

MAR 15 2006

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPORT AND PASS H.R. 4259, THE VETERANS' RIGHT TO KNOW
ACT, WHICH CREATES A COMMISSION TO BRING RELIEF TO VETERANS
INVOLVED IN PROJECT 112 AND THE SHIPBOARD HAZARD AND
DEFENSE PROJECT AND OTHER INCIDENTS OF CHEMICAL OR
BIOLOGICAL TESTING.

1 WHEREAS, between 1962 and 1974, the Department of Defense
2 carried out the chemical and biological warfare testing projects
3 known as Project 112 and the Shipboard Hazard and Defense
4 Project, or Project SHAD; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Defense acknowledges that one-
7 hundred thirty-four such warfare tests were planned and fifty
8 executed, with nineteen conducted at sea primarily in the South
9 Pacific and off the coast of Hawaii, and thirty-one on land in
10 Hawaii, the Panama Canal Zone, and Alaska; and
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12 WHEREAS, while some public awareness has grown about the
13 tests since they became declassified, key pieces of information
14 remain out of public grasp, including the agent dosage levels
15 involved and the identities of exposed veterans as well as
16 civilians; and
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18 WHEREAS, Professor Ken Alibek of the University of Maryland
19 recounts in his book, Bio Hazard that the Russian government
20 took care of veterans until death who were exposed to these same
21 chemicals; and
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23 WHEREAS, in an effort to fully understand the extent of
24 these tests and to provide exposed veterans with proper medical
25 care, United States Representatives Mike Thompson and Denny
26 Rehberg have introduced the Veterans' Right to Know Act,
27 H.R. 4259; and
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1 WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii have a right to know the
2 truth about any chemical and biological testing conducted in
3 their State; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Veterans' Right to Know Commission should be
6 empowered to investigate what occurred in the State of Hawaii
7 during Project SHAD not only to veterans but also to the
8 civilian population; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Veterans' Right to Know Act would create a
11 ten-member, bipartisan commission to investigate the chemical or
12 biological warfare tests carried out under Project 112, Project
13 SHAD and related tests, and to provide full notification through
14 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to those
15 veterans exposed to chemical or biological testing so that they
16 may receive proper medical treatment and consideration for any
17 service-related disability compensation; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Veterans' Right to Know Act has received
20 endorsement from a variety of veterans' service organizations,
21 including the American Legion, the Blinded Veterans Association,
22 the Disabled American Veterans, the Military Officers
23 Association of America, the Military Order of the Purple Heart,
24 the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars,
25 the Radiated Veterans of America, Inc., and the Vietnam Veterans
26 of America; and
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28 WHEREAS, California State Senator Wesley Chesbro and State
29 Assemblywoman Patty Berg authored the California Senate Joint
30 Resolution supporting H.R. 4259, the Veterans' Right to Know
31 Act; now, therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
35 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
36 supports H.R. 4259, the Veterans' Right to Know Act, sponsored
37 by United States Representatives Mike Thompson and Denny
38 Rehberg, and co-sponsored by Hawaii Congressman Neil
39 Abercrombie, and twenty-four other members of Congress; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature shall give
42 serious consideration to establishing a Veterans' Right to Know
43 Commission, which shall include an investigation into the impact



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1 these chemical and biological tests had upon the civilian
2 population in Hawaii and in other testing areas; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the
6 United States House of Representatives and the members of the
7 Hawaii Congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:





