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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE STATE OF HAWAII FOR THE PROVISION OF VARIOUS STATE SERVICES TO MIGRANTS FROM THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS; DEEM MIGRANTS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FEDERALLY FUNDED FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE; AND PROVIDE DIALYSIS AND CHEMOTHERAPY CENTERS IN MICRONESIA AND ALL AREAS WITHIN THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION NATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, migrants from the Federated States of Micronesia,  
2 the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau  
3 are allowed to enter the State of Hawaii under the Compact of  
4 Free Association; and

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6 WHEREAS, the cost to the State to provide various state  
7 services to the Compact of Free Association migrants continues  
8 to increase each year; and

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10 WHEREAS, for example, in 2006, the State spent \$91,443,066  
11 to provide services for these migrants and in 2007, the State  
12 spent an estimated \$101,163,113 in state funds; and

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14 WHEREAS, many state agencies provide a broad range of  
15 health and social services to Compact of Free Association  
16 migrants who have moved to Hawaii; and

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18 WHEREAS, for example, in 2007, various state agencies spent  
19 a total of \$101,163,113 as follows to provide services to the  
20 Compact of Free Association migrants in Hawaii:

- 21  
22 (1) Department of Human Services -- \$37,116,012 to provide  
23 services including, among other things, financial  
24 assistance, medical assistance, and emergency housing  
25 and outreach for homeless persons;  
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- 1 (2) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office  
2 of Community Services -- \$717,360 to provide social  
3 services, including employment readiness training and  
4 cultural awareness education, to 503 Compact of Free  
5 Association migrants;  
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- 7 (3) Department of Health -- \$6,829,020 to provide a  
8 variety of community-based and direct health care and  
9 health-related education, most notably related to  
10 tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and other communicable  
11 diseases, which are over-represented within the  
12 populations making up the Compact of Free Association;  
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- 14 (4) Department of Defense -- \$21,130 to provide  
15 educational and intervention services directed at  
16 children and young adults who are considered at risk  
17 for becoming juvenile offenders, who come from needy  
18 families, or who receive services from the State's  
19 Department of Human Services;  
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- 21 (5) Department of Education -- \$53,586,418 to educate  
22 students from the Compact of Free Association nations  
23 who typically require specialized language services  
24 that utilize extra resources of the Department of  
25 Education;  
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- 27 (6) The University of Hawaii -- \$1,958,627 in foregone  
28 revenue due to the practice of allowing all students  
29 from the Compact of Free Association nations to pay  
30 the lower state resident tuition, regardless of the  
31 date of their initial residence in Hawaii  
32 (discontinued beginning with the 2008 fall semester  
33 due to budget restrictions);  
34
- 35 (7) Department of Public Safety -- \$839,500 for costs of  
36 1,425 arrests on 2,509 charges resulting in 613  
37 convictions and 224 incarcerations of Compact of Free  
38 Association migrants. Costs are exacerbated by a  
39 shortage of qualified and reliable interpreters that  
40 can result in delayed hearings and additional costs;  
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- 42 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and  
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1 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for  
2 interpretation services necessary to provide legal  
3 defense; and  
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5 WHEREAS, migrants from the Compact of Free Association  
6 nations are proportionally over-represented in the population of  
7 persons who receive various state social services in Hawaii; and  
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9 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity  
10 Reconciliation Act of 1996 prevents needy persons from the  
11 Compact of Free Association nations from receiving federally  
12 funded financial and medical assistance; and  
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14 WHEREAS, when that law went into effect in 1997, Hawaii  
15 continued to provide equivalent services for the Compact of Free  
16 Association migrants using state funds; and  
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18 WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work  
19 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 is amended to allow the  
20 Compact of Free Association migrants to receive federally funded  
21 financial and medical assistance, the State would not have to  
22 expend state funds to provide the equivalent services, thus  
23 allowing more of the State's general funds to be used for  
24 services and programs for which federal funding is not  
25 available; and  
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27 WHEREAS, there is a need for dialysis and chemotherapy  
28 centers in Micronesia and all areas within the Compact of Free  
29 Association nations; and  
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31 WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of  
32 additional federal support for the State to continue providing  
33 state services arising from the unique federally created  
34 relationship between the United States and Compact of Free  
35 Association nations; now, therefore,  
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37 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
38 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
39 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States  
40 Department of the Interior and the Congress of the United States  
41 are strongly urged to provide additional federal aid to the  
42 State of Hawaii for the provision of various state services to  
43 migrants from the Compact of Free Association nations; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
2 the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, is strongly urged to  
3 review the funding of the Compact Impact Assistance grant and to  
4 make every effort to increase the amount of direct assistance  
5 available to Hawaii to offset costs incurred by the State; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress is  
8 strongly urged to support federal legislation to amend the  
9 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act  
10 of 1996 to render Compact of Free Association migrants eligible  
11 to receive federally funded financial and medical assistance;  
12 and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
15 the Interior is strongly urged to provide dialysis and  
16 chemotherapy centers in Micronesia and all areas within the  
17 Compact of Free Association nations; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
20 the Interior is strongly urged to identify and secure other  
21 forms of direct assistance to the State and the Compact of Free  
22 Association population in the United States, including grants  
23 from other sources and federal programs; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
27 United States, United States Secretary of the Interior,  
28 Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, Majority Leader of  
29 the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of  
30 Representatives, members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation,  
31 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Chairperson of the Board  
32 of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Adjutant General, and  
33 Directors of Human Services, Labor and Industrial Relations,  
34 Health, and Public Safety, Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme  
35 Court, and Public Defender.  
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