
HOUSE 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

5
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

9
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

13
14 WHEREAS, many state agencies provide a broad range of
15 health and social services to migrants from the Compact of Free
16 Association who have moved to Hawaii; and

17
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 -- \$37,116,912, although
23 the amount increased to \$52,129,664 in 2010, to
24 provide services including, among other things,
25 financial assistance, medical assistance, and
26 emergency housing and outreach for homeless persons;



- 1
- 2 (2) Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office
- 3 of Community Services -- \$717,360 to provide social
- 4 services, including employment readiness training and
- 5 cultural awareness education, to 503 Compact of Free
- 6 Association migrants;
- 7
- 8 (3) Department of Health -- \$6,829,020 to provide a
- 9 variety of community-based and direct health care and
- 10 health-related education, most notably related to
- 11 tuberculosis, Hansen's disease, and other communicable
- 12 diseases, which are over-represented within the
- 13 populations making up the Compact of Free Association;
- 14
- 15 (4) Department of Defense -- \$21,130 to provide
- 16 educational and intervention services directed at
- 17 children and young adults who are considered at risk
- 18 for becoming juvenile offenders, who come from needy
- 19 families, or who receive services from the State's
- 20 Department of Human Services;
- 21
- 22 (5) Department of Education -- \$53,586,418 to educate
- 23 students from the Compact of Free Association nations
- 24 who typically require specialized language services
- 25 that utilize extra resources of the Department of
- 26 Education;
- 27
- 28 (6) The University of Hawaii -- \$1,958,627 in foregone
- 29 revenue due to the practice of allowing all students
- 30 from the Compact of Free Association nations to pay
- 31 the lower state resident tuition, regardless of the
- 32 date of their initial residence in Hawaii
- 33 (discontinued beginning with the 2008 fall semester
- 34 due to budget restrictions);
- 35
- 36 (7) Department of Public Safety -- \$839,500 for costs of
- 37 1,425 arrests on 2,509 charges resulting in 613
- 38 convictions and 224 incarcerations of Compact of Free
- 39 Association migrants. Costs are exacerbated by a
- 40 shortage of qualified and reliable interpreters that
- 41 can result in delayed hearings and additional cost;
- 42
- 43 (8) Judiciary -- \$82,796 for interpreter services; and
- 44



1 (9) Office of the Public Defender -- \$12,250 for
2 interpretation services necessary to provide legal
3 defense; and
4

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
8

9 WHEREAS, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunities
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
13

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
17

18 WHEREAS, if the Personal Responsibility and Work
19 Opportunities 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
26

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
30

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 the United States has with the Compact of Free
35 Association nations; now, therefore,
36

37 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
38 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
39 of 2011, the Senate 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
44



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
6

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
13

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
18

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
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
27 United States, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the
28 Director of the Office of Insular Affairs, the Majority Leader
29 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
30 House of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional
31 delegation, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the
32 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
33 the Adjutant General, and the Directors of Human Services, Labor
34 and Industrial Relations, Health, and Public Safety, the Chief
35 Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Public Defender.
36
37
38

