HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 128

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

## URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO CEASE LIVE-FIRE MILITARY TRAINING EXERCISES AT MAKUA MILITARY RESERVATION.

WHEREAS, Makua Valley, located near Kaena Point on the 1 2 western coast of Oahu, is considered sacred by many native Hawaiians; and 3 4 WHEREAS, Makua Military Reservation (Military Reservation), 5 which is situated in Makua Valley, extends west from the 6 ridgeline of the Waianae Mountains to the Pacific Ocean and is 7 8 located approximately three miles north of the town of Makaha; 9 and 10 WHEREAS, the Military Reservation consists of 4,856 acres 11 in a combination of fee simple, ceded, and leased lands; and 12 13 WHEREAS, use of Makua Valley by the United States Army was 14 first granted in May 1943 by the Territory of Hawaii through 15 Revocable Permit No. 200; and 16 17 18 WHEREAS, on August 17, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Executive Order No. 11666 (Executive Order), which set 19 aside for the use of the United States most of the area that 20 composes the Military Reservation; and 21 22 WHEREAS, with respect to the portion of the Military 23 Reservation not set aside by the Executive Order, a lease 24 agreement was entered into on August 17, 1964, between the 25 26 Assistant Secretary of the Army and the Department of Land and Natural Resources of the State of Hawaii, whereby the United 27 States government obtained control and use of the remaining area 28 for a period of 65 years, a lease that ends in 2029; and 29



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1 WHEREAS, the Military Reservation has been used extensively since 1943 as a live-fire training area and has been subjected 2 3 to air bombing, ship-to-shore firing, amphibious operations, and live-firing of a variety of infantry and artillery weapons; and 4 5 WHEREAS, Makua Valley contains sites of historical and 6 archaeological value as well as endemic species of flora and 7 fauna; and 8 9 WHEREAS, the transport of live-fire weapons to and from the 10 Military Reservation poses a danger to neighboring civilian 11 12 communities; and 13 WHEREAS, live-fire training exercises use toxic and 14 15 hazardous chemicals and have ignited wildfires, causing significant damage to the environment; and 16 17 18 WHEREAS, such live-fire training exercises also imperil 19 important historical and archaeological areas; and 20 21 WHEREAS, Makua Valley possesses cultural significance for native Hawaiians; and 22 23 24 WHEREAS, according to Hawaiian principles of stewardship 25 (kuleana), there is inherent reverence for the land as a living partner in the lives of people; now, therefore, 26 27 28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 29 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the United States 30 31 Army is urged to cease immediately and permanently all live-fire training exercises at the Military Reservation; and 32 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii's Congressional 34 delegation is respectfully requested to introduce legislation 35 requiring, and support efforts toward, the immediate and 36 permanent cessation of all live-fire training exercises at the 37 Military Reservation; and 38

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
United States, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the United
States Army, Hawaii's Congressional delegation, Governor, and
Department of Land and Natural Resources.

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