
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESCIND THE
POLICY REQUIRING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SIGN A
PLEDGE OPPOSING THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF PROSTITUTION AS A
CONDITION FOR RECEIVING HIV/AIDS PREVENTION FUNDS.

1 WHEREAS, the federal government actively funds
2 international efforts to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS through the
3 President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief program; and
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5 WHEREAS, under a policy of the United States set by the
6 prior presidential administration, non-governmental
7 organizations that accept money from the President's Emergency
8 Plan for AIDS Relief program to fight HIV/AIDS are required by
9 contract to have a specific policy opposing prostitution; and
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11 WHEREAS, many AIDS organizations in third world countries
12 designated to receive these moneys are organized and led by
13 former and current sex workers, including prostitutes; and
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15 WHEREAS, many international organizations of sex workers
16 have been on the forefront of efforts to combat the spread of
17 AIDS and human trafficking; and
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19 WHEREAS, many of the best international organizations have
20 had to forgo funding from the United States Agency for
21 International Development, rather than comply with the political
22 agenda of the prior presidential administration; and
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24 WHEREAS, at least one non-governmental organization has
25 been slandered in United States news reports as engaging in
26 human trafficking because the organization included sex workers
27 in its organizational structure; and
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1 WHEREAS, sex workers and their advocates have been excluded
2 from participating in the discussion of United States policies
3 that affect them; and
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5 WHEREAS, some United States policies on this subject have
6 harmed the people they claim to aid; now, therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
10 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the President of the United
11 States is requested to reverse the policy of the prior
12 presidential administration that required non-governmental
13 organizations to sign a pledge opposing the decriminalization of
14 prostitution; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United
17 States is urged to not impose a political litmus test or gag
18 rule on non-governmental organizations regarding the opposition
19 to legal prostitution, decriminalized prostitution, or to the
20 sex workers' rights movement; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
24 United States and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

Celina K. May
(By Request)

MAR 17 2009

