WHEREAS, Hawaii's breathtaking natural beauty, evident on very distinct and unique islands throughout the archipelago, make it an ideal destination for millions of visitors every year; and

WHEREAS, one of Hawaii's most unique features lies not in its natural beauty but rather in the beauty and warmth of its people exhibited by the Aloha Spirit; and

WHEREAS, the beauty of the Hawaiian islands and her people not only attract visitors from the continental United States but from all over the globe; and

WHEREAS, because of its location and strong ethnic and cultural ties to Japan, with a large portion of Hawaii's local population being of Japanese ancestry, Hawaii has become the preferred travel and most visited overseas destination for residents of Japan; and

WHEREAS, Japanese visitors are vital to the prosperity of Hawaii's number one industry, tourism, and contribute nearly $2 billion dollars annually to Hawaii's economy; and

WHEREAS, Hawaiian Airlines has been a major contributor to the tourism industry for decades and continues that tradition today, transporting over one million visitors to the state each year; and

WHEREAS, Hawaiian Airlines is currently applying to the United States Department of Transportation to provide air carrier service to Haneda Airport in Tokyo, Japan; and
WHEREAS, as Hawaiian Airlines for the past 80 years has
done much to promote Hawaii as a premier travel destination, the
entrance of Hawaiian Airlines into the Japanese market, in
addition to its current service to Australia and the
Philippines, will bolster Hawaii's position as a key player in
the Asia-Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, not only will awarding the landing rights to
Haneda Airport to Hawaiian Airlines produce great benefits for
consumers by providing greater flight options and competition
for travel to and from Japan, it would also be beneficial to
Hawaii's economy by increasing convenience and access to Hawaii
for millions of Japanese travelers living near Tokyo; and

WHEREAS, Hawaiian Airlines' entrance into the Japanese
market would not only be greatly beneficial to Hawaii but also
to the ten U.S. cities Hawaiian serves in the Western United
States; and

WHEREAS, the success of Hawaiian Airlines in expanding
their market also plays a pivotal role in the growth and
prosperity experienced by the State of Hawaii and its people;
now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
of 2010, that this body supports the application of Hawaiian
Airlines to the United States Department of Transportation for
airline service to Haneda Airport in Tokyo, Japan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
Transportation is urged to approve the application of Hawaiian
Airlines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of
Transportation, United States Department of Transportation, and
the President of Hawaiian Airlines.
OFFERED BY:

MAR 03 2010