

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 8:04:17 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim Albertini	Malu 'Aina	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our organization Malu Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action supports HCR 91.

We are living in the most dangerous time for possible global nuclear destruction since the Cuban missile crisis of 1962, though few realize this. The US and Russia possess 90% of the world's nuclear arsenal, enough to destroy the world many times over and end civilization as we know it. Nuclear forces are now on high alert!

Let's be clear. There is no excuse for the Russian invasion of Ukraine. But Americans need to face the truth of its responsibility for the suffering and death resulting from the war. The US is using Ukraine and its people as cannon fodder for its arms merchants, and for its "Hatred of Russia" campaign with its goal – the destruction of the Russian state and Vladimir Putin.

Americans have received a distorted view of reality when it comes to what has led up to the war. America's hands are not clean. The US also needs to be reminded that it has contributed to creating 38 Million war refugees in the past 2 decades, according to the Watson Institute at Brown University. The US has a long list of war crimes and interventions to its name.

The path to a ceasefire in Ukraine, and a withdrawal of Russian troops, needs to include a neutral (Non-NATO) Ukraine, and a recognition of the sovereignty of the Donbas region and Crimea. People everywhere need to stand up and say –

Stop the War! The only true shelter for humanity is Peace!

I live on the Big Island. The Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), otherwise known as the Pohakuloa Toxic Area, is a 133,000-acre military live-fire range in the center of Hawaii Island that has been bombed for more than 75 years. Pohakuloa is nearly 5 times the size of Kaho'olawe. Millions of live rounds are fired annually at PTA and have involved a wide range of weapons and toxins, including radioactive Depleted Uranium (DU) radiation. When DU metal is hit with high explosives it is turned into DU oxide particles that can be carried long distances in the wind and easily inhaled causing various cancers and other serious health problems.

Everyone on the Big Island is downhill and downwind from PTA which is at 6500 feet elevation. The land, water, air, people, plants, and animals, including the thousands of troops who train at PTA, are all part of a Military Sacrifice Zone. The bombing must be stopped, the military mess cleaned up, and the land returned to the Hawaiian people.

Forever Aloha 'Aina.

Jim Albertini, President of Malu 'Aina

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aina.org](http://www.malu-aina.org)



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Takashi Ohno, Chair
The Honorable Sonny Ganaden, Vice Chair
Committee on Corrections, Military, & Veterans

Re: **HCR 91 / HR 85 – DECLARING OVERMILITARIZATION TO BE A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF HAWAII AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND URGING PRIORITIZATION OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN THE UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINIAN CONFLICT AND INCREASED EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION.**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 10:30 a.m., Conference Room 430 and Via Videoconference

Position: Strong Support

Aloha, Chair Ohno and Vice Chair Ganaden and Members of the Committee on Corrections, Military & Veterans:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports HCR 91 / HR 85 and requests that these measures be PASSED by your Committee. These Resolutions seek to declare Hawaii's overmilitarization as a threat to Hawaii's security. These Resolutions also seek to prioritize humanitarian aid to Ukraine while strengthening efforts toward international nuclear nonproliferation.

The State of Hawai'i is "over-militarized" to its detriment and such over militarization is a threat to Hawaii's own security. O'ahu has seven major military facilities: (1) Headquarters of the Indo-Pacific Command at Camp Smith, Aiea; (2) Pearl Harbor Naval Base and Headquarters of U.S. Pacific Fleet; (3) Hickam Air Force Base and Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force Pacific; (4) Fort Shafter, Headquarters of the U.S. Army Pacific; (5) Kaneohe Marine Base; (6) Schofield Barracks 25th Infantry Division Army Installation; and (7) Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies. Kauai has the large Pacific Missile Test Facility. Big Island has the massive Pohakuloa Training Area/Bombing Range. Maui has the huge Department of Defense computer system.

Recently, we have seen the lack of care the U.S. military has had for the people, land and water of Hawai'i. Fully aware of the dangers posed by the leaking 80-year-old jet fuel tanks at Red Hill, the U.S. military refused to discuss defueling the tanks until a massive leak contaminated the drinking water of 100,000 residents of O'ahu, many of whom were their own military families. For our own security, it is time the State of Hawai'i becomes less dependent on military funding in the name of national security.

