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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FUND ABORTIONS FOR  
SERVICEWOMEN IN CASES OF RAPE OR INCEST AND LIFT THE BAN ON  
PRIVATE FUNDING OF ABORTIONS AT MILITARY BASES.

1           WHEREAS, female military personnel have the same right to  
2 basic health care services as their male counterparts, and  
3 reproductive health care is a fundamental component of health  
4 care for women; and

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6           WHEREAS, the ban on privately funded abortions in military  
7 facilities discriminates against women in the United States  
8 military who have volunteered to serve their country and who  
9 have been assigned to posts overseas; and

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11           WHEREAS, the ban on privately funded abortions in military  
12 facilities poses grave health risks and places an insurmountable  
13 obstacle to access quality healthcare leaving servicewomen and  
14 military dependents far worse off than civilian women; and

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16           WHEREAS, in light of the tragically high incidence of rape  
17 and sexual assault suffered by women in the military,  
18 servicewomen should not be further harmed by the denial of safe  
19 abortion services; and

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21           WHEREAS, the ban on abortions at military facilities  
22 requires a woman to go to a private hospital or clinic, which  
23 leaves the woman no choice but to use a local facility that may  
24 be substandard or unsafe; and

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26           WHEREAS, obtaining an abortion in a local hospital is  
27 virtually impossible for many of the estimated 100,000 American  
28 servicewomen in foreign countries, particularly in Afghanistan;  
29 and

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1 WHEREAS, the costs, time, and obvious risks involved in  
2 obtaining an abortion outside of military facilities prevent  
3 some servicewomen and military dependents from obtaining the  
4 health care they otherwise could have received; and  
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6 WHEREAS, under current law, title 10 United States Code  
7 section 1093(a) provides that funds available to the Department  
8 of Defense may be used to perform abortions only where the life  
9 of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to  
10 term; and  
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12 WHEREAS, under title 10 United States Code section 1093(b),  
13 Department of Defense medical facilities may be used to perform  
14 abortions where the life of the mother would be endangered if  
15 the fetus were carried to term or in a case in which the  
16 pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; and  
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18 WHEREAS, restricting the use of United States Department of  
19 Defense funds for abortions to only those instances where the  
20 mother's life would be endangered risks the lives of many  
21 servicewomen by forcing victims of rape or incest to personally  
22 fund and contract for abortion procedures with foreign  
23 physicians in many countries that lack medical personnel trained  
24 to the standards of United States physicians; and  
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26 WHEREAS, providing military women serving overseas the same  
27 access to basic health care, including safe abortions at  
28 military facilities, is an issue of basic fairness; now,  
29 therefore,  
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the  
33 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States  
34 Congress is requested to:  
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- 36 (1) Recognize that over 365,000 women serve in the United  
37 States Armed Forces and that more than 100,000 are  
38 currently stationed and serving overseas;  
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- 40 (2) Express concern that at a time when the United States  
41 is engaged in military actions on multiple fronts, and  
42 servicewomen put their lives at risk to preserve  
43 American rights and freedom, it is deeply troubling



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1 that American servicewomen are denied access to safe,  
2 legal abortion when they serve abroad; and

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4 (3) Act to lift the ban on private funding of abortions at  
5 military bases; and

6  
7 (4) Amend section 1093(a) of title 10 United States Code  
8 to allow funds available to the Department of Defense  
9 to be used to perform abortions in cases in which a  
10 pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest;  
11 and

12  
13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of  
15 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House  
16 of Representatives, and to the members of Hawaii's congressional  
17 delegation.  
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