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## HOUSE 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  
11

12           WHEREAS, currently states have approximately two years to  
13 repay the federal loans for continued unemployment benefit  
14 payouts; and  
15

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  
23

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.R. NO. 136

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, that the United States Congress is urged to:

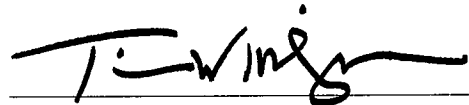
4  
5 (1) Forgive the State's outstanding federal unemployment  
6 insurance loan balance for federal loans borrowed to  
7 continue to pay for unemployment benefits; and

8  
9 (2) Not penalize states for any debts acquired due to  
10 emergency COVID-19 related funding; and

11  
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
13 Resolution be transmitted to the President Pro Tempore of the  
14 United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of  
15 Representatives, and all members of the Hawaii Congressional  
16 Delegation.

17  
18  
19

OFFERED BY:



MAR 12 2021

