportation services to the islands of  
11 Molokai and Lāna`i; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, following the COVID-19 pandemic, Makani Kai Air  
14 and Ohana by Hawaiian Airlines both ceased operations, leaving  
15 only Mokulele Airlines to provide air transportation services to  
16 Molokai and Lāna`i; and

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18           WHEREAS, many Hawaii residents who live in rural and remote  
19 communities must regularly travel to urban areas of the State to  
20 access specialized healthcare as well as many routine  
21 treatments, including residents of Molokai and Lāna`i who are  
22 dependent upon air transportation to travel for nonemergency but  
23 critical medical care; and

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25           WHEREAS, generally, the provision of air transportation  
26 services has become increasingly expensive and unreliable, with  
27 frequent and unexpected flight reassignments and cancellations;  
28 and

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30           WHEREAS, this issue causes many residents seeking medical  
31 care to miss critical appointments, including chemotherapy  
32 treatments and surgeries that can take weeks or months to  
33 reschedule; and



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2 WHEREAS, this issue has also caused treatable non-emergency  
3 conditions to develop into conditions requiring critical  
4 emergency care; and  
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6 WHEREAS, federal regulations hinder the State's ability to  
7 manage air transportation and thus forestall any attempt to  
8 improve the situation for residents of Molokai and Lāna`i; and  
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10 WHEREAS, therefore, the lack of dependable air  
11 transportation for residents of Lāna`i and Molokai means that  
12 residents no longer have reliable access to critical healthcare  
13 services, causing the situation to now constitute a crisis; and  
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15 WHEREAS, improved air transportation services to Molokai  
16 and Lāna`i would ensure that affected residents have access to a  
17 broader range of off-island healthcare services and could help  
18 to attract highly skilled medical professionals; and  
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20 WHEREAS, improving air transportation services to Molokai  
21 and Lāna`i would also significantly reduce the stress and  
22 logistical challenges associated with traveling for necessary  
23 healthcare, business, and other personal appointments, meetings,  
24 and needs; and  
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26 WHEREAS, addressing the air transport crisis on Molokai and  
27 Lāna`i and ensuring the provision of reliable air transportation  
28 services for these communities would also help to ensure greater  
29 inclusivity and equity in the provision of healthcare services  
30 to all residents; now, therefore,  
31

32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
33 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
34 Session of 2024, that the United States and the State are urged  
35 to recognize and take action to address the ongoing air  
36 transport crisis on Molokai and Lāna`i; and  
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States;  
40 Majority Leader of the United States Senate; Speaker of the  
41 United States House of Representatives; United States Secretary  
42 of State; United States Secretary of Transportation; Chair of

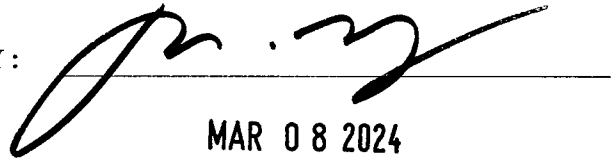


# H.R. NO. 136

1 the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
2 Transportation; Chair of the United States Senate Committee on  
3 Commerce, Science, and Transportation's Subcommittee on  
4 Aviation, Safety, and Operations; Chair of the United States  
5 House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and  
6 Infrastructure; Chair of the United States House of  
7 Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's  
8 Subcommittee on Aviation; Co-Chairs of the Congressional  
9 Bipartisan Rural Health Caucus; Administrator of the United  
10 States Federal Aviation Administration; members of Hawaii's  
11 Congressional delegation; Governor of Hawaii; and the Chief  
12 Executive Officer of Mokulele Airlines.

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OFFERED BY:



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