



**Association  
of  
Pacific  
Island  
Legislatures**

American Samoa  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
FSM, State of Chuuk  
FSM, State of Kosrae  
FSM, State of Pohnpei  
FSM, State of Yap  
Island of Guam  
Republic of Kiribati  
Republic of the Marshall Islands  
Republic of Nauru  
Republic of Palau  
State of Hawaii

**A RESOLUTION**

**Resolution No. 26-GA-10**

**“OPPOSING THE ENACTMENT BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE OF A BILL PROPOSING TO IMPOSE A FEE ON THE PROCESSING OF SHIPPING CONTAINERS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BECAUSE OF THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF THE FEE ON THE PEOPLE AND THE ECONOMY OF THE STATE OF HAWAII.”**

1           **WHEREAS**, California has been one of the primary gateways to Hawaii for a great number of years,  
2           serving as an access point to Hawaii even before Hawaii became the 50<sup>th</sup> State in the Union; and

3           **WHEREAS**, the people of the State of Hawaii continue to depend on ships and barges to move the  
4           majority of the necessities of daily life from the State of California to Hawaii; and

5           **WHEREAS**, over 90 percent of all the value of goods shipped to Hawaii are shipped by ocean; and

6           **WHEREAS**, most of the products produced in Hawaii and bound for the Continental United States are  
7           shipped by ocean to ports in California; and

8           **WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 974, currently pending before the California State Legislature, would impose a  
9           fee of \$30 per 20-foot equivalent unit on every cargo container traveling between California and Hawaii; and

10          **WHEREAS**, most cargo containers used to transport goods to and from Hawaii are at least two 20-foot  
11          equivalent units, subjecting these containers to a fee of \$60 each time the container leaves or returns to California  
12          regardless of whether the container is empty, partially loaded, or full; and

13          **WHEREAS**, because of Hawaii's unique dependence on shipping for the goods used in its people's daily  
14          lives, and these goods are shipped primarily from ports in California, enactment of Senate Bill 974 would have a  
15          detrimental effect on the trading relationship between California and Hawaii and would damage Hawaii's  
16          economy and cripple the major islands in Hawaii by raising the cost of living for Hawaii's people by several  
17          percent; and

18          **WHEREAS**, the APIL recognizes that California ports are experiencing a serious problem with freight  
19          congestion and that this problem not only negatively impacts California but has negative consequences for Hawaii  
20          as well; and

21          **WHEREAS**, it also recognized that the efficient and economical transport of freight along the West  
22          Coast of the United States is a regional issue that takes a regional solution, a solution that the State of Hawaii is  
23          willing to help find; and

24          **WHEREAS**, the island nations that make up the APIL are also highly dependent on goods transported  
25          from and through the State of Hawaii and legislation like Senate Bill 974, however inadvertent, affects the entire  
26          Pacific region;



1       **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Association of Pacific Island Legislatures that the  
2 California State Legislature is respectfully requested to recognize the negative effect that Senate Bill 974 would  
3 have on the trading relationship between California and Hawaii and the economic costs associated with that  
4 negative effect to both states; and

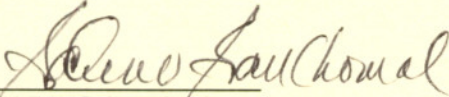
5       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Legislature respectfully requests the California State  
6 Legislature to also recognize the negative effect that Senate Bill 974 would have, not only on the people and the  
7 State of Hawaii, but the people of the entire Pacific region as well; and

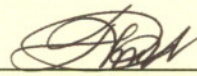
8       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL opposes the enactment of Senate Bill 974 and urges the  
9 California State Legislature to consider alternative means for raising revenue for infrastructure of California ports;  
10 and

11       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL is readily available to, and will work with the California  
12 State Legislature to find alternative means for the efficient and economic transport of goods between Hawaii and  
13 California, and on to the rest of the Pacific; and

14       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL Secretary shall  
15 attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to the Speaker and the  
16 Senate President of the California State Legislature; to the Speaker and the Senate President of the Hawaii State  
17 Legislature and to the Chief Executives and presiding Legislative Officers of each member of the Association of  
18 Pacific Island Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2007.**

  
SABINO SAUCHOMAL  
APIL PRESIDENT

  
JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.  
APIL ACTING SECRETARY

