
HOUSE 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

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

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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

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29 WHEREAS, in December 2013, scientists reported findings
30 that a 9.2 earthquake around the Aleutian Islands could generate
31 an extreme tsunami, such as the one that struck Japan in 2011,
32 that could severely devastate Oahu; and

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1 WHEREAS, the 1946 Aleutian Islands 8.1 magnitude earthquake
2 created a tsunami that reached Kauai and Hilo within five hours
3 of the earthquake and ultimately killed 159 people in Hawaii;
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami that struck
7 Japan caused tens of millions of dollars in damages to Hawaii
8 homes, boats, businesses, hotels, and government infrastructure;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the First Meeting of State, Local, and Tribal
12 Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience
13 recommends convening an International Climate Change Resilience
14 Forum that would coordinate both domestic and international
15 resilience efforts, especially in the Asia-Pacific region; now,
16 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, that this body recognizes the ten-year
21 anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the hosting
24 of a tenth anniversary commemoration to honor the deceased,
25 remember the sacrifices of the first responders, and share
26 disaster coordination practices and lessons learned from the
27 2004 disaster; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports efforts by
30 the Department of Defense, the Hawaii State Civil Defense, and
31 other entities to engage the Indonesian people in commemorating
32 the tenth anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and
33 tsunami and to coordinate training exercises, civil defense
34 responses, and emergency management and resiliency training for
35 Pacific-wide or localized tsunami events; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the use of
38 the knowledge and relationships gained from the tenth
39 anniversary commemoration to implement the International Climate
40 Change Resilience Forum at the East-West Center in 2015, as
41 recommended by the First Meeting of State, Local, and Tribal
42 Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Republic of
 3 Indonesia, the Secretary of State, the Ambassador of the
 4 Republic of Indonesia to the United States of America, the
 5 Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Los Angeles,
 6 the Adjutant General, the Vice Director of Civil Defense, the
 7 President of the East-West Center, and Hawaii's Congressional
 8 delegation.
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