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## SENATE 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;  
26  
27 (2) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office  
28 of Community Services -- \$717,360 to provide social  
29 services, including employment readiness training and



1 cultural awareness education, to 503 Compact of Free  
2 Association migrants;

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4 (3) Department of Health -- \$6,829,020 to provide a  
5 variety of community-based and direct health care and  
6 health-related education, most notably related to  
7 tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and other communicable  
8 diseases, which are over-represented within the  
9 populations making up the Compact of Free Association;

10  
11 (4) Department of Defense -- \$21,130 to provide  
12 educational and intervention services directed at  
13 children and young adults who are considered at risk  
14 for becoming juvenile offenders, who come from needy  
15 families, or who receive services from the State's  
16 Department of Human Services;

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18 (5) Department of Education -- \$53,586,418 to educate  
19 students from the Compact of Free Association nations  
20 who typically require specialized language services  
21 that utilize extra resources of the Department of  
22 Education;

23  
24 (6) The University of Hawaii -- \$1,958,627 in foregone  
25 revenue due to the practice of allowing all students  
26 from the Compact of Free Association nations to pay  
27 the lower state resident tuition, regardless of the  
28 date of their initial residence in Hawaii  
29 (discontinued beginning with the 2008 fall semester  
30 due to budget restrictions);

31  
32 (7) Department of Public Safety -- \$839,500 for costs of  
33 1,425 arrests on 2,509 charges resulting in 613  
34 convictions and 224 incarcerations of Compact of Free  
35 Association migrants. Costs are exacerbated by a  
36 shortage of qualified and reliable interpreters that  
37 can result in delayed hearings and additional costs;

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39 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and

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41 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for  
42 interpretation services necessary to provide legal  
43 defense; and  
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1 WHEREAS, migrants from the Compact of Free Association  
2 nations are proportionally over-represented in the population of  
3 persons who receive various state social services in Hawaii; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity  
6 Reconciliation Act of 1996 prevents needy persons from the  
7 Compact of Free Association nations from receiving federally  
8 funded financial and medical assistance; and  
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10 WHEREAS, when that law went into effect in 1997, Hawaii  
11 continued to provide equivalent services for the Compact of Free  
12 Association migrants using state funds; and  
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14 WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work  
15 Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 is amended to allow the  
16 Compact of Free Association migrants to receive federally funded  
17 financial and medical assistance, the State would not have to  
18 expend state funds to provide the equivalent services, thus  
19 allowing more of the State's general funds to be used for  
20 services and programs for which federal funding is not  
21 available; and  
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23 WHEREAS, there is a need for dialysis and chemotherapy  
24 centers in Micronesia and all areas within the Compact of Free  
25 Association nations; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the federal government must address the issue of  
28 additional federal support for the State to continue providing  
29 state services arising from the unique federally created  
30 relationship between the United States and Compact of Free  
31 Association nations; now, therefore,  
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,  
35 that the United States Department of the Interior and the  
36 Congress of the United States are strongly urged to provide  
37 additional federal aid to the State of Hawaii for the provision  
38 of various state services to migrants from the Compact of Free  
39 Association nations; and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
42 the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, is strongly urged to  
43 review the funding of the Compact Impact Assistance grant and to



1 make every effort to increase the amount of direct assistance  
2 available to Hawaii to offset costs incurred by the State; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress is  
5 strongly urged to support federal legislation to amend the  
6 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act  
7 of 1996 to render Compact of Free Association migrants eligible  
8 to receive federally funded financial and medical assistance;  
9 and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
12 the Interior is strongly urged to provide dialysis and  
13 chemotherapy centers in Micronesia and all areas within the  
14 Compact of Free Association nations; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
17 the Interior is strongly urged to identify and secure other  
18 forms of direct assistance to the State and the Compact of Free  
19 Association population in the United States, including grants  
20 from other sources and federal programs; and  
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
24 United States Secretary of the Interior, Director of the Office  
25 of Insular Affairs, Majority Leader of the United States Senate,  
26 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, members  
27 of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, Chairperson of the Board  
28 of Education, Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the  
29 University of Hawaii, Adjutant General, and Directors of Human  
30 Services, Labor and Industrial Relations, Health, and Public  
31 Safety, Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and Public  
32 Defender.  
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