
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO BEGIN MONTHLY TESTING OF
PACIFIC OCEAN AND SEAFOOD PRODUCTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENT
COMMISSION OF EXPERTS TO ASSESS THE SAFETY OF AND RISK OF
RADIATION IN SEAFOOD PRODUCTS FROM THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

1 WHEREAS, a coalition of seventy-two organizations and
2 others requested that the United Nations organize an independent
3 assessment team to consider the crucial problem of the Fukushima
4 Daiichi Unit 4 spent nuclear fuel pool and coordinate
5 international assistance to stabilize any harmful radiological
6 consequences, stating that it is "imperative for the Japanese
7 government and the international community to work together on
8 this crisis before it becomes too late. We are appealing to the
9 United Nations to help Japan and the planet in order to prevent
10 the irreversible consequences of a catastrophe that could affect
11 generations to come"; and

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13 WHEREAS, after visiting the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power
14 plant on April 6, 2012, United States Senator Ron Wyden, a
15 senior member of the United States Senate Committee on Energy
16 and Natural Resources who is highly experienced with nuclear
17 waste storage issues, commented, "What we learned the first time
18 is that radioactivity leaks out quickly. If (No.4) ruptures
19 now, it gets into the air. This must not happen," and "The
20 precarious status of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear units and the
21 risk presented by the enormous inventory of radioactive
22 materials and spent fuel in the event of further earthquake
23 threats should be of concern to all"; and

24
25 WHEREAS, the nuclear reactors are located in a highly
26 active seismic zone making the reactors vulnerable to an
27 earthquake, which would likely further compromise the structural
28 integrity of damaged buildings and equipment nearby, the melted
29 reactor cores and fuel rods require constant cooling and a



1 meltdown in a spent fuel pool would release unprecedented
2 amounts of radioactivity into the global atmosphere; and
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4 WHEREAS, over three hundred tons of radioactive water have
5 been discharged every day into the Pacific Ocean since the 2011
6 catastrophe and readings of marine life in the Western Pacific
7 and elsewhere have indicated increased radioactivity; and
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9 WHEREAS, a much more highly radioactive three hundred ton
10 leak occurred in 2013 from a poorly constructed storage tank,
11 and according to nuclear expert Mycle Schneider in August 2013,
12 "It is leaking out from the basements, it is leaking out from
13 the cracks all over the place. It is much worse than we have
14 been led to believe."; and
15

16 WHEREAS, this radioactive contamination will be carried by
17 the jet stream and spread by ocean currents to all parts of the
18 world, adversely affecting marine life as well as human
19 populations, and much greater contamination is likely given that
20 the reactor cores are highly unstable and the structures and
21 storage tanks are rapidly deteriorating; and
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23 WHEREAS, this disaster presents one of the gravest threats
24 and greatest technological challenges ever to face our species,
25 and as such, demands an international response utilizing the
26 world's most accomplished experts as well as international
27 funding on a level that coincides with humankind's most
28 ambitious efforts, in the interest of every nation; and
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30 WHEREAS, an industry that minimizes the severity of the
31 disaster will not resolve it responsibly and, therefore,
32 independent expertise and innovative thinking are fundamental
33 requirements for remediation; and
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35 WHEREAS, the United Nations adopted the International
36 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Treaty, which protects an
37 individual's civil and political rights, such as the right to
38 life, liberty, and security of an individual; and
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40 WHEREAS, the United Nations has a duty to act decisively
41 when people's collective human rights, basic livelihood,
42 environmental security, and right to know are being jeopardized;
43 and
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1 WHEREAS, news reports as of August 2013 identify plummeting
2 populations of salmon, sardines, seals, sea lions, and pelicans,
3 the almost complete destruction of the sea star population, and
4 the stress and significant decline of many other forms of marine
5 life in the oceans of the North Pacific, Alaska, and the West
6 Coast; and
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8 WHEREAS, major sightings of massive quantities of Fukushima
9 marine debris have been reported off the west Kalalau Coast of
10 Kauai as of November 30, 2013; and
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12 WHEREAS, the state Department of Health currently conducts
13 a regular shoreline sampling for potential radioactive marine
14 debris that one can walk away from, but does not sample marine
15 life, which could become internal radiation transmitters if
16 ingested; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
21 Health is requested to begin monthly testing of Pacific Ocean
22 seafood products caught locally and elsewhere to be reported to
23 the public on a regular ongoing and current basis; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
26 requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
27 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
28 2015 on its progress in conducting monthly testing and the
29 results of the testing; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United Nations General
32 Assembly is requested to establish a commission of scientific,
33 health, and radiation experts, as well as consumer advocates,
34 to:
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- 36 (1) Begin a balanced, open, and honest public radiation
37 safety debate and dialogue based on minimum monthly
38 local Pacific Ocean seafood testing and provide
39 information to the public regarding the elevated risk
40 from seafood and other pacific basin products;
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42 (2) Educate the world's population regarding specific
43 treatments for radiation exposure; and
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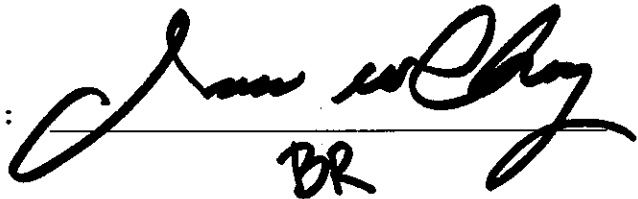
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1 (3) Develop and implement emergency procedures to
2 administer treatments to radiation exposure, and if
3 necessary, to mitigate radiation exposure; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that United States elected officials
6 are requested to do whatever they can to keep the Environmental
7 Protection Agency radiation limits at or below the levels that
8 were established before March 11, 2011, and that there be
9 regular testing and accurate reporting of radiation levels in
10 the air, water, soil, and food; and
11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United Nations
14 General Assembly, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-
15 moon, United States Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha
16 Power, President Barack Obama, Hawaii's congressional
17 delegation; Congresswoman and Representative of the United
18 States to the Sixty-eighth Session of the United Nations General
19 Assembly Barbara Lee, and Governor Neil Abercrombie.
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OFFERED BY:



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