
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PEACE CORPS TO REOPEN THE PEACE CORPS EAST TIMOR
LOCATION.

1 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps was created in 1961 by United
2 States Senator John F. Kennedy and trains and arranges for
3 nearly two hundred thousand volunteers to serve in one hundred
4 thirty-nine countries; and

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6 WHEREAS, Peace Corps East Timor was the first new Peace
7 Corps program of the 21st century, and the diplomatic note of
8 2002 formally establishing the program was signed by Nobel Peace
9 Laureate and East Timor Minister of Foreign Affairs Jose Ramos-
10 Horta; and

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12 WHEREAS, Peace Corps volunteers worked to meet crucial
13 community development needs in East Timor, such as
14 organizational development, health promotion, small-scale
15 agriculture, water and sanitation, nutrition, environment, human
16 immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency
17 syndrome, and women's and youth development; and

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19 WHEREAS, Peace Corps volunteers were the first
20 international group to be trained in Tetum, the local language
21 of East Timor; and

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23 WHEREAS, since Peace Corps East Timor volunteers were
24 evacuated in 2006 due to civil unrest and government
25 instability, the country has stabilized and the country is safer
26 now than it was when the Peace Corps East Timor program was
27 first established in 2002; and

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29 WHEREAS, the need for Peace Corps volunteers in East Timor
30 is greater now than ever, as the country remains one of the
31 poorest in Asia and throughout the world, and forty per cent of
32 its population survives on less than \$1 per day; and
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1 WHEREAS, nearly half of the country's population is
2 children under the age of fifteen, many of whose parents are
3 struggling to support them; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps sent an assessment mission to East
6 Timor in April 2010, to determine whether to reopen the
7 country's Peace Corps program; and
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9 WHEREAS, as a result of the recent assessment mission, the
10 Peace Corps recommended the reopening of a Peace Corps office in
11 East Timor, but this recommendation has not yet been acted upon;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, in the summer of 2010 the Peace Corps reopened a
15 mission in Indonesia, after forty-five years of absence from the
16 country; and
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18 WHEREAS, President Obama has called for the expansion of
19 the Peace Corps throughout the tenure of his administration;
20 now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
24 Session of 2013, urging the Peace Corps to reopen the Peace
25 Corps East Timor office as soon as practicable for the mutual
26 benefit of the Peace Corps volunteers and the people of East
27 Timor; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
31 the President and Prime Minister of East Timor, Ambassador of
32 the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the United States of
33 the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste in
34 Washington, D.C., Ambassador of the United States to the
35 Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste of the United States Embassy
36 in Timor-Leste, Office of the Administrator and the Office of
37 the Director of the United States Agency for International
38 Development in Washington, D.C., and Timor-Leste, respectively,
39 and Acting Director of the Peace Corps.
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Michelle Carrozzini
Karen Anderson

Demetrius J. [Signature]
OFFERED BY: _____



John M. [Signature]
Juan [Signature]
My [Signature]