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## HOUSE 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  
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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  
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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  
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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  
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25           WHEREAS, at the advice of the United States, the residents  
26 of Bikini Atoll were repatriated to their homeland in 1967 only



1 to be evacuated seven years later when high levels of  
2 radionuclides were discovered in their bodies; and  
3

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

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

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

27 WHEREAS, the "changed circumstances" provisions of the  
28 Compact of Free Association provide that, should it become  
29 manifestly clear that the agreement on nuclear matters is  
30 grossly inadequate to meet the technological and financial  
31 requirements anticipated during the negotiations, or if new  
32 information emerges that render those agreements insufficient  
33 for the purpose of concluding full and just compensation, the  
34 Congress of the United States would consider a petition on the  
35 issue; and  
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37 WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands submitted  
38 such a Changed Circumstances petition on September 11, 2000,  
39 based on recently declassified data; and  
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41 WHEREAS, the Bush administration recently took a stand  
42 against further compensation under the Changed Circumstances  
43 petition; and  
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