
HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE STATE OF HAWAII FOR WINNING THE 2010 SECRETARY OF
DEFENSE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD.

1 WHEREAS, civilian employers of our country's nearly 1.7
2 million citizen-service members, roughly half the United States'
3 military strength, play a key role in the country's defense; and
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5 WHEREAS, celebrating its 15th year, the Secretary of Defense
6 Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given
7 by the United States government to employers for the support of
8 their National Guard and Reserve employees; and
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10 WHEREAS, nominated by a Hawaii Army National Guard Major,
11 the STATE OF HAWAII, was one of 15 national recipients of the
12 2010 Freedom Award recognized in an award ceremony on September
13 22 in Washington, D.C. where Governor Linda Lingle accepted the
14 award on behalf of the state; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve
17 (ESGR) highlighted the STATE OF HAWAII for providing service
18 credit toward retirement for the time their Guard and Reserve
19 employees are activated and offers preferential hiring for
20 members of the Guard and Reserve as well as to spouses of Guard
21 and Reserve members with service-connected disabilities or who
22 died while on active duty; and
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24 WHEREAS, the STATE OF HAWAII holds a farewell ceremony at
25 Aloha Stadium when the 29th Brigade is deployed and a welcome
26 home parade on Waikiki Beach when they return; and
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28 WHEREAS, ESGR especially recognized the STATE OF HAWAII as
29 the first state that recognizes its fallen war heroes by
30 awarding them the state Medal of Honor which is given to service
31 members who were born, raised, or educated in Hawaii, or served



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1 in a unit from the STATE OF HAWAII prior to paying the ultimate
2 sacrifice; and

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4 WHEREAS, in acknowledgement of the STATE OF HAWAII's above
5 and beyond support of its Guardsmen and Reservists and their
6 family, it is the hope of this Body that other employers of
7 Hawaii National Guardsmen and Reservists will similarly take
8 care of their citizen warriors; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2011, that this body hereby commends the STATE OF HAWAII for
13 winning the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom
14 Award and extends it warmest aloha to all employers of National
15 Guardsmen and Reservists in Hawaii.

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18 OFFERED BY:

Rick T. Antonilla
F. J. [Signature]

MAR 18 2011

