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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE HAWAII NATIONAL  
GUARD PROVIDE MEMBERS AND VETERANS OF THE ARMED FORCES  
HEALTH SCREENING FOR DEPLETED URANIUM EXPOSURE.

1           WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has released several  
2 reports and scientific studies concerning the health risks from  
3 exposure to depleted uranium; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the chemical and radiological toxicity of depleted  
6 uranium has been a reported cause of kidney dysfunction, damage  
7 to lung cells that increases the possibility of lung cancer,  
8 neurological disorders, liver infection, and high miscarriage  
9 rates among military personnel who have returned from a  
10 designated combat zone where depleted uranium munitions have  
11 been used; and  
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13           WHEREAS, these munitions and armor have been used  
14 extensively in the 1991 Gulf War and during the three years  
15 since the 2003 invasion of Iraq; and  
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17           WHEREAS, the significant environmental impact from military  
18 use and disposal of depleted uranium munitions has been found in  
19 contaminated ground surfaces, which over time will lead to food  
20 and ground water contamination; and  
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22           WHEREAS, Connecticut and Louisiana have recently passed  
23 legislation, and eighteen other states are hearing legislation  
24 this session, to give all returning veterans the right to a best  
25 practices health screening test for exposure to depleted  
26 uranium; and  
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28           WHEREAS, reliable reports indicate widespread military non-  
29 compliance with regulations, orders, and directives, including  
30 Medical Management of Unusual Depleted Uranium Casualties, dated  
31 October 14, 1993; Medical Management of Army Personnel Exposed  
32 to Depleted Uranium, dated April 20, 2004; and section 2-5 of



1 Army Regulations 700-48, requiring prompt medical care for all  
2 exposed individuals; and  
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4 WHEREAS, in January 2006, the Honolulu Advertiser reported  
5 the Army's confirmation of finding remnants of depleted uranium  
6 munitions on Oahu; and  
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8 WHEREAS, there is a public health need to ensure the safe  
9 storage, disposal, and clean-up of munitions and other products  
10 containing depleted uranium; now, therefore,  
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the  
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
15 Veterans Affairs is requested to assist any member of the armed  
16 forces or veteran of the armed services who returns or has  
17 returned to this State after service in an area designated as a  
18 combat zone by the President of the United States, and the  
19 dependants of any member or veteran, to obtain a health  
20 screening test for exposure to depleted uranium that uses  
21 methods capable of detecting low levels of depleted uranium; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Adjutant General of the  
24 Hawaii National Guard coordinate with the United States  
25 Department of Defense in Hawaii to:  
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27 (1) Conduct an assessment of the scope and adequacy of  
28 depleted uranium storage and disposal in Hawaii and  
29 report on the training received by members of the  
30 Armed Forces involving potential exposure to depleted  
31 uranium; and  
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33 (2) Report on the adequacy of training of Hawaii National  
34 Guard members concerning potential exposure to  
35 depleted uranium and the cost of pre-deployment  
36 training about potential exposure and recommended  
37 precautions while under combat and non-combat  
38 conditions; and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Adjutant General of the  
41 Hawaii National Guard is requested to:  
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43 (1) Assist any member of the Hawaii National Guard who  
44 returns or has returned to this State after service in



1 an area designated as a combat zone by the President  
2 of the United States, and any member's dependents, to  
3 obtain a health screening test for exposure to  
4 depleted uranium that uses methods capable of  
5 detecting low levels of depleted uranium; and  
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- 7 (2) Ensure that quality health treatment is available for  
8 all members or veterans of the Hawaii National Guard  
9 and their dependents who may have been exposed to  
10 depleted uranium; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Adjutant General of the  
13 Hawaii National Guard is requested to report findings and  
14 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
15 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fourth Legislature  
18 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, shall give  
19 serious consideration to passing legislation that will:  
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- 21 (1) Ensure access to appropriate screening and quality  
22 health care for all veterans in the State of Hawaii;  
23 and  
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25 (2) Establish a task force within the State of Hawaii's  
26 Office of Veterans' Services to: (a) Study the various  
27 aspects of depleted uranium as it relates to veterans  
28 in the State of Hawaii; (b) Develop a plan for  
29 outreach to and follow-up of eligible veterans; and  
30 (c) Investigate and report on potential funding  
31 sources to support the continued provision of health  
32 care testing and treatment; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States  
36 Secretary of Defense, the Adjutant General of the Hawaii  
37 National Guard, and the State Director of Health.

