
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED NATIONAL SECURITY
PERSONNEL SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, civilian Department of Defense employees strive
2 and work to support and deploy our armed forces by assisting
3 them in overseas operations, such as when shipyard welders
4 volunteer to travel to the Middle East in order to up-armor Army
5 and Marine Corps vehicles; and

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7 WHEREAS, these voluntary practices are covered by
8 collective bargaining agreement and have shown no impediment to
9 national security or to the Department of Defense's mission; and

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11 WHEREAS, current laws already give the United States
12 Department of Defense the flexibility it needs to balance
13 employment policies and environmental protection with national
14 security and military readiness; and

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16 WHEREAS, the National Security Personnel System dilutes
17 veterans' preferences at a time when Iraq war veterans are in
18 need of employment and reduces the rights of veterans who are
19 currently employed by the Department of Defense; and

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21 WHEREAS, the National Security Personnel System renders the
22 collective bargaining process meaningless by effectively
23 eliminating the role of unions, limiting an employee's statutory
24 appeal rights, allowing the Department of Defense significant
25 avenues to ignore contractual obligations, and by eroding most
26 protections afforded civilian Department of Defense employees
27 under Title 5 of the United States Code; and

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29 WHEREAS, the attacks on labor undertaken by the Bush
30 Administration suggest that the actual intention of these
31 proposals is part of a larger effort to outsource civilian
32 Department of Defense jobs, including those vital to national
33 security; and



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2 WHEREAS, the nation has witnessed the unacceptable response
3 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to the recent
4 hurricane disasters and this unacceptable performance can be
5 attributed in no small part to nepotism and cronyism; and
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7 WHEREAS, the National Security Personnel System lacks
8 proper checks, balances, and oversight to prevent favoritism,
9 nepotism, and cronyism; and
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11 WHEREAS, collective bargaining rights are the keystone of
12 any just labor-management relations system; and
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14 WHEREAS, in essence, the National Security Personnel System
15 is a regressive attack on hardworking civilian Department of
16 Defense employees that would roll back over forty years of
17 workers' rights that labor unions have fought hard to secure;
18 and
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20 WHEREAS, the proposed National Security Personnel System
21 will negatively impact approximately seven hundred thousand
22 civilian Department of Defense workers nationwide, sixteen
23 thousand of whom are in Hawaii; and
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25 WHEREAS, the National Security Personnel System ignores and
26 does not employ any provisions of title 5, chapter 71, United
27 States Code (establishing federal employees' collective
28 bargaining and appeal rights), even though Congress stated that
29 the Department of Defense could not waive such provisions; and
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31 WHEREAS, Congress gave the Department of Defense the
32 authority to impose a new personnel system in the interest of
33 national security; and
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35 WHEREAS, nothing in the National Security Personnel System
36 deals with national security, despite national security concerns
37 being Congress' sole rationale for giving the Secretary of
38 Defense authority to change the Department of Defense's pay and
39 personnel system for civilian employees; now, therefore,
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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
42 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
43 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature opposes the
44 Department of Defense's attempts to weaken civilian Department



1 of Defense employees' existing collective bargaining and
2 statutory appeal rights; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges Hawaii's
5 congressional delegation to work to rescind the broad grant of
6 authority to the Secretary of Defense and, in light of his abuse
7 of that authority, instead require the Department of Defense to
8 continue to adhere to title 5, chapter 71 of the United States
9 Code; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges all state
12 and county officials to communicate their support of the
13 Department of Defense employees' collective bargaining rights to
14 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary
15 of Defense, and the members of Hawaii's congressional
16 delegation; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
20 United States, the United States Secretary of Defense, and the
21 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.
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