
HOUSE 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

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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
30 meltdown in a spent fuel pool would release unprecedented
31 amounts of radioactivity into the global atmosphere; and

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1 WHEREAS, over three hundred tons of radioactive water have
2 been discharged every day into the Pacific Ocean since the 2011
3 catastrophe and readings of marine life in the Western Pacific
4 and elsewhere have indicated increased radioactivity; and
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6 WHEREAS, a much more highly radioactive three hundred ton
7 leak occurred in 2013 from a poorly constructed storage tank,
8 and according to nuclear expert Mycle Schneider in August 2013,
9 "It is leaking out from the basements, it is leaking out from
10 the cracks all over the place. It is much worse than we have
11 been led to believe."; and
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13 WHEREAS, this radioactive contamination will be carried by
14 the jet stream and spread by ocean currents to all parts of the
15 world, adversely affecting marine life as well as human
16 populations, and much greater contamination is likely given that
17 the reactor cores are highly unstable and the structures and
18 storage tanks are rapidly deteriorating; and
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20 WHEREAS, this disaster presents one of the gravest threats
21 and greatest technological challenges ever to face our species,
22 and as such, demands an international response utilizing the
23 world's most accomplished experts as well as international
24 funding on a level that coincides with humankind's most
25 ambitious efforts, in the interest of every nation; and
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27 WHEREAS, an industry that minimizes the severity of the
28 disaster will not resolve it responsibly and, therefore,
29 independent expertise and innovative thinking are fundamental
30 requirements for remediation; and
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32 WHEREAS, the United Nations adopted the International
33 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Treaty, which protects an
34 individual's civil and political rights, such as the right to
35 life, liberty, and security of an individual; and
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37 WHEREAS, the United Nations has a duty to act decisively
38 when people's collective human rights, basic livelihood,
39 environmental security, and right to know are being jeopardized;
40 and
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42 WHEREAS, news reports as of August 2013 identify plummeting
43 populations of salmon, sardines, seals, sea lions, and pelicans,
44 the almost complete destruction of the sea star population, and



1 the stress and significant decline of many other forms of marine
2 life in the oceans of the North Pacific, Alaska, and the West
3 Coast; and
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5 WHEREAS, major sightings of massive quantities of Fukushima
6 marine debris have been reported off the west Kalalau Coast of
7 Kauai as of November 30, 2013; and
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9 WHEREAS, the state Department of Health currently conducts
10 a regular shoreline sampling for potential radioactive marine
11 debris that one can walk away from, but does not sample marine
12 life, which could become internal radiation transmitters if
13 ingested; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2014, that the Department of Health is requested to
18 begin monthly testing of Pacific Ocean seafood products caught
19 locally and elsewhere to be reported to the public on a regular
20 ongoing and current basis; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
23 requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
24 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
25 2015 on its progress in conducting monthly testing and the
26 results of the testing; and
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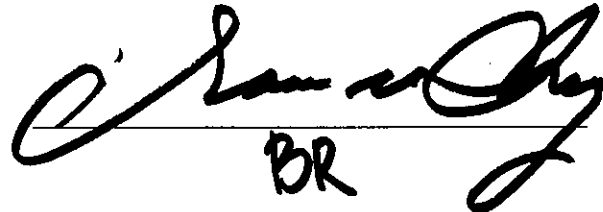
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United Nations General
29 Assembly is requested to establish a commission of scientific,
30 health, and radiation experts, as well as consumer advocates,
31 to:
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- 33 (1) Begin a balanced, open, and honest public radiation
34 safety debate and dialogue based on minimum monthly
35 local Pacific Ocean seafood testing and provide
36 information to the public regarding the elevated risk
37 from seafood and other pacific basin products;
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- 39 (2) Educate the world's population regarding specific
40 treatments for radiation exposure; and
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- 42 (3) Develop and implement emergency procedures to
43 administer treatments to radiation exposure, and if
44 necessary, to mitigate radiation exposure; and

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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that United States elected officials
3 are requested to do whatever they can to keep the Environmental
4 Protection Agency radiation limits at or below the levels that
5 were established before March 11, 2011, and that there be
6 regular testing and accurate reporting of radiation levels in
7 the air, water, soil, and food; and

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

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19 OFFERED BY:



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