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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION DETERRING THE TRANSPORTATION OF HOMELESS PERSONS TO HAWAII.

WHEREAS, there are unique factors surrounding the homelessness issue given that Hawaii is an island state; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii has experienced an increase in its homeless population over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, current fiscal difficulties likely foreshadow a continued increase in the homeless population as families face job losses and housing foreclosures; and

WHEREAS, a bourgeoning homeless population increases the pressure on already-strained State resources, limiting the government's ability to adequately provide for those residents most in need; and

WHEREAS, it is important to consider long-term solutions to providing services for those who find themselves and their families without shelter; and

WHEREAS, it is every community's responsibility to ensure the development of an adequate and sustainable housing and social services infrastructure to support its homeless population; and

WHEREAS, homeless persons are more likely to successfully transition to permanent shelter when able to access support services near their friends and relatives; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that other jurisdictions have chosen to purge their homeless population by transporting them to Hawaii; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the Senate concurring, that Hawaii's Congressional delegation is urged to introduce legislation to deter other jurisdictions from transporting homeless persons to Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and each member of Hawaii congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

HCR HMS 2009-2951