
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, TO RECONSIDER THE PROPOSED
RULE AMENDMENT USCBP-2007-0098, HAWAII COASTWISE CRUISES.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has benefitted greatly from
2 the international cruise lines that call on our shores and from
3 the U.S. cruise ships operating within the islands; and
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5 WHEREAS, 100,012 visitors entered Hawaii by cruise ships
6 and another 315,955 visitors came by air to board cruise ships
7 touring the islands in 2006, resulting in a 31.4 percent
8 increase over 2005; and
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10 WHEREAS, cruise visitors in 2006 spent \$854.6 million in
11 Hawaii, which was an increase of 58.9 percent over the previous
12 year; and
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14 WHEREAS, preliminary 2007 cruise ship arrival statistics
15 indicate an additional 20.6 percent growth over 2006; and
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17 WHEREAS, based on the 2006 data, the estimated direct
18 impact of the loss of international cruise ships in Hawaii would
19 be a reduction in expenditures on Hawaii-produced goods and
20 services of about \$80 million and the total economic impacts on
21 Hawaii include: 1) reduction in output (total sales) by about
22 \$155 million; 2) reduction in total earnings (labor income) by
23 about \$44 million; and 3) reduction in employment by 1,447 jobs;
24 and
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26 WHEREAS, the intent of Customs and Border Protection to
27 protect U.S. flagged cruise ships by clarifying the Passenger
28 Vessel Services Act (PVSA) is valid, the proposed rule amendment
29 will adversely impact our state's economy by significantly
30 affecting the international cruise lines that visit Hawaii; and
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1 WHEREAS, the proposed rule amendment would require the
2 following from foreign cruise ships: 1) spend at least 48 hours
3 in a foreign port; 2) the amount of time at the foreign port is
4 more than 50 percent of the total amount of time at the U.S.
5 ports of call; and 3) passengers are permitted to go ashore
6 temporarily at the foreign port; and

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8 WHEREAS, the proposed rule amendment is being opposed from
9 businesses, labor and government officials from Maine, Florida,
10 California, and Alaska; and

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12 WHEREAS, it is our belief that any change made in the
13 interpretation and application of the PVSA should be undertaken
14 in a manner that balances the need to protect the U.S. flagged
15 cruise ships operating in Hawaii, while continuing to allow
16 foreign cruise ships the opportunity to offer Hawaii cruises;
17 now, therefore,

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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
21 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the legislature
22 respectfully requests that the Department of Homeland Security,
23 U.S. Customs and Border Protection, reconsider the new proposed
24 rule amendment; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we believe there should no
27 minimum port-of-call time at an international destination as
28 part of the cruise itinerary and no mandated percentage of stops
29 that restrict or affect the manner in which ships are scheduling
30 calls to Hawaii; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Customs
34 and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the
35 Hawaii Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of
36 Hawaii, the Director of the Hawaii State Department of
37 Transportation, the Director of the Department of Business,
38 Economic Development and Tourism, the State Tourism Liaison, the
39 President of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Mayors of each
40 county, the County Councils of each county, the Hawaii Farm
41 Bureau, the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii,
42 the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Honolulu Chamber of
43 Commerce, the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, the Kauai





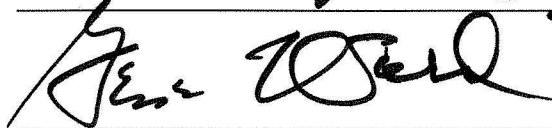

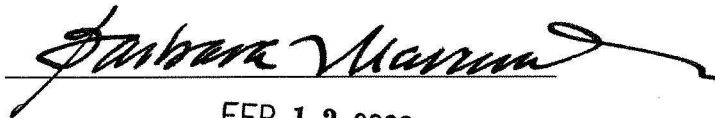


H.C.R. NO. 19

1 Chamber of Commerce, the Maui Chamber of Commerce, and the Kona-
2 Kohala Chamber of Commerce.

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OFFERED BY:

FEB 13 2008

