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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<sup>ST</sup> 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; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, even after a massive cleanup program by the United  
24 States, more than fifty-seven percent of the land is not safe  
25 for human habitation; and  
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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  
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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  
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14 WHEREAS, in the Compact of Free Association (Compact), the  
15 United States "accepts the responsibility for compensation owing  
16 to the citizens of the Marshall Islands ... for loss or damage  
17 to 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  
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29 WHEREAS, the "changed circumstances" provisions of the  
30 Compact provide that, should it become manifestly clear that the  
31 agreement on nuclear matters is grossly inadequate to meet the  
32 technological and financial requirements anticipated during the  
33 negotiations, or if new information emerges that render those  
34 agreements insufficient for the purpose of concluding full and  
35 just compensation, the Congress of the United States would  
36 consider a petition on the issue; and  
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38 WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands submitted  
39 such a "Changed Circumstances" petition on September 11, 2000,  
40 based on recently declassified data; and  
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42 WHEREAS, the Bush administration recently took a stand  
43 against further compensation under the Changed Circumstances  
44 petition; and



1 WHEREAS, just compensation and continued funding for  
2 promised medical and health programs for survivors of the atomic  
3 tests now depend upon Congress' favorable consideration of this  
4 petition; and  
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6 WHEREAS, over the past seventeen years, Hawaii has provided  
7 medical, educational, and other supportive services to lawful  
8 non-immigrants from the Republic of the Marshall Islands,  
9 without receiving adequate reimbursement from the United States;  
10 now, therefore,  
11

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
14 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress  
15 is respectfully requested to enact appropriate measures to  
16 provide for the full health needs of the hydrogen bomb tests  
17 survivors and their progeny, pay appropriate property damage  
18 claims, and provide for the costs of cleaning up nuclear sites  
19 in the Republic of the Marshall Islands in connection with  
20 hydrogen bomb testing on atolls of the Republic of the Marshall  
21 Islands; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature expresses deep  
24 regret for the harm done to the people of the Republic of the  
25 Marshall Islands and their homeland and hereby requests the  
26 Governor to declare March 1<sup>st</sup> as a Day of Remembrance for the  
27 survivors of the United States nuclear tests in the Republic of  
28 the Marshall Islands; and  
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
32 United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of  
33 the United States House of Representatives, Chairperson of the  
34 United States House of Representatives Committee on Resources,  
35 Chairperson of the United States Senate Committee on Energy and  
36 Natural Resources, United States Secretary of Energy, Governor  
37 of Hawaii, members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation,  
38 President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Speaker of  
39 the Marshall Islands Nitijela, and Mayors of Bikini, Enewetak,  
40 Rongelap, and Utrik, and to ERUB I (survivors in Majuro) and  
41 ERUB II (survivors in Hawaii).

