

# Manit im Ejmour Alliance

Ocean View, HI  
2022

March 31, 2022

To: Senator Brian T Taniguchi, Chair,  
Senator Les Ihara Jr., Vice Chair,  
Esteem Committee Members on Labor, Culture, and the Arts,

In honor of the good spirit and our strong cultures in the Pacific Islands, we first begin this letter by acknowledging this space we're in, the ancestral land of the Native Hawaiian people, its customary and traditional leaders.

We commend you for your reconsideration to acknowledge and designate March 10 as the Enewetak Atoll (Marshall Islands) Liberation Day. As it is well orchestrated through Senate Concurrent Resolution 179, Enewetak Atoll, with the rest of the Marshall Islands, were captured by the Imperial Japanese Navy during World War I. Then, during the World War II, the United States liberated Enewetak after a five-day battle documented in what's called the "Battle of Enewetak". In between 1946 to 1958, the United States began conducting sixty-seven series of nuclear tests of weapons of mass destruction in the Marshall Islands, forty-two of the tests were on Enewetak atoll, without the consent of the people of Enewetak. The people of Enewetak continue to be displaced, dispose of, and were left with the largest nuclear dumpsite known as the Runit dome. As of today, this dome is as a pillow where we lay our heads to rest each nightfall forever.

Now, after 78 years since World War II on Enewetak, we are aware of these issues. We feel obligated to share these stories, knowledge, and experiences so that it may never be repeated to anyone or any place. We hope that people of Hawaii, and the communities here, will understand where we are from and who we are. With your support of SCR 179, designating March 10 as the Enewetak Atoll Marshall Islands Liberation Day, as the day of remembrance, honor, and thanksgiving for we are here. We shall not forget, and we are not alone. Your act today on the significance of SCR 179 will not only uplift the people of Enewetak, but for humanity. For we stand as one people, under God, for truth, liberty, and justice for all.

Signed by,

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President, Manit Im Ejmour Alliance,  
Lucinda Brokken

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Enewetak Atoll Councilmen, Stanjohn Obet

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Enewetak Atoll Councilmen, Jonithen  
Jackson

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Enewetak Atoll Councilmen, Winton Anni

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Enewetak Atoll Councilmen, Billimon  
Gideon