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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF VETERANS' SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO INCLUDE A SECTION DEDICATED TO VETERANS OF THE CONFLICTS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN IN THE HAWAII STATE VETERANS CEMETERY AND ALLOW FOR PHOTOS AND OTHER MEMORIAL OBJECTS OF VETERANS TO BE PLACED AT GRAVESITES IN THE HAWAII STATE VETERANS CEMETERY.

1           WHEREAS, a military cemetery symbolizes more than simply a  
2 final resting place for those who have honorably served the  
3 nation and to whom the citizens of the United States (U.S.)  
4 shall be eternally grateful; and  
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6           WHEREAS, a military cemetery also serves to remind  
7 individuals of the very real tragedy of armed conflicts and  
8 stands as a solemn testament and enduring memorial to those  
9 individuals, many of whom paid the supreme sacrifice, who upheld  
10 the tenets of "Duty, Honor, and Country"; and  
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12           WHEREAS, there is no greater honor for a former soldier  
13 than to be laid to rest next to the soldier's comrades-in-arms,  
14 no greater act of respect that a grateful country can show a  
15 former soldier than to inter the soldier's remains on hallowed  
16 ground, and no greater tribute that future generations of  
17 freedom-loving Americans can visit upon a former soldier than to  
18 remember those sacrifices made by the soldier on the  
19 battlefield; and  
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21           WHEREAS, providing burial privileges to former soldiers is  
22 the very least that a grateful nation and State can do for those  
23 persons who placed themselves in harm's way to protect the U.S.  
24 from its enemies; and  
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26           WHEREAS, the U.S. has found itself involved in numerous  
27 armed conflicts throughout its history, including two world



1 wars, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War in the 20<sup>th</sup>  
2 Century; and

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4 WHEREAS, more recently, the U.S. has been involved in  
5 conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

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7 WHEREAS, as a result of the current conflicts occurring in  
8 Iraq and Afghanistan, over 4,000 Americans have already given  
9 the greatest sacrifice one can make for their country; and

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11 WHEREAS, current rules prohibit the placement of pictures  
12 and other memorial objects on graves at the Hawaii State  
13 Veterans' Cemetery; and

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15 WHEREAS, allowing the display of photos and other memorial  
16 objects of fallen soldiers is a means of families honoring their  
17 loved ones; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, setting aside a special place in the Hawaii State  
20 Veterans' Cemetery for those individuals who are veterans of the  
21 conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan that is similar to Section 60  
22 at Arlington National Cemetery would be a fitting tribute to  
23 honor the memory of, and the sacrifices made by, former soldiers  
24 of these conflicts; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
27 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
28 of 2010, that this body urges the Office of Veterans' Services  
29 of the Hawaii State Department of Defense to include a section  
30 dedicated to veterans of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan  
31 in the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery that is similar to Section  
32 60 of Arlington National Cemetery; and

33  
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Veterans'  
35 Services of the Hawaii State Department of Defense is also urged  
36 to allow for photos and other memorial objects of fallen  
37 soldiers to be displayed at gravesites within the Hawaii State  
38 Veterans Cemetery; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
41 Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General of the State



1 of Hawaii and Director of the Office of Veterans' Services of  
2 the State of Hawaii Department of Defense.

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OFFERED BY:

F. J. [Signature]  
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MAR 10 2010

