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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DETONATION OF THE BRAVO HYDROGEN BOMB OVER BIKINI ATOLL, DECLARING MARCH 1, 2006, AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, AND REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PROVIDE FOR THE FULL HEALTH NEEDS OF THE HYDROGEN BOMB TESTS SURVIVORS AND THEIR PROGENY, PAY APPROPRIATE PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIMS, AND PROVIDE FOR THE COSTS OF CLEANING UP NUCLEAR SITES IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS IN CONNECTION WITH HYDROGEN BOMB TESTING ON ATOLLS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

1 WHEREAS, at 6:45 a.m. on March 1, 1954, over Bikini Atoll,  
2 the United States of America tested a hydrogen bomb device,  
3 which is acknowledged to be the most powerful nuclear explosion  
4 ever detonated; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, the "Bravo" H-Bomb inadvertently yielded fifteen  
7 megatons instead of the five megatons expected by the scientists  
8 working on the project - a yield one thousand times more  
9 powerful than the bomb dropped on the city of Hiroshima; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, including the Bravo H-Bomb, sixty-seven nuclear  
12 tests were conducted at Bikini Atoll and Enewetak Atoll between  
13 1946 and 1958, exposing the people of the Republic of the  
14 Marshall Islands to severe health problems and genetic anomalies  
15 due to the tests, such as "jelly fish" babies and other  
16 anomalies in the children, grandchildren, and great-  
17 grandchildren of survivors; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, Enewetak Atoll served as ground zero for forty-  
20 three tests eventually causing the exile of its people from  
21 their homeland for thirty-three years. Even after a massive  
22 cleanup program by the United States, more than fifty-seven per  
23 cent of the land is not safe for human habitation; and

24



1           WHEREAS, at the advice of the United States, the residents  
2 of Bikini Atoll were repatriated to their homeland in 1967 only  
3 to be evacuated seven years later when high levels of  
4 radionuclides were discovered in their bodies; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, the people of neighboring Rongelap and Utirik were  
7 also returned prematurely to their atolls and received  
8 additional exposure, causing many to believe that they were used  
9 to study the effects of radiation on human beings as evidenced  
10 in the Atomic Energy Commission's now infamous Project 4.1  
11 "Study of Response of Human Beings Exposed to Significant Beta  
12 and Gamma Radiation due to Fallout from High Yield Weapons"; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, in the Compact of Free Association, the United  
15 States "accepts the responsibility for compensation owing to the  
16 citizens of the Marshall Islands ... for loss or damage to  
17 property and person ... resulting from the nuclear testing  
18 program which the Government of the United States conducted in  
19 the Northern Marshall Islands between June 30, 1946 and  
20 August 18, 1958"; and  
21

22           WHEREAS, the pertinent provisions of the Compact were  
23 negotiated based on limited and misleading information provided  
24 by the United States Government to the representatives of the  
25 Republic of the Marshall Islands, a fact only recently exposed  
26 in material declassified by the United States and acknowledged  
27 by officials; and  
28

29           WHEREAS, the "changed circumstances" provisions of the  
30 Compact of Free Association provide that, should it become  
31 manifestly clear that the agreement on nuclear matters is  
32 grossly inadequate to meet the technological and financial  
33 requirements anticipated during the negotiations, or if new  
34 information emerges that render those agreements insufficient  
35 for the purpose of concluding full and just compensation, the  
36 Congress of the United States would consider a petition on the  
37 issue; and  
38

39           WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands submitted  
40 such a Changed Circumstances petition on September 11, 2000,  
41 based on recently declassified data; and  
42



1 WHEREAS, the Bush administration recently took a stand  
2 against further compensation under the Changed Circumstances  
3 petition; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, just compensation and continued funding for  
6 promised medical and health programs for survivors of the atomic  
7 tests now depend upon Congress' favorable consideration of this  
8 petition; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, over the past seventeen years, Hawaii has provided  
11 medical, educational, and other supportive services to lawful  
12 non-immigrants from the Republic of the Marshall Islands,  
13 without receiving adequate reimbursement from the United States;  
14 now, therefore,  
15

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
18 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress  
19 is respectfully requested to enact appropriate measures to  
20 provide for the full health needs of the hydrogen bomb tests  
21 survivors and their progeny, pay appropriate property damage  
22 claims, and provide for the costs of cleaning up nuclear sites  
23 in the Republic of the Marshall Islands in connection with  
24 hydrogen bomb testing on atolls of the Republic of the Marshall  
25 Islands; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature expresses deep  
28 regret for the harm done to the people of the Republic of the  
29 Marshall Islands and their homeland and hereby requests the  
30 Governor to declare March 1, 2006, as a Day of Remembrance for  
31 the survivors of the United States nuclear tests in the Republic  
32 of the Marshall Islands; and  
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
36 United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of  
37 the United States House of Representatives, Chair of the United  
38 States House of Representatives Committee on Resources, Chair of  
39 the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural  
40 Resources, United States Secretary of Energy, Governor of  
41 Hawaii, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, President  
42 of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Speaker of the Marshall  
43 Islands Nitijela, and Mayors of Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and



1 Utrik, and to ERUB I (survivors in Majuro) and ERUB II  
2 (survivors in Hawaii).  
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4  
5

Michael P. Kalanianaʻa

OFFERED BY:

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