
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CALLING UPON THE GOVERNOR TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO WITHDRAW
THE HAWAII ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS FROM IRAQ
NOW.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature strongly supports the men and
2 women who serve in Iraq and recognizes the sacrifices that each
3 of them with their families are making; and
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5 WHEREAS, in October 2002, the United States Congress
6 adopted a Joint resolution to authorize the use of United States
7 Armed Forces in Iraq based on information that was not true, and
8 in fact there was no immediate threat to the United States by
9 Iraq, there were no weapons of mass destruction, and Saddam
10 Hussein was not involved with the attacks on September 11, 2001;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, the majority of Americans have been troubled by
14 the direction of the war in Iraq and support the withdrawal of
15 United States troops, but there has been as of this date, no
16 exit strategy; and
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18 WHEREAS, the costs involved with the deployment of Army and
19 Air National Guard from Hawaii have been significant, and Hawaii
20 has met the call by having the highest ratio of reservists and
21 National Guard soldiers on active duty of any other state in the
22 Union; and
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24 WHEREAS, the costs to our Hawaii o'hana have been great,
25 with the removal of needed firefighters, police officers,
26 nurses, mechanics, teachers, doctors, dentists, pilots, lawyers,
27 legislators, and working people in all segments of our society,
28 many with families; and
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30 WHEREAS, it can be argued that the use of Air and Army
31 National Guard in the Iraq War constitutes a cost-savings to the
32 federal government as injured Air and Army National Guard



1 personnel are not provided the same medical care opportunities;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the costs to our Hawaii o`hana are being played
5 out in lives lost, damaged bodies, psychic trauma, family
6 disruption, financial hardships for individuals, families, and
7 businesses, career interruptions, and the tearing apart of the
8 civic life of many communities in Hawaii, and with long-term
9 consequences; and

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11 WHEREAS, these are costs that would be understood
12 rationally and suffered willingly were there a credible threat
13 to our nation, but which are not tolerable when there is no such
14 threat; and

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16 WHEREAS, many people in Hawaii joined the Army and the Air
17 National Guard thinking that they would be serving their
18 neighbors and community in the event of an Hawaii-based
19 emergency, absent a danger to the United States requiring
20 transfer to active duty; and

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22 WHEREAS, stop-loss orders violate the mutual understanding
23 between Hawaii residents in the Guard and the State and nation
24 they agreed to serve; and

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26 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the most isolated archipelago on the
27 planet, far removed from exterior emergency relief; and

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29 WHEREAS, there are strong reasons to believe that the
30 federalization and deployment of Air and Army National Guard
31 members have rendered the remaining Guard force unable to carry
32 out its state activities effectively should there be a
33 hurricane, tsunami, volcanic eruption, or other natural
34 disaster, a terrorist attack, or a health crisis such as avian
35 flu; and

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37 WHEREAS, Pentagon officials have announced that in 2006 the
38 National Guard's role in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan is to
39 be reduced from over fifty per cent of the forces committed to
40 twenty per cent; now, therefore,

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42 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
43 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
44 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Governor of Hawaii is

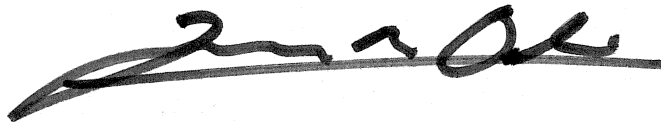


1 called upon to ensure that the President and Congress take
2 immediate steps to withdraw all Hawaii Air and Army National
3 Guard troops from Iraq now; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
7 President of the United States, and each member of Hawaii's
8 Congressional Delegation.

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OFFERED BY: Kirk Caldwell



MAR 15 2006

