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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FORGIVE THE STATE'S  
OUTSTANDING FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LOAN BALANCE FOR  
FEDERAL LOANS BORROWED TO CONTINUE TO PAY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT  
BENEFITS.

1           WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and massive  
2 unemployment across the country, states have depleted their  
3 unemployment benefit trust funds, and some have borrowed money  
4 through federal loans from the United States Treasury to  
5 continue paying unemployment benefits; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, according to data from the United States Treasury,  
8 Hawaii has the eighth largest unemployment benefit payout debt  
9 owed to the federal government of any state, totaling  
10 \$700,700,000 as of January 2020; and

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12           WHEREAS, currently states have approximately two years to  
13 repay the federal loans for continued unemployment benefit  
14 payouts; and

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16           WHEREAS, after two years, the federal portion of  
17 unemployment taxes will automatically increase each year for  
18 businesses in the State until the debt is repaid; and

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20           WHEREAS, to date, there is no national plan in place to  
21 extend the interest-free treatment, timeline, or forgive these  
22 loans; and

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24           WHEREAS, as of December 2020, the State has the highest  
25 rate of unemployment in the country at 9.3 percent; and

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27           WHEREAS, the State may need to further borrow federal money  
28 to pay for unemployment benefits; now, therefore,



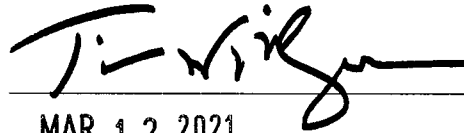
# H.C.R. NO. 160

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress  
4 is urged to:

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- 6 (1) Forgive the State's outstanding federal unemployment  
7 insurance loan balance for federal loans borrowed to  
8 continue to pay for unemployment benefits; and  
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- 10 (2) Not penalize states for any debts acquired due to  
11 emergency COVID-19 related funding; and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President Pro  
15 Tempore of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United  
16 States House of Representatives, and all members of the Hawaii  
17 Congressional Delegation.  
18  
19  
20

OFFERED BY:



MAR 12 2021

