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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO OPPOSE THE PATENT REFORM ACT.

1           WHEREAS, the Patent Reform Act is poised to benefit large-  
2 scale technology companies at the expense of small independent  
3 inventors and companies whose previous patents have  
4 revolutionized the areas of the Internet, medicine, public  
5 safety, and national defense; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, the primary advocates of the alteration of United  
8 States patent law are large technology corporations, led by  
9 Microsoft, seeking to diminish competition by lobbying under the  
10 title "Coalition for Patent Fairness"; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, large and small manufacturers, technology  
13 companies, universities, independent inventors and patent  
14 examiners were excluded from the legislative process in the  
15 creation of these measures; and

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17           WHEREAS, current United States intellectual property law  
18 assures national security by making the United States military  
19 the most technologically advanced in the world; and

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21           WHEREAS, our nation's intellectual property laws are  
22 recognized as some of the strongest in the world, offering solid  
23 protections to American inventors and incentives to foreign  
24 inventors to register their patents in the United States; and

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26           WHEREAS, strong intellectual property laws are necessary  
27 during economic shifts, such as the current shift in which  
28 intangible assets (such as knowledge, information, and  
29 creativity) are rapidly overtaking traditional and tangible  
30 assets (such as land, labor, and capital) as the driving forces  
31 behind the American economy; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the 1952 Patent Act has already undergone numerous  
2 changes, including at least:

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- 4 (1) Thirty-five major patent decisions issued by the
- 5 United States Supreme Court;
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- 7 (2) Forty-six significant changes to patent regulations
- 8 made by the United States Patent and Trademark Office;
- 9 and
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- 11 (3) Forty-two amendments made by Congress since 1952; and
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13 WHEREAS, patent lawsuits as a percentage of patents granted  
14 have remained at only 1.5 per cent over the last fifteen years,  
15 and the number of patent lawsuits commenced has actually dropped  
16 from 3,075 in 2004 to 2,830 in 2006, of which approximately only  
17 three per cent went to trial; and

18 WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of small entities,  
19 individuals, and the American economy not to diminish current  
20 patent law protections; now, therefore,

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22  
23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
25 Session of 2008, that this body urges Hawaii's congressional  
26 delegation to oppose the Patent Reform Act; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and to the members of  
30 Hawaii's congressional delegation.

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33 OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Karen Awana

Cindy Brown

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