
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES NAVY PARTNER WITH THE STATE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN TO UTILIZE DECOMMISSIONED NAVAL SHIPS AS PRISON FACILITIES FOR CERTAIN CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

1 WHEREAS, overcrowding at the State's prison facilities is a
2 problem that has grown steadily over recent years; and
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4 WHEREAS, providing decent, affordable, and secure prison
5 facilities to incarcerate criminals within the State is a
6 perpetual problem that seems to defy an easy solution; and
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8 WHEREAS, due to the ever-increasing need to incarcerate
9 prisoners, the State has resorted to transferring a significant
10 population of prisoners to out-of-state prison facilities; and
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12 WHEREAS, transferring prisoners out-of-state places a
13 psychological and emotional burden on not only the prisoners,
14 but on their loved ones as well; and
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16 WHEREAS, although the State has tried to address the issue
17 of constructing a new prison facility, whenever a potential site
18 is proposed, intense community opposition usually ensues; and
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20 WHEREAS, unfortunately, many communities shun the placement
21 of such facilities in their neighborhoods, leaving prison
22 facility planners searching again and again for sites that would
23 not adversely impact an existing community; and
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25 WHEREAS, the United States Navy currently possesses a
26 number of decommissioned ships that are anchored at Waipio Point
27 on the island of Oahu; and
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29 WHEREAS, these ships could possibly be utilized as prison
30 facilities that could serve as a detention center for nonviolent



1 offenders who were convicted for crimes that are classified as a
2 misdemeanor or lower; and

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4 WHEREAS, the ships, due to their inherent isolation, would
5 provide an additional security barrier; and

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7 WHEREAS, since these ships are anchored offshore, the
8 surrounding community will be minimally impacted; now,
9 therefore,

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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
13 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the United States Navy is
14 requested to partner with the State of Hawaii in developing and
15 implementing a plan to utilize decommissioned naval ships as
16 detention facilities for nonviolent offenders who were convicted
17 for crimes that are classified as a misdemeanor or lower; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to
20 report to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to
21 the convening of the 2007 Regular Session on the actions taken
22 by the State to implement this Concurrent Resolution in
23 partnership with the United States Navy; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief
27 of the United States Navy Pacific Fleet, the Governor, the
28 Director of Public Safety, the Director of Health, and the
29 Attorney General.

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