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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN  
EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI, AND SUPPORTING PREPAREDNESS  
ACTIVITIES, INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE FORUMS,  
AND OTHER ASIA-PACIFIC RESILIENCE EFFORTS.

1           WHEREAS, the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami took  
2 the lives of an estimated 227,898 people and displaced about 1.7  
3 million others throughout South Asia and East Africa; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami was the cause of  
6 more casualties than any other tsunami in recorded history; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami  
9 affected countries throughout the world, especially those  
10 countries surrounding the Indian ocean, including India,  
11 Indonesia, Malaysia, the Maldives, Myanmar, Somalia, Sri Lanka,  
12 Thailand, Bangladesh, Kenya, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania,  
13 Yemen, Australia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Oman, Reunion Island,  
14 and Singapore; and  
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16           WHEREAS, Indonesia was the most affected country, with an  
17 estimated death toll of 170,000; and  
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19           WHEREAS, December 26, 2014, marks the ten-year anniversary  
20 of this devastating natural disaster; and  
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22           WHEREAS, natural disasters will increase in frequency and  
23 severity due to climate change; and  
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25           WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands are the most geographically  
26 isolated islands on the planet, making the State of Hawaii  
27 particularly susceptible to natural disasters; and  
28

29           WHEREAS, in December 2013, scientists reported findings  
30 that a 9.2 earthquake around the Aleutian Islands could generate



1 an extreme tsunami, such as the one that struck Japan in 2011,  
2 that could severely devastate Oahu; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the 1946 Aleutian Islands 8.1 magnitude earthquake  
5 created a tsunami that reached Kauai and Hilo within five hours  
6 of the earthquake and ultimately killed 159 people in Hawaii;  
7 and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami that struck  
10 Japan caused tens of millions of dollars in damages to Hawaii  
11 homes, boats, businesses, hotels, and government infrastructure;  
12 and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the First Meeting of State, Local, and Tribal  
15 Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience  
16 recommends convening an International Climate Change Resilience  
17 Forum that would coordinate both domestic and international  
18 resilience efforts, especially in the Asia-Pacific region; now,  
19 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 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature  
24 recognizes the ten-year anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean  
25 earthquake and tsunami; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports the  
28 hosting of a tenth anniversary commemoration to honor the  
29 deceased, remember the sacrifices of the first responders, and  
30 share disaster coordination practices and lessons learned from  
31 the 2004 disaster; and

32  
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports  
34 efforts by the Department of Defense, the Hawaii State Civil  
35 Defense, and other entities to engage the Indonesian people in  
36 commemorating the tenth anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean  
37 earthquake and tsunami and to coordinate training exercises,  
38 civil defense responses, and emergency management and resiliency  
39 training for Pacific-wide or localized tsunami events; and

40  
41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports the  
42 use of the knowledge and relationships gained from the tenth  
43 anniversary commemoration to implement the International Climate  
44 Change Resilience Forum at the East-West Center in 2015, as



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1 recommended by the First Meeting of State, Local, and Tribal  
2 Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
6 Republic of Indonesia, the Secretary of State, the Ambassador of  
7 the Republic of Indonesia to the United States of America, the  
8 Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Los Angeles,  
9 the Adjutant General, the Vice Director of Civil Defense, the  
10 President of the East-West Center, and Hawaii's Congressional  
11 delegation.  
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OFFERED BY:

*[Handwritten signature]*

Mike E. Lowen

Tom Bunn

John M. Wynn

Cindy Evans

Karl Rhoads

Wyll

Elizabeth

James

Justin

