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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SAN FRANCISCO MEXICAN CONSULATE TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEXICAN CONSULATE IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, Hawaii does not have a permanent Mexican consulate and Mexican nationals living in Hawaii fall under the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of Mexico in San Francisco, California; and

WHEREAS, the population of Mexican nationals in Hawaii has increased and the need for consular support has grown; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Census data and the Pew Hispanic Center, the total population of Latinos in Hawaii is approximately 151,000 of which approximately 65,000 are Mexican; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii benefits in the areas of business, agriculture, tourism, and culture from the presence of the Mexican community, which began in 1830; and

WHEREAS, Mexican nationals living in Hawaii suffer a lack of accessibility to the San Francisco consulate due to the insular nature of the State of Hawaii and its distance from the United States mainland; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco consulate's visits and contact with Mexican nationals living in Hawaii is limited due to Hawaii's distance from the United States mainland and funds available for travel; and

WHEREAS, the lack of accessibility to the Mexican Consulate in San Francisco results in unmet needs of Mexican nationals in Hawaii, such as the expiration of, and inability to obtain, required documents and difficulty addressing abusive treatment and rights violations; and WHEREAS, the government of the United Mexican States has 73 embassies around the world and 51 consulates in the United States; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States, is requested to consider establishing a permanent Mexican Consulate in the State of Hawaii to improve consular presence and address the needs of Mexican nationals living in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United Mexican States; Secretary of Foreign Affairs, United Mexican States; the Consulate General of Mexico, San Francisco; the Honorary Consul of Mexico in Hawaii; members of Hawaii's congressional delegation; and the Governor.