

MAR 08 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING CONGRESS TO TAKE IMMEDIATE AND DECISIVE ACTION TO SUPPORT
MIDDLE- AND LOWER-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN AMERICA.

1 WHEREAS, the United States faces an ongoing crisis of
2 inequality with middle- and lower-income households bearing the
3 brunt of economic hardship; and
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5 WHEREAS, access to affordable health care remains a
6 critical issue, with millions of Americans lacking adequate
7 coverage, resulting in preventable illnesses and deaths; and
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9 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic exacerbated
10 existing disparities, disproportionately impacting marginalized
11 communities and underscoring the importance of a robust public
12 health infrastructure and equitable access to health care
13 services; and
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15 WHEREAS, the nation continues to witness an alarming number
16 of traffic fatalities, shootings, suicides, and incidents of
17 domestic violence, highlighting the urgent need for
18 comprehensive solutions to address underlying social and mental
19 health issues; and
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21 WHEREAS, despite being one of the wealthiest nations in the
22 world, the United States ranks poorly in numerous health and
23 social indicators, reflecting systemic failures in addressing
24 the needs of its most vulnerable members of society; and
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26 WHEREAS, it is the duty of Congress to prioritize the well-
27 being of all citizens and enact legislation that promotes
28 fairness, justice, and opportunity for every individual; and
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30 WHEREAS, the United States is grappling with the staggering
31 costs of living, including skyrocketing housing prices,
32 exorbitant childcare expenses, and the ever-increasing burden of
33 student-loan debt, which disproportionately affects middle- and
34 lower-income families, hindering their ability to achieve
35 financial stability and social mobility; and
36



1 WHEREAS, the nation also faces an escalating housing crisis
2 characterized by a severe shortage of affordable housing units,
3 rising rents, low wages that are incongruent with the respective
4 estimates of the cost of living in cities throughout the
5 country, and rampant homelessness, leaving millions of Americans
6 precariously housed or without shelter altogether and further
7 exacerbating economic insecurity and perpetuating cycles of
8 poverty; and
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10 WHEREAS, the urgency of this situation demands swift and
11 concerted action from Congress to address the multifaceted
12 challenges facing the middle- and lower-income households in
13 America; and
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15 WHEREAS, the failure to act decisively will perpetuate the
16 decline in the infrastructure of the American public health
17 apparatus and deepen the divide between social classes; now,
18 therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,
22 that Congress is urged to take immediate and decisive action to
23 support middle- and lower-income households in America; and
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Congress is specifically urged
26 to:
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- 28 (1) Implement policies to ensure universal access to
29 affordable health care, including the expansion of
30 Medicaid and the establishment of a public option;
31
- 32 (2) Enact comprehensive gun control measures to reduce the
33 incidence of shootings and promote community safety;
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- 35 (3) Invest in mental health resources and support services
36 to address the root causes of suicide and domestic
37 violence;
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- 39 (4) Allocate sufficient funding for public health
40 initiatives and emergency preparedness to effectively
41 combat present and future pandemics; and
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1 (5) Prioritize infrastructure improvements and traffic
2 safety measures to reduce the number of preventable
3 traffic deaths; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States
7 and Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.
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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Lee', written over a horizontal line.