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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON AN APPROPRIATIONS BILL TO ADDRESS THE CURRENT FISCAL CRISIS AND MITIGATE ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE MILITARY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN HAWAII AND ACROSS THE NATION.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has a historic relationship with United  
2 States national security and strategy in the Asian Pacific  
3 region that extends back to the days of the Hawaiian Kingdom;  
4 and  
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6           WHEREAS, the United States' military and strategic role in  
7 Hawaii developed when the United States needed a coaling station  
8 to service its naval ships transiting the Pacific Ocean during  
9 the Spanish-American War fought in the Philippines in 1898 and  
10 the Philippine-American War that immediately followed; and  
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12           WHEREAS, in the early 1900s, the United States began to  
13 forward deploy its Navy, Marines, and Army to Hawaii; and  
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15           WHEREAS, the Army Air Corps brought the first aviators to  
16 Hawaii from the West Coast of the United States, which paved the  
17 way for air mail delivery to the islands; and  
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19           WHEREAS, following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941,  
20 Hawaii became the transit station for hundreds of thousands of  
21 United States service men and women during World War II until  
22 1945, and then the Korean War during the early 1950s, and the  
23 Vietnam War during the period from 1960 to 1972; and  
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25           WHEREAS, the use of Hawaii as a primary forward-deployed  
26 base for the United States in the Asian Pacific region has  
27 continued during the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and



1           WHEREAS, in bolstering its military presence in Hawaii, the  
2 United States has invested in an assortment of world-class  
3 military infrastructure in the State; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Hawaii serves as the headquarters for United  
6 States military operations in the Pacific and is central to the  
7 United States' security strategy in the Asian Pacific region;  
8 and  
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10           WHEREAS, the United States Pacific Command, the nation's  
11 largest combatant command, is located in Honolulu; and  
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13           WHEREAS, the Pacific Command is joined in the State by the  
14 headquarters for the United States Pacific Fleet at Pearl  
15 Harbor, where the Pacific Submarine Force and Pearl Harbor Naval  
16 Shipyard are based; Pacific Air Forces at Hickam, where the  
17 Hawaii Air National Guard's C-17, KC-135, and F-22 aviation  
18 units are located; United States Army Pacific at Fort Shafter;  
19 Marine Forces Pacific at Camp Smith; and the Coast Guard's  
20 Pacific region operation at Sand Island; and  
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22           WHEREAS, other important resources include the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
23 Division at Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Field; Third Marine  
24 Regiment at Marine Corps Base Hawaii; High Speed Computing  
25 Center on Maui; and Hawaii Army National Guard's 29<sup>th</sup> Combat  
26 Infantry Brigade and Combat Aviation unit at Kalaeloa and  
27 Wheeler Field; and  
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29           WHEREAS, currently, Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter,  
30 Hickam Field, Pearl Harbor, Camp Smith, Tripler Army Medical  
31 Center, and Marine Corps Base Hawaii are in full operation; and  
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33           WHEREAS, the varied and extensive United States military  
34 presence in Hawaii remains critical as the United States and our  
35 allies in the Pacific confront the security challenges posed by  
36 instability in parts of Africa and the Middle East; unrest in  
37 Pakistan and India; terrorist cells operating in Southeast Asia;  
38 continued division of the Korean peninsula and North Korea's  
39 proliferation of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles; and  
40 China's surge in military capabilities, challenges along its



1 borders, and assertiveness in controlling the vital economic sea  
2 lanes of the South China Sea; and

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4 WHEREAS, these growing threats to the security of the  
5 region have caused the United States to shift its focus and  
6 reaffirm Hawaii's crucial role in the United States' security  
7 strategy for the Pacific; and

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9 WHEREAS, Hawaii's forward-deployed units, coupled with  
10 those based in Japan, South Korea, and Guam, serve as highly  
11 visible deterrent forces to the nation's adversaries; and

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13 WHEREAS, this strategy of deterrence has contributed to the  
14 relative peace and stability in the Asian Pacific region since  
15 the end of the Vietnam War in 1975; and

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17 WHEREAS, Hawaii's forward-deployed forces enable rapid  
18 response and aid to nations affected by natural disasters and  
19 are an essential element enabling commerce and trade to thrive;  
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, the military presence in Hawaii not only drives  
23 our state economy but also provides safety, security, and peace  
24 on a global level; and

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26 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, the military's presence is a critical  
27 component of the State's economy, with the direct and indirect  
28 impacts of defense spending estimated at more than \$14.7 billion  
29 and accounting for more than 102,000 jobs that report aggregate  
30 annual household incomes totaling \$8.7 billion; and

