
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES IN THE STATE OF HAWAII, IN COOPERATION WITH 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
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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 a move to Hawaii can often feel more like a move to another
17 country than a move within the United States for families moving
18 from the continental United States; and
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20 WHEREAS, traditional military models for transition,
21 immersion, education, and wellness services are general and do
22 not incorporate "local" resources in the communities that
23 surround the military facilities; and
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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

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

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9 WHEREAS, 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

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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 recent federal budget
19 cuts; now, therefore,

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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 various branches of the United States
24 armed services in the State of Hawaii, in cooperation with the
25 Military Affairs Council of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii,
26 are urged to establish an interagency working group to assess
27 the operational and budgetary feasibility of a Consolidated
28 Military Transition, Immersion, and Education Center; and

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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:

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34 (1) All military bases and facility commanders;
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36 (2) Senior enlisted personnel and their spouses from all
37 military bases in Hawaii;
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39 (3) Hawaii National Guard;
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41 (4) Hawaii State Legislature;



- 1 (5) Office of the Governor;
- 2
- 3 (6) Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
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- 5 (7) Hawaii Veterans Affairs; and
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- 7 (8) Other stakeholders who can contribute expertise to the
- 8 working group; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Military
 11 Affairs Council of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, or a
 12 designee, is requested to convene and act as chair of the
 13 working group; and

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

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

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 26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 27 Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Defense of the
 28 United States Department of Defense; Governor; Commander of the
 29 United States Pacific Command; Commander of the United States
 30 Pacific Fleet; Commander of the United States Pacific Air
 31 Forces; Commanding General of the United States Army Pacific;
 32 Commander of the United States Marine Corps Forces Pacific;
 33 Commander of the 14th Coast Guard District; Chairperson of the
 34 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Director of
 35 the Office of Veterans Services; and Chair of the Military
 36 Affairs Council of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

