
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE VISA IMPROVEMENTS TO STIMULATE INTERNATIONAL
TOURISM TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACT.

1 WHEREAS, tourism is a vital part of Hawaii's economy; and

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3 WHEREAS, the Pacific region is a vast market for new
4 visitors; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 2010 more than fifty-four million Chinese
7 citizens traveled abroad; and

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9 WHEREAS, in that same year, only eight hundred thousand
10 Chinese visitors traveled to the United States and of those,
11 only sixty-two thousand Chinese visitors traveled to Hawaii; and

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13 WHEREAS, reforming the travelers visa process is a cost-
14 effective way to make it easier for more international business
15 travelers and tourists to visit Hawaii and the United States;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, the Visa Improvements to Stimulate International
19 Tourism to the United States of America Act (VISIT USA Act)
20 would establish a five year multiple entry visa for Chinese
21 visitors, extend the time Canadian retirees can stay in the
22 United States, and make other amendments in the visa process
23 that would increase tourism in the United States; and

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25 WHEREAS, the average visitor from China staying in Hawaii
26 spends approximately \$350 a day and the growth in visitors
27 stimulated by the VISIT USA Act could yield an estimated
28 \$573,000,000 for the State; and

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30 WHEREAS, the proposed improvements in the VISIT USA Act
31 would help make visiting Hawaii more convenient for many
32 international visitors, thus providing a significant boost to



1 Hawaii's economy through increased commerce and job growth; now,
2 therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature supports
7 the Visa Improvements to Stimulate International Tourism to the
8 United States of America Act; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of
12 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House
13 of Representatives, the members of Hawaii's congressional
14 delegation, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of
15 the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the
16 Governor.