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32 WHEREAS, defense communities throughout the United States  
33 are bracing for the severe reductions in military spending that  
34 are likely to result from the terms of the Budget Control Act of  
35 2011, also known as sequestration; and

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37 WHEREAS, sequestration has recently come into effect, and  
38 the Pentagon and service branches will be detailing the specific  
39 implications in the weeks to come; and



1 WHEREAS, nationwide, Hawaii is expected to suffer from the  
2 most severe cuts in defense spending on a per capita basis; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the military's influence in Hawaii's economy is  
5 profound, second only to tourism; and  
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7 WHEREAS, the 19,728 Department of Defense personnel  
8 anticipated to be furloughed represent 3.2 percent of Hawaii's  
9 jobs, making it the most affected state in the nation, with  
10 Virginia following as the second most affected; and  
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12 WHEREAS, although Hawaii has a strong interest in  
13 preventing this severe negative impact to its economy, the State  
14 is in fierce competition with all other United States defense  
15 communities, such as San Diego, in protecting against the loss  
16 of military presence; and  
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18 WHEREAS, over the years, Hawaii's strategic location in the  
19 Pacific Ocean justified the higher costs of supplies, labor, and  
20 other operating costs; however, the current fiscal realities,  
21 coupled with the advanced capabilities of modern high-tech  
22 weapon systems, may soon override the State's strategic location  
23 in future basing decisions; and  
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25 WHEREAS, federal spending on procurement, salaries, and  
26 wages accounts for 15.8 percent of Hawaii's gross domestic  
27 product; and  
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29 WHEREAS, the United States Army has already announced that  
30 it is mandated to cut spending by \$287 million in the Pacific by  
31 September 30, 2013; the United States Navy has indicated that it  
32 will likewise reduce its expenditures by \$110 million; and the  
33 Pacific Air Forces has projected a \$103 million reduction in  
34 operations and maintenance spending; and  
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36 WHEREAS, the Pentagon has already announced that budget  
37 cuts will largely focus on civilian pay, base operations and  
38 training, and reductions in defense contracts; and



1 WHEREAS, as a result, Department of Defense civilians may  
2 be furloughed up to 22 days by September 30, 2013, amounting to  
3 a 20 percent loss in pay; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Pentagon has included a base realignment and  
6 closure commission in its budget, which increases the distinct  
7 possibility of at least one Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)  
8 proceeding; and  
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10 WHEREAS, at a hearing of the United States House Armed  
11 Services Committee on March 5, 2013, the Appropriations  
12 Committee indicated that a defense bill for Fiscal Year 2013 and  
13 a MILCON/VA budget have been approved, which will likely be  
14 helpful to provide some relief to the armed services as they  
15 strive to complete the fiscal year with minimum damage to  
16 operations; and  
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18 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, defense contractors will be affected by  
19 sequestration; while details are currently unavailable regarding  
20 how severe the impact will be, some contractors have already  
21 taken steps to reduce their workforce over the past few months,  
22 and others are sure to follow in the weeks ahead; and  
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24 WHEREAS, as defense contracts are cancelled or suspended,  
25 the State should expect small businesses that provide supplies  
26 and services to experience cuts, as well; and  
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28 WHEREAS, there is much uncertainty surrounding the exact  
29 implications that sequestration has had or will have on Hawaii's  
30 economy; and  
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32 WHEREAS, much more critical, but less discussed, is the  
33 possible federal shutdown on March 27, 2013, when the current  
34 continuing resolution expires; and  
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36 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser published an article  
37 on March 7, 2013, entitled "Top Brass Unsettled by Slashes in  
38 Funding," which characterized sequestration as a long, steady,  
39 and painful decline in funding over the next ten years;  
40 emphasized the severe deleterious effect these financial cuts  
41 will have on Hawaii's economy; and suggested that there is




1 potential for some stability and predictability if Congress  
2 crafts an appropriations bill; and  
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4 WHEREAS, by passing an appropriations bill, Congress can  
5 provide a framework for states and government agencies to better  
6 manage these serious impacts of sequestration; now, therefore,  
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
10 Session of 2013, that the President and Congress are urged to  
11 reach an agreement for an appropriations bill to address the  
12 current fiscal crisis and mitigate its negative impact on the  
13 military and Department of Defense civilian employees in Hawaii  
14 and across the nation; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
18 Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the  
19 United States House of Representatives, and members of Hawaii's  
20 Congressional delegation.  
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OFFERED BY:

  
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MAR 13 2013

