
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND HUNT COMPANIES TO
RESERVE THE EWA FIELD LAND TO PRESERVE WORLD WAR II
HISTORIC AND HAWAIIAN CULTURAL SITES AT THE FORMER MARINE
CORPS AIR STATION EWA FOR THE CREATION OF THE EWA
BATTLEFIELD MEMORIAL PARK.

1 WHEREAS, the December 7, 1941, attack on the Ewa Mooring
2 Mast Field (later re-designated Marine Corps Air Station Ewa) on
3 the island of Oahu, constitutes one of the very first points of
4 the attack against the United States which precipitated our
5 nation's entry into World War II; and
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7 WHEREAS, it is far less known that in early 1942, Ewa field
8 became the phoenix rising from the ashes to become a major U.S.
9 Navy and U.S. Marine airfield responding to the defense of the
10 Hawaiian Islands at a very crucial period when the aggressive
11 Japanese Empire was at the height of its naval power; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Legislature unanimously passed
14 House Concurrent Resolution No. 49, H.D. 1, Regular Session of
15 2009, advocating the designation and development of Ewa field as
16 a national monument, museum, and restored park, which would
17 preserve this critical American historic site, allowing stories
18 to be told of the associated military conflicts, American
19 sacrifices, and the heroism and determination that became the
20 foundation for victory in the Pacific arena and eventually in
21 World War II itself; and
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23 WHEREAS, a national park service battlefield protection
24 grant in 2015 documented the December 7, 1941, airfield site
25 that was subsequently nominated to the Hawaii State Historic
26 Register and National Register of Historic Places in May 2016,
27 as the Ewa Plain Battlefield; and



1 WHEREAS, new research done with a 2016 national park
2 service battlefield protection grant documenting the Ewa field
3 revetments has found that the major American response to the
4 attack of December 7, 1941, was mounted by the U.S. Navy and
5 U.S. Marines in June 1942, at the Battle of Midway from the then
6 nascent Ewa field as funds, manpower, and materiel were
7 redirected from the nearby Naval Air Station Barbers Point, just
8 beginning construction, and meant to rapidly expand Ewa field
9 into a major Navy aircraft carrier support facility to include
10 construction of approximately one hundred seventy-five air
11 attack resistant aircraft revetments in preparation for a future
12 major naval battle; and

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14 WHEREAS, further research for the National Register of
15 Historic Places nomination of the 1942 aircraft revetments has
16 determined that the aircraft flown in the June 1942, Battle of
17 Midway, a crucial turning point of the Pacific War and
18 considered as the U.S. Navy's most important battle in its
19 history with the sinking of four of the Imperial Japanese
20 aircraft carriers that bombed Pearl Harbor, can be traced
21 directly to the still existing 1942 Ewa field revetments sites;
22 and

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24 WHEREAS, a national monument and national historic landmark
25 designation of the historic 1942 aircraft revetments at former
26 Marine Corps Air Station Ewa would further preserve and document
27 Hawaii's involvement in World War II, serving as a focal point
28 for the commemoration, remembrance, and honoring of the many
29 brave Navy and Marine pilots from those same Ewa Field aircraft
30 revetments who willingly sacrificed their lives for the
31 foundation of victory in the Pacific and in World War II; and

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33 WHEREAS, the local community and veterans have proposed a
34 protective and commemorative park solution known as the "Ewa
35 Battlefield Memorial Park" to the State and the City and County
36 of Honolulu to serve as a focal point for the commemoration,
37 remembrance, and honoring those many brave U.S. Navy and U.S.
38 Marine pilots; and

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40 WHEREAS, the envisioned memorial park will be an
41 educational, peaceful, commemorative, environmental, and
42 ecologically self-sustaining long-term park project utilizing a



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1 dedicated core of military veterans, supporting families, and
2 local community organizations including Wounded Warriors, Youth
3 Challenge Academy, and university and high school JROTC and
4 cadet scout programs that currently support annual Ewa
5 Battlefield Commemorations; and

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7 WHEREAS, the announced plans for a major new Battle of
8 Midway motion picture creating new national awareness of this
9 incredible 1942 Pacific battle and the sacrifices made during
10 this battle will further public interest in the preservation and
11 site visitation of the Marine Corps Air Station Ewa revetments
12 as a national monument and national landmark creating
13 opportunities for employment, education, and community pride for
14 the people of Hawaii; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA)
17 plans to spend \$500,000 for a new Kalaeloa Master Plan and it is
18 important that the National Park Service have a role in defining
19 a battlefield park, a matter that HCDA has no previous
20 experience with; now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
24 2019, the Senate concurring, that the United States government
25 and Hunt Companies reserve the Ewa Field land for the
26 preservation of World War II historic and Hawaiian cultural
27 sites at the former Marine Corps Air Station Ewa for the
28 creation of the Ewa Battlefield Memorial Park; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii's Congressional
31 delegation is urged to introduce a bill to Congress requesting a
32 National Park Service feasibility study to determine whether the
33 Ewa Plain Battlefield listed on the National Register of
34 Historic Places is suitable for inclusion in the national park
35 system; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
39 United States, Secretary of Defense of the United States,
40 Secretary of the Interior of the United States, Commander of
41 Navy Region Hawaii, each member of Hawaii's Congressional
42 delegation, Executive Director of the Hawaii Community



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1 Development Authority, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu,
2 Director of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of
3 Honolulu, and President of the Hawaii Division of Hunt Building
4 Company, Ltd.

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OFFERED BY: *Fide Cabanilla Hakawa*

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