

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 7:50:24 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 HR 85.

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

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 7:58:51 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Dave Mulinix | Our Revolution Hawaii | Support | In Person |

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 HR85 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 HR85.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

David Mulinix, Cofounder & Statewide Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii



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

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 6:51:08 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lynette Cruz | Malama Makua | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Over militarization of Hawaii does not make Hawaii safe or peace-centered. Rather it makes us a target, Absolutely support humanitarian aid in all conflicts, but promoting and acting on peace policies in the first place would make way more sense than helping after the conflict begins. Hawaii can be and should be a center for peace.

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 8:50:42 PM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gerard Silva | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

This all Bull Shit the action Taken in Ukrain is a Police Action from Russia . NATO has already admitted that as a Fact. Russia has every right to get ride of the Nazi Comunist in Ukrain. SO ANY ONE THAT STANDS WITH UKRAIN MUST BE COMUNIST OR NAZI'S. Hawaii should Stay away from this before other Countries diced we are Comunist to!!

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/22/2022 8:25:51 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 support the premise of this bill. Weary of militarization and wars. Stick to diplomacy and humanitarian aide.

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 2:15:23 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Colonel Ann Wright | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HCR 91 and HR 85

“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.”

March 23, 2022

I served 29 years in the US Army and Army Reserves and retired as a Colonel. I had an Army Reserve assignment with the Headquarters of the Pacific Command located in Honolulu.

I also was a U.S. diplomat in the Asia-Pacific, for two years at the US Embassy in the Federated States of Micronesia and the US Embassy in Mongolia.

As a U.S. diplomat I also had an assignment for two years in the International Affairs office of the Office of the Governor of the State of Hawai’i in 2000-2002.

I was also assigned as a US diplomat to US Embassies in Nicaragua, Grenada, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan.

The State of Hawai’i is “over-militarized” to its detriment.

Over militarization is a threat to Hawaii’s own security.

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

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 on Maui.

This mammoth military complex located in the Hawaiian Islands makes the islands a major target for potential adversaries.

So many military targets means that our security has been sacrificed for “national” security.

While our Congressional delegation proudly “brings home the bacon” in large military expenditures for military projects in Hawai’i, the basic needs of education and infrastructure for the citizens of the state suffer.

In the past four months, 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.

Likewise, the bombing of the island of Kaho’olawe and Makua Valley and the huge amounts of land that are still being damaged by the military mean that sooner, rather than later, the military must end its dominance on these islands.

For our own security, it is time the State of Hawai’i becomes less dependent on military funding in the name of national security.

It is time to stop the “Over Militarization” of Hawai’i.

I have written extensively about the Russia/Ukraine situation including an opinion piece in the January 30, 2022 Star Advertiser “For the Sake of Innocent Civilians, Stop The Next War Now By Deploying True Dialogue and Diplomacy,” the title of which describes my view.

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2022/01/30/editorial/insight/for-the-sake-of-innocent-civilians-stop-the-next-war-now-by-deploying-true-dialogue-and-diplomacy/>

Ann Wright

Colonel, US Army (Ret)

2333 Kapiolani Blvd

Honolulu, HI 96826

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 3:03:28 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Koohan Paik | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Now, more than ever, we need to emphasize demilitarization and genuine diplomacy over the current U.S. habit of picking fights with other powerful nations. Just two days ago, on the heels of a failed meeting in which the U.S. asked China to agree to place sanctions on Russia, the U.S. retaliated by placing sanctions on China.

This playground-bully behavior (posing as foreign policy places) is the first step on the escalator toward war with China, putting Hawaii and her residents in grave danger of being in the cross fire of a war with two nuclear powers.

It is the overmilitarization of Hawaii that makes us the prime target for attack.

It is also this overmilitarization that has created a system of values that prizes "military readiness" over a drinkable water system, and a liveable future. Contamination from military practice is far from being cleaned up, yet the U.S. military continues to build more polluting installations, and even worse, conduct more military practice, like RIMPAC and more, in our waters and on our lands -- killing countless whales, dolphins, sea turtles, plankton and all marine creatures that create the web of life that supports the survival of all life on Earth.

It is time to return to values of peace and cooperation with other countries, if we are to work together to fight the real threats -- climate catastrophe, ecological unravelling, the healthcare crisis, and more. This can never take place when the U.S. economy serves the arms industry by continually seeking war.

For a liveable future, we must demilitarize Hawaii, support peace talks with China and Russia, support Ukraine with humanitarian aid instead of weapons, and reinstate all the nuclear disarmament treaties that the U.S. pulled out of.

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 5:25:29 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 HR 85

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 7:43:27 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.

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:10:56 AM

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Claire Shimabukuro | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee,

War disrupts our daily lives. It turns people into murderers and it turns citizens, including infants and children, into murdered victims. It impoverishes us and threatens our environment. It teaches our children and grandchildren (and adults, too) fear and hatred.

Our lives are threatened by over-militarization even during times of peace as evidenced by the leaking of fuel in US military tanks at Red Hill. This is an everyday threat to our precious water, which is the essence of life. Nuclear weapons and war threaten the very existence of the entire planet.

The U.S. military's militaristic and imperialistic foreign policy, which benefits wealthy corporations at the expense of human lives, must end.

Mahalo, Claire Shimabukuro

HR-85

Submitted on: 3/23/2022 9:26:12 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 HR85 and HCR91 and urge you to support peace and humanitarian aid to Ukraine rather than encouraging and spreading more death and destruction that war brings.

This is a crucial moment in history and you have the responsibility and opportunity to use your power for the ultimate good and make a difference to improve the state of the world and protect the entire planet and all its people, including the people of Hawai'i, from the devastation of nuclear war and disaster.

Mahalo,

Laura Ramirez and the Bettencourt family

Kapa'a, Kaua'i