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports efforts to declare Hawaii's overmilitarization as a threat to Hawaii's security and to prioritize humanitarian aid to Ukraine while strengthening efforts toward international nuclear nonproliferation.

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to testify. Please pass these resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodie Adyja

Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus
Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 8:01:33 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Mulinix	Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Committee,

My name is David Mulinix, I am the Cofounder & Statewide Organizer for Our Revolution Hawaii. On behalf of our 5,000 members and supporters statewide we stand in strong support of HCR91 urging the Hawaii Congressional Delegation to take the necessary actions supporting the reorganization of important military assets and property for increased efficiency and effectiveness.

Most if not all of the major sites that are polluted in Hawaii are from U.S. military irresponsibly contaminating and then not responsibly cleaning up the mess they've made in Hawaii. They contaminate our land and drinking water in the name of national security. But this is a lie, because true national security would be our military protecting our people at home as well as abroad. But instead U.S. civilians and our homes are viewed by our military as expendable in the quest to support their various missions.

The U.S. spends more on our military than the next ten countries combined and eight of them are our allies. We are wasting vital resources overfunding our overbloated military budget.

President Eisenhower summed up the problem best when he said: "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities. It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 population. It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals. It is some fifty miles of concrete pavement. We pay for a single fighter with a half-million bushels of wheat. We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people. . . . This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron."

Please vote in support of HCR91.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

David Mulinix, Cofounder & Statewide Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 7:45:03 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HR85 and HCR91.

CODEPINK, an organization working to support peace and human rights initiatives, summed it up perfectly in their statement:

“There is no military solution to the conflict over Ukraine, a country caught in the crossfire between the United States and Russia, the world’s two most heavily armed nuclear nations. While we denounce Putin’s reckless veiled threat to launch nuclear weapons against NATO countries, we also recognize the United States government is culpable in the proliferation and deployment of nuclear weapons, and must reverse course on its decision to pursue nuclear rearmament and instead advance verifiable agreements for global nuclear disarmament.

No to War in Ukraine; Yes to Negotiations and Peace.”

Please pass HR85 and HCR91 which declares overmilitarization to be a threat to the security of Hawaii and the international community and urging prioritization of humanitarian aid in the United States’ response to the Ukrainian conflict and increased efforts to strengthen international nuclear nonproliferation.

Hawaii has suffered greatly, and continues to suffer, as the result of overmilitarization due to our deemed “strategic military importance.” The contamination of our sole-source aquifer with petroleum from fuel storage tanks built specifically for World War II, the unexploded ordinance and other contaminants that remain in Makua Valley, the contamination at Pohakuloa Training Area with depleted uranium, to name a few. And let’s be clear, the weapons the military stores here do not protect us, they simply make us a target. Enough is enough.

Sending weapons will only escalate the war and lead to more horror and tragedy. Americans who are in the Ukraine have made clear, the best thing we can do to help the Ukrainians is to **send humanitarian aid, not weapons**. We must stop military madness and put our efforts towards real peace.

Please PASS these very important resolutions.

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 8:18:17 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wally Inglis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rep. Takashi Ohno, Chair, and

Rep Sonny Ganaden, Vice-Chair, and

Members of the Committee on Corrections, Military and Veterans Affairs

Aloha!

My name is Wally Inglis. I come before your committee in strong support of both HCR 91 and HR 85.

My wife and I arrived in Hawaii fifty years ago. From the beginning, we sought out like-minded people who were concerned about issues of peace and the impact of war on Hawaii and the rest of the world. The Vietnam War was raging and Americans were more and more speaking against it. It did not take us long to see the dark side of the paradise in which we chose to live--that we were living in perhaps the most heavily militarized state in the most militarized nation in the world.

Things have not changed much in the past half-century. The US has more than 800 bases in some 80 countries. We still live in a culture of violence, as evidenced by the mounting number of gun killings of our young people here and across the land. It is my belief that global militarism and murder in our streets are of the same piece.

And now another war is devastating the people and land of Ukraine, which all of us rightly condemn. In such times, people revert to old ways of thinking and begin mindlessly beating the drums of war. For the United States to even think of going to war in the Ukraine is to ignore the failure of our interventions in Vietnam, Iraq and in Afghanistan--the longest war in our nation's history.

Please further the cause of peace by doing what these resolutions call for: declaring overmilitarization to be a threat to Hawaii's security, prioritizing humanitarian aid, and supporting nuclear nonproliferation.

Mahalo for this chance to testify.

Wally Inglis

Palolo Valley

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 8:56:47 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sanford Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I whole heartily support HCR 91 and urge you to pass it.

Mahalo!

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 8:23:46 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Definitely approve this resolution. Overmiliarization is definitely a threat to the wellbeing of Hawaii. Only humanitarian aid to Ukraine. No weapons!

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 11:13:14 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Laliberte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support this resolution. The US Military has illegally occupied Hawaii since the overthrow, and ever since has grown like a tumor on the land and into the sea. Like a cancerous tumor, its toxins and fuels and explosions make the people and the land sick. Red Hill is fresh on our minds but is just one of the many examples of how the military claims to protect us, while actually poisoning us.

But the destructive forces of the US Military have long ago metastasized beyond the borders of our state and country. The Military is arming and training Ukrainians to fight the Russians, which will NOT save lives, but in fact will deepen and prolong the war. If there is any hope of peace in Ukraine it will happen when people put the guns down and the leaders start talking. In the meantime over a million war refugees are fleeing and the US has an obligation to assist them to safety. As stated in the resolution, the US should immediately cease its shipments of military hardware and instead offer resettlement and asylum to people fleeing the war zone.

I will close this testimony with a not so well-known quote from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. because as more Americans struggle to pay for food, doctors bills and gasoline, our elected leaders choose to shovel hundreds and billions of dollars into the war machine. Dr. MLK Jr. said in 1967:

“A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.”

Sincerely,

Liz Laliberte, Hilo

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 11:37:22 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
jeanne wheeler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an important step to removing the humanitarian cancer that is militarism & to move towards peaceful co-existence on the planet, for our actual survival

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 5:27:26 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nako'o Warrington	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of HCR 91

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 7:43:38 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I come from Papakōlea, O‘ahu. I'm a Kanaka Maoli born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom. I'm writing in full support of HCR91.

Enough is enough we must demilitarize Hawai‘i!

Support HCR91.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 8:43:57 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gary Hooser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HCR 91 and HR 85

The U.S. is the largest supplier of arms on the planet and has more military bases deployed in more countries than any other country in human history.

“DECLARING OVER MILITARIZATION TO BE A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF HAWAII AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND URGING PRIORITIZATION OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN THE UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINIAN CONFLICT AND INCREASED EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION.”

Aloha Committee Chair and Members,

While I only became aware of HCR 91 and HR85 this morning, I am compelled to offer this late testimony in support of the basic premise that the excessive militarism of Hawaii and the planet is not healthy for children and other living things (paraphrased from 'Another Mother for Peace (AMP)).

The U.S. is the largest supplier of arms on the planet and has more military bases deployed in more countries than any other country in human history.

To be clear, I am not a pacifist and I believe in a strong defense. I also believe that there are individuals in the world who are unstable and will bring harm to others if not stopped. I believe that sometimes force is required to protect the innocent, however force must be used only as a last resort and diplomacy must always be the primary path used to resolve differences.

Yes to a strong defense. No to the obscene amount of weapons the U.S. sells and deploys around the world and in Hawaii.

Hawaii's military foot-print must be reduced, not expanded. There is no question that the extensive presence of the military in Hawaii increases the likelihood of Hawaii being a military target.

O'ahu has seven major military facilities:

- Headquarters of the Indo-Pacific Command at Camp Smith, Aiea,
- Pearl Harbor Naval Base and Headquarters of U.S. Pacific Fleet
- Hickam Air Force Base and Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force Pacific
- Fort Shafter, Headquarters of the U.S. Army Pacific
- Kaneohe Marine Base,
- Schofield Barracks 25th Infantry Division Army Installation
- Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

Kaua`i has the large Pacific Missile Test Facility (PMRF) and currently there are plans to further expand this facility.

Hawaii Island has the massive Pohakuloa Training Area/Bombing Range.

Maui - Department of Defense computer system

The U.S. is the largest arms dealer in the world.

“The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) came out with its annual [analysis](#) of the global arms trade this week and as usual, the United States was the number one weapons exporter by a large margin. For the five years from 2017 to 2021, the U.S. accounted for 39 percent of major arms deliveries worldwide, over twice what Russia transferred and nearly 10 times what China sent to its weapons clients. In addition, the U.S. had far more customers – 103 nations, or more than half of the member states of the United Nations.” Forbes Magazine March 18, 2022

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhartung/2022/03/18/were-1-the-us-government-is-the-worlds-largest-arms-dealer/?sh=47d7d0ad5bb9>

The U.S. has more military bases in more countries around the world, than any other country in human history.

“...some 750 American military facilities remain open in 80 nations and territories around the world. No other country in human history has had such a dominant presence...America also has three times as many installations as all other countries combined. The United Kingdom has 145. Russia two to three dozen. China five.” Cato Institute

<https://www.cato.org/commentary/750-bases-80-countries-too-many-any-nation-time-us-bring-its-troops-home>

“...the United States garrisons the planet unlike any country in history, and the evidence is on view from Honduras to Oman, Japan to Germany, Singapore to Djibouti...While there are no freestanding foreign bases permanently located in the United States, there are now around [800 US bases](#) in foreign countries.” The Nation

<https://www.thenation.com/article/world/the-united-states-probably-has-more-foreign-military-bases-than-any-other-people-nation-or-empire-in-history/>

Thank you for the opportunity to support HCR 91 and HR 85. I am hopeful that the Committee will pass this important measure and allow the discussion to continue.

Sincerely,

Gary Hooser

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:19:46 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Ramirez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My family and I all STRONGLY SUPPORT HCR91 ans HR85 and urge you to consider the responsibility and opportunity you have right now to protect the safety of all of us not only in Hawai'i but the entire planet.

Hawai'i already has an extreme EXCESS of military activity and pollution that negatively affects the security and well-being of all islands. The military footprint in Hawai'i must be reduced, not expanded. There is no question that the extensive presence of the military in Hawaii increases the likelihood of Hawaii being a military target.

O'ahu has seven major military facilities:

- Headquarters of the Indo-Pacific Command at Camp Smith, Aiea,
- Pearl Harbor Naval Base and Headquarters of U.S. Pacific Fleet
- Hickam Air Force Base and Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force Pacific
- Fort Shafter, Headquarters of the U.S. Army Pacific
- Kaneohe Marine Base,
- Schofield Barracks 25th Infantry Division Army Installation
- Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

Kaua`i has the large Pacific Missile Test Facility (PMRF) and currently there are plans to further expand this facility.

Hawai'i Island has the massive Pōhakuloa Training Area/Bombing Range.

Maui – Department of Defense computer system

No more! No more spreading war and destruction and death especially not in our name and from our islands.

Mahalo,

Laura Ramirez and the Bettencourt family

Kapa'a, Kaua'i

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:23:32 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution. The events unfolding in Ukraine are a tragic reminder of the price ordinary people pay when billions of dollars are poured into militarization. When countries develop and build weapons, those weapons will eventually be used to commit violence. War is a crime against humanity and the planet and there is no place for it in a just, equitable and sustainable future. We must commit ourselves to disarmament, demilitarization, denuclearization, decolonization and a singular reliance on diplomacy to solve our problems and differences. And most importantly, the United States—the most powerful empire in the history of humanity—must commit to ending its military hegemony over the planet. Only then will we have peace.

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:23:22 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sharon douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please do everything in your power to stop the over militarisation of Hawaii. History teaches us that if you have an arms race, it eventually gets used. Instead of killing and destroying we could be investing in educating more of the world on how we are all interconnected; how to be reverant and grateful for this incredible planet that gives so much to us.

We can change direction and make decisions that help create a safer world in which we protect each other, and our planet in more loving ways.

thank you

sharon douglas

kalaheo

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:33:27 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly Support!

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:17:04 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Clean up and return stolen lands.

HCR-91

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 10:20:52 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/23/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
shantee brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

please support HCR 91