

MAR 15 2006

S.R. NO. 1290

SENATE RESOLUTION

CALLING UPON THE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII TO TAKE STEPS TO WITHDRAW
THE HAWAII ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS FROM IRAQ.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature strongly supports the men and
2 women who serve in Iraq and recognizes the sacrifices that each
3 of them are making for our country; and
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5 WHEREAS, in October 2002, the United States Congress
6 adopted a joint resolution to authorize the use of United States
7 armed forces in Iraq; and
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9 WHEREAS, the joint resolution was based upon false
10 information regarding Saddam Hussein's involvement in the
11 attacks of September 11, 2001, the immediacy of the threat Iraq
12 posed to the United States, and the existence of weapons of mass
13 destruction; and
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15 WHEREAS, the majority of Americans are troubled by the
16 direction the war in Iraq has taken since its inception and
17 support the withdrawal of United States troops; and
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19 WHEREAS, despite public sentiment against having troops
20 remain in Iraq, there has been no exit strategy proposed by the
21 Bush administration; and
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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii has met the call of duty by having the
24 highest ratio of reservists and National Guard members on active
25 duty of any other state in the Union; and
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27 WHEREAS, the costs of deployment to our Hawaii `ohana have
28 been high, as firefighters, police officers, nurses, mechanics,
29 teachers, doctors, dentists, pilots, lawyers, legislators, and
30 working people from all segments of our society have had to
31 leave their jobs and their lives behind; and
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33 WHEREAS, deployment of Hawaii Air and National Guard
34 members has had other negative impacts, not only on the soldiers
35 themselves, but also their families; and
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1 WHEREAS, these negative impacts include the loss of life,
2 the destruction and disruption of families, mental distress,
3 financial hardships, career interruptions, and the disruptions
4 of daily civic life; and

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6 WHEREAS, these costs and negative impacts would be better
7 understood and more acceptable if there was a immediate and
8 credible threat to our nation but such costs and negative
9 impacts cannot be tolerated where no such threat exists; and

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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the most isolated archipelago on the
12 planet, far removed from interstate emergency relief; and

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14 WHEREAS, there is strong reason to believe that the war in
15 Iraq and the federalization and deployment of Air and Army
16 National Guard members has rendered the remaining Guard force in
17 Hawaii unable to carry out its responsibilities to our State in
18 the event of a hurricane, tsunami, volcanic eruption, other
19 natural disaster, a terrorist attack, or even a health crisis,
20 such as an outbreak of the avian flu; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Pentagon has announced that in 2006, the Air
23 and National Guard's role in the war in Iraq and in Afghanistan
24 are to be reduced from over fifty percent to twenty percent;
25 now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
29 that the Governor is called upon to take steps to secure the
30 withdrawal of all Hawaii Air and Army National Guard members
31 from Iraq; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the President of the
35 United States of America, each member of the Hawaii
36 Congressional delegation, the President of the Hawaii State
37 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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40 OFFERED BY: 

