MAR 1 6 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HOSPITAL IN THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, OR THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.

WHEREAS, the residents of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau frequently need to leave their homes and travel to the United States, most frequently Hawaii or Guam, in order to receive critical medical care; and

WHEREAS, the Compact of Free Association enables citizens of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau to trayel to Hawaii and Guam in search of medical services; and

WHEREAS, travel to the United States often presents a significant financial hardship for residents of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau, which must be balanced against the need for medical care; and

WHEREAS, the availability of qualified medical facilities within Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau would alleviate the need for their residents to travel abroad to obtain medical care; and

WHÉREAS, the construction of a hospital in Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau would not only provide critical medical services for residents in the region but also stimulate the local economy by creating jobs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Federal Government is hereby requested to provide funding for the construction of a hospital within the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, or Palau in order to meet the medical needs of the people residing in the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Congressional

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Delegation for Hawaii, United States Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, United States Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and United States Ambassador to the Republic of Palau.

OFFERED BY:

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