

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ESTABLISH  
A MAKUA VALLEY TASK FORCE TO PREPARE FOR THE TRANSFER OF  
MANAGEMENT OF THE MAKUA MILITARY RESERVATION TO THE STATE  
FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY UPON EXPIRATION OF GENERAL  
LEASE NO. S-3848.

1           WHEREAS, use of Makua Valley by the United States military  
2 dates back to the 1920s; and

3  
4           WHEREAS, during World War II, more than four thousand acres  
5 in the valley were converted into a United States military  
6 reservation and areas of Makua Valley were turned into live-fire  
7 training facilities subject to ship-to-shore bombardment; and

8  
9           WHEREAS, kuleana residents and other residents were  
10 required to leave Makua Valley once the United States military  
11 took over the area; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, in 1964, the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
14 signed a sixty-five-year lease with the United States Army for  
15 use of land in Makua Valley; and

16  
17           WHEREAS, the United States military continued live-fire  
18 training at Makua Military Reservation until 2001, when the  
19 United States Army agreed to nearly cease live-fire training at  
20 Makua pending a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement;  
21 and

22  
23           WHEREAS, according to the findings of fact by a United  
24 States district court that temporarily enjoined the Army from  
25 conducting live-fire military training at Makua in 2001:



- 1 (1) There are at least thirty-two listed endangered  
2 plants, two endangered birds, one endangered mammal,  
3 and one endangered invertebrate snail located in the  
4 Makua Military Reservation area;  
5
- 6 (2) There are records of ten plant species recognized as  
7 species of concern, five plant candidate species  
8 recognized for threatened or endangered species  
9 status, and one animal species of concern in the Makua  
10 Military Reservation area; and  
11
- 12 (3) Makua Valley is associated with a number of Native  
13 Hawaiian legends and traditional Native Hawaiian  
14 deities, and has significant religious and social  
15 value to many Native Hawaiians; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the Makua Military Reservation contains  
18 approximately one hundred sites that are eligible for listing on  
19 the National Register of Historic Places, including Hawaiian  
20 temples, shrines, and petroglyphs; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the United States Army agreed to clear unexploded  
23 ordnance, with a focus on providing access to cultural sites in  
24 Makua; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, access to cultural sites was halted in 2015 after  
27 two grass-cutting contractors were injured when an unexploded  
28 ordnance accidentally exploded, resulting in a lawsuit against  
29 the United States Army to renew access to cultural sites; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, General Lease No. S-3848, the State's sixty-five-  
32 year lease to the United States Army for its use of Makua  
33 Valley, expires on August 16, 2029; now, therefore,  
34

35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
36 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
37 2020, that the Board of Land and Natural Resources is requested  
38 to establish a Makua Valley task force to prepare for the  
39 transfer of management of the Makua Military Reservation to the  
40 State from the United States Army upon expiration of General  
41 Lease No. S-3848; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force  
2 are requested to examine and address the legal, historical,  
3 environmental, and cultural impacts from the decades-long use of  
4 Makua Valley by the United States armed forces, and serve  
5 without compensation; and  
6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
8 be comprised of the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
9 Resources and a representative of the House of Representatives  
10 to be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
11 and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of  
14 Land and Natural Resources is requested to invite the following  
15 persons to be members of the task force:  
16

- 17 (1) A representative from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- 18
- 19 (2) A member of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee;
- 20
- 21 (3) A representative of the families who were evicted from  
22 Makua Valley or whose lands in Makua Valley were  
23 condemned by the federal government;
- 24
- 25 (4) One representative from each of three different non-  
26 profit organizations with expertise regarding Makua  
27 Valley; and
- 28
- 29 (5) A representative selected from a list of organizations  
30 compiled by Native Hawaiian organizations and  
31 submitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and  
32 Natural Resources; and  
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
35 elect a chairperson from among its members; and  
36

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
38 enter into specific discussions with the United States Army  
39 prior to the expiration of General Lease No. S-3848 to:



- 1 (1) Facilitate the expedient return of the lands
- 2 comprising the Makua Military Reservation;
- 3
- 4 (2) Ensure the removal of unexploded ordnance in Makua
- 5 Valley; and
- 6
- 7 (3) Ensure the expansion of opportunities for cultural
- 8 access; and
- 9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 11 submit progress reports of its findings and recommendations,  
 12 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 13 than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session  
 14 until the task force is dissolved on February 16, 2030, six  
 15 months after the expiration of General Lease No. S-3848; and  
 16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 18 Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of the  
 19 Army, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,  
 20 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian  
 21 Affairs, and Chairperson of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.  
 22  
 23  
 24

OFFERED BY: *[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

