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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO STRENGTHEN ITS  
EFFORTS TO FACILITATE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT TO THE  
ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN NAGORNO-KARABAKH CONFLICT.

1           WHEREAS, the Republic of Azerbaijan is a strategic partner  
2 of the United States in a strategically important South Caucasus  
3 region bordering Iran, Russia, and Central Asia; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the United States and Azerbaijan established  
6 diplomatic relations on February 28, 1992; and  
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8           WHEREAS, the United States supports the independence,  
9 sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan; and  
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11           WHEREAS, over the past twenty years, the United States and  
12 Azerbaijan expanded their partnership and developed a  
13 cooperative relationship on issues dealing with energy security,  
14 international anti-terrorism, drug and human trafficking, and  
15 the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and  
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17           WHEREAS, United States Secretary of State John Kerry stated  
18 on June 3, 2013, that Azerbaijan has been an important partner  
19 in Afghanistan and the International Security Assistance Force,  
20 and that Azerbaijan holds great importance to distribution  
21 routes, gas lines, and other issues that are critical to the  
22 United States; and  
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24           WHEREAS, over the past decade, Azerbaijan has successfully  
25 rebuilt its economy; gained the distinction of having one of the  
26 most rapidly developing economies globally; tripled its gross  
27 domestic product; accounted for 80 percent of the gross domestic  
28 product of the South Caucasus region; and worked to become the  
29 biggest United States trade partner in the South Caucasus  
30 region; and



1           WHEREAS, Azerbaijan initiated a number of strategically  
2 important trans-regional energy and transportation projects such  
3 as the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline, Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum  
4 gas pipeline, and Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway that contribute to  
5 the prosperity of Azerbaijan and the United States' regional  
6 allies such as Turkey and Georgia; and  
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8           WHEREAS, despite these positive developments, conflicts in  
9 the South Caucasus region, such as the Armenia-Azerbaijan  
10 Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, continue to threaten regional peace  
11 and stability and impede further cooperation in the South  
12 Caucasus region; and  
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14           WHEREAS, on November 2, 2008, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and the  
15 Russian Federation adopted a Joint Declaration in which they  
16 stated that the political settlement of the conflict on the  
17 basis of international law will create favorable conditions for  
18 economic development and comprehensive cooperation in the  
19 region; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the United States, France, and the Russian  
22 Federation are co-chairs of the Organization for Security and  
23 Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group, which is tasked to facilitate  
24 peaceful negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan and to  
25 assist in a political settlement that is based on the principles  
26 and norms of international law and the decisions and documents  
27 adopted by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in  
28 Europe and the applicable United Nations Security Council  
29 resolutions; and  
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31           WHEREAS, United States President Barack Obama on August 5,  
32 2013, appointed United States Ambassador James Warlick as the  
33 next United States co-chair of the Organization for Security and  
34 Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group; and  
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36           WHEREAS, the international community, including the  
37 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group  
38 co-chair countries, stated that they support the territorial  
39 integrity of Azerbaijan and do not recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as  
40 an independent entity; and



1 WHEREAS, the United Nations Security Council in its  
2 resolutions 822, 853, 874, and 884 reaffirmed support for the  
3 sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and demanded  
4 the immediate, complete, and unconditional withdrawal of all  
5 Armenian forces from all the occupied territories of the  
6 Republic of Azerbaijan; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, the international community, including the North  
9 Atlantic Treaty Organization, the United Nations, the  
10 Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Non-Aligned  
11 Movement, reaffirmed support for the sovereignty and territorial  
12 integrity of Azerbaijan and recognized that the conflict should  
13 be resolved on the basis of the sovereignty and territorial  
14 integrity of Azerbaijan within its internationally-recognized  
15 borders; now, therefore,

16  
17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
18 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
19 Session of 2014, that this body supports a strategic partnership  
20 between the United States and the Republic of Azerbaijan, and  
21 that the United States administration is urged to strengthen its  
22 efforts to facilitate a political settlement of the Armenia-  
23 Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict; and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
26 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
27 Secretary of State of the United States, United States  
28 Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, President Pro Tempore  
29 of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House  
30 of Representatives, and Hawaii's Congressional delegation.

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33 OFFERED BY:

Rick T. Cavanaugh  
J. [Signature]

JAN 27 2014

