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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE  
MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF  
HAWAII TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO ASSESS THE  
FEASIBILITY OF A CONSOLIDATED MILITARY TRANSITION,  
IMMERSION, AND EDUCATION CENTER.

1           WHEREAS, military personnel and their family members play a  
2 vital role in Hawaii's economy and make up a significant  
3 percentage of the population; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, the transition to settle in, find a home, enroll  
6 children in school, transport pets, and register a vehicle is  
7 significantly more difficult when relocating to Hawaii than when  
8 relocating within the continental United States; and  
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10           WHEREAS, in addition to a seamless relocation and  
11 transition, newly transferred military personnel and their  
12 family members need resources to integrate and connect with the  
13 community in a meaningful way; and  
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15           WHEREAS, Hawaii is uniquely rich in culture and diversity  
16 and can often feel more like a move to another country than a  
17 move within the United States for families moving from the  
18 continental United States; and  
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20           WHEREAS, traditional military models for transition,  
21 immersion, education, and wellness services are universal and do  
22 not incorporate the "local" resources in the communities that  
23 surround the military facilities; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, transition, immersion, and education programs  
26 would strengthen the military relocation process by centralizing  
27 the information available to military members and their families  
28 and engaging them in Hawaii's community; and



1           WHEREAS, an education program would also encourage Hawaii  
2 residents to reach out and interact with new military members in  
3 the State; and

4  
5           WHEREAS, various service branches located on Oahu retain  
6 their own informational and support channels for members  
7 relocating to Hawaii but this is an ad hoc system; and

8  
9           WHEREAS, the consolidation of the various military branch  
10 information and support systems into one resource center will  
11 provide the benefits of economies of scale, resulting in equal  
12 and enhanced support for the military community in the State;  
13 and

14  
15           WHEREAS, a resource center would also serve as an  
16 innovative model for other such centers nationwide and may serve  
17 as an important prototype for the United States Department of  
18 Defense to save money, especially given the recent federal  
19 budget cuts; now, therefore,

20  
21           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
23 Session of 2013, that the State of Hawaii Department of Defense  
24 and the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of  
25 Hawaii are urged to establish an interagency working group to  
26 assess the operational and budgetary feasibility of a  
27 Consolidated Military Transition, Immersion, and Education  
28 Center; and

29  
30           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include, but  
31 not be limited to, representatives from the following agencies,  
32 departments, or groups:

- 33  
34           (1) All military bases and facility commanders;  
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36           (2) Hawaii National Guard;  
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38           (3) Hawaii State Legislature;  
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40           (4) Office of the Governor;



- 1 (5) Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- 2
- 3 (6) Hawaii Veterans Affairs; and
- 4
- 5 (7) Other stakeholders that could contribute expertise to
- 6 the working group; and
- 7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Military  
 9 Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, or a  
 10 designee, is requested to convene and act as chair of the  
 11 working group; and

12  
 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the operational plan of the  
 14 Consolidated Military Transition, Immersion, and Education  
 15 Center be based on efficiency and cost containment and  
 16 consolidation, including public-private partnerships and the  
 17 staffing of qualified, long-term personnel by private section  
 18 contractors; and

19  
 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group submit a  
 21 report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the  
 22 convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

23  
 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 25 Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Defense of the  
 26 United States Department of Defense; Governor; Adjutant General;  
 27 Speaker of the House of Representatives; President of the  
 28 Senate; Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of  
 29 Hawaiian Affairs; Director of the Office of Veterans Services;  
 30 and Chair of the Military Affairs Council of the Chamber of  
 31 Commerce of Hawaii.

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 33  
 34 *Calvin H. King*  
*Hakohuna*  
*Shane*  
 OFFERED BY: *K. L.*  
*Melanie Cannon*  
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