
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ENHANCED TRADE AND INVESTMENT
OPPORTUNITIES AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE TRANS-PACIFIC
PARTNERSHIP AND ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR FINALIZATION OF THE
PARTNERSHIP.

1 WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership is a proposed free
2 trade agreement among the United States and various countries
3 having the purpose of stimulating the economies of member
4 nations; and

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6 WHEREAS, according to "The Trans-Pacific Partnership
7 Negotiations and Issues for Congress", a Congressional Research
8 Service Report dated January 24, 2013:

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10 "The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a proposed
11 regional free trade agreement (FTA) being negotiated
12 among the United States, Australia, Brunei, Canada,
13 Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore,
14 and Vietnam. U.S. negotiators and others describe and
15 envision the TPP as a "comprehensive and high-
16 standard" FTA, presumably because they hope it will
17 liberalize trade in nearly all goods and services and
18 include commitments beyond those currently established
19 in the World Trade Organization (WTO). The broad
20 outline of an agreement was announced on the sidelines
21 of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
22 ministerial in November 2011 in Honolulu, HI. If
23 concluded as envisioned, the TPP potentially could
24 eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and
25 investment among the parties and could serve as a
26 template for a future trade pact among APEC members
27 and potentially other countries. Congress has a direct
28 interest in the negotiations, both through influencing
29 U.S. negotiating positions with the executive branch,
30 and by passing legislation to implement any resulting
31 agreement. . . .



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2 The 11 countries that make up the TPP negotiating
3 partners include advanced industrialized, middle
4 income, and developing economies. While new market
5 access opportunities exist among the participants with
6 whom the United States presently does not have FTAs,
7 the greater value of the agreement to the United
8 States may be setting a trade policy template covering
9 issues it deems important and which can be adopted
10 throughout the Asia-Pacific region, and possibly
11 beyond"; and

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13 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is located in the middle of the Pacific
14 Ocean between the continents of Asia, Australia, and North and
15 South America, whose countries bordering the Pacific are part of
16 the Pacific Rim nations; and

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18 WHEREAS, the economy, environment, and social fabric of
19 Hawai'i are impacted by the four continents, the Pacific Rim
20 nations, and the many island nations of the Pacific; and

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22 WHEREAS, Hawai'i successfully hosted the Asia-Pacific
23 Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting held in Honolulu,
24 Hawai'i, in November 2011, demonstrating that Hawai'i is a
25 capable partner in major international engagements; and

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27 WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement will
28 create jobs and promote job retention in the United States and
29 consequently in Hawai'i is by increasing exports in the Pacific
30 Rim region, which represent more than forty percent of global
31 trade; now, therefore,

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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the
35 House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports the
36 enhanced trade and investment opportunities among member
37 countries of the Trans-Pacific Partnership and encourages
38 Hawai'i's Congressional delegation and other leaders to support
39 negotiations to finalize the Partnership; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
43 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States



1 Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
2 United States Secretary of State, United States Secretary of
3 Commerce, Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, and the Governor.
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