HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 44

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO REAUTHORIZE FEDERALLY PROVIDED TERRORISM REINSURANCE AND TO AUTHORIZE FEDERALLY PROVIDED NATURAL DISASTER REINSURANCE FOR INSURERS TO MAINTAIN STABILITY IN THE INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE MARKETS IN THE AFTERMATH OF A TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES OR A NATURAL DISASTER IN THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, insurance helps protect the United States economy from the adverse effects of the risks inherent in economic growth and development, while also providing the resources necessary to rebuild physical and economic infrastructure, offer indemnification for business disruption, and provide coverage for medical and liability costs from injuries and loss of life in the event of catastrophic losses to persons or property; and

9 WHEREAS, the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001,
10 produced insured losses larger than any natural or man-made
11 event in history, with claims paid by insurers to their
12 policyholders eventually totaling approximately \$32,500,000,000,
13 making the attack the second most costly insurance event in
14 United States history; and

16 WHEREAS, the sheer enormity of the loss, combined with the 17 possibility of future attacks, produced financial shockwaves 18 that shook insurance markets and caused insurers and reinsurers 19 to exclude coverage arising from acts of terrorism from 20 virtually all commercial property and liability policies; and 21

22 WHEREAS, the lack of terrorism risk insurance contributed 23 to a paralysis in the economy, especially in construction, 24 tourism, business travel, and real estate finance; and 25

26WHEREAS, the United States Congress originally passed the27Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-297 (TRIA), in



8

15

H.R. NO. 40

which the federal government agreed to provide terrorism 1 2 reinsurance to insurers; this arrangement was reauthorized pursuant to the Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005, 3 Pub. L. 109-144, and the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program 4 5 Reauthorization Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110-160 (TRIPRA); and 6 7 WHEREAS, under TRIPRA, the federal government provides 8 reinsurance after industry-wide losses attributable to annual 9 certified terrorism events exceeding \$100,000,000 in claims; and 10 WHEREAS, coverage under TRIPRA is provided to individual 11 insurers after the insurer has incurred losses related to 12 terrorism equal to twenty per cent of the insurer's previous 13 year earned premium for property-casualty lines; and 14 15 WHEREAS, after an individual insurer has reached the 16 threshold, the insurer pays fifteen per cent of residual losses 17 and the federal government pays the remaining eighty-five per 18 cent; and 19 20 WHEREAS, the terrorism risk insurance program has an annual 21 cap of \$100,000,000,000 of aggregate insured losses, beyond 22 23 which the federal program does not provide coverage; and 24 WHEREAS, TRIPRA requires the federal government to recoup 25 one hundred per cent of the benefits provided under the program 26 by policy holder surcharges to the extent the aggregate insured 27 losses are less than \$27,500,000,000 and enables the government 28 29 to recoup expenditures beyond the mandatory recoupment amount; and 30 31 WHEREAS, without question, TRIA and its successors are the 32 principal reason for the continued stability in the insurance 33 and reinsurance market for terrorism insurance to the benefit of 34 our overall economy; and 35 36 WHEREAS, the presence of a robust private-public 37 partnership has provided stability and predictability and has 38 39 allowed insurers to actively participate in the market in a meaningful way; and 40 41



Page 3

5

11

19

28

34

39

H.R. NO. 40

WHEREAS, without a program such as TRIPRA, many of our
 citizens who need terrorism coverage to operate their business
 would be unable to get insurance or unable to afford the limited
 coverage that would be available; and

6 WHEREAS, without federally provided reinsurance, property 7 and casualty insurers will face less availability of terrorism 8 reinsurance and will therefore be severely restricted in their 9 ability to provide sufficient coverage for acts of terrorism to 10 support our economy; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, despite the hard work and dedication of this nation's counterterrorism agencies and the bravery of the men and women in uniform who fought and continue to fight battles abroad to keep us safe at home, the threat from terrorist attacks in the United States is both real and substantial and will remain as such for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, because a natural disaster that strikes a military 20 base and its surrounding commercial and residential 21 infrastructure would have the same impact as would a terrorist 22 23 attack upon that military base and its surrounding infrastructure, reinsurance coverage against damages caused by a 24 natural disaster would be a desirable extension of the benefits 25 26 of reinsurance coverage under the terrorism risk insurance program; now, therefore, 27

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 30 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 31 Session of 2014, that is body urges the United States Congress 32 and the President of the United States to reauthorize the 33 terrorism risk insurance program; and

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress and 36 the President of the United States is further urged to expand 37 the reauthorized terrorism risk insurance program to include 38 natural disaster coverage; and

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 41 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,



Page 4

5 6

1 the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the 2 Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and the members of 3 Hawaii's congressional delegation. 4

OFFERED BY:

FEB 2 5 2014

