

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES, GOVERNOR, AND HAWAII'S
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO WORK TOGETHER TO FACILITATE THE
CLEAN UP AND RETURN OF ADDITIONAL MILITARY LANDS.

1 WHEREAS, many properties in the State are under federal
2 control and are used, or have been used, as military facilities;
3 and

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5 WHEREAS, the United States Armed Forces' use of the land
6 has caused extensive environmental damage, including water and
7 soil contamination; and

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9 WHEREAS, in January 2023, the United States Air Force
10 returned to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands three hundred
11 sixty-three acres of land that the military formerly leased on
12 the island of Molokai; and

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14 WHEREAS, in preparing to return the land, the United States
15 Air Force carried out "an exhaustive and comprehensive"
16 environmental clean up process approved by the Department of
17 Health and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and

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19 WHEREAS, the returned land may offer opportunities for
20 Native Hawaiians on the waitlist to receive homestead leases
21 from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and

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23 WHEREAS, the Governor has expressed interest in identifying
24 additional lands that the military can return to the State; and

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26 WHEREAS, the return of additional military lands would
27 provide opportunities for environmental clean up, help the State
28 address the extensive waitlist for homestead leases, and allow
29 the State to undertake conservation efforts on the lands; and
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S.C.R. NO. 142

1 WHEREAS, the United States Armed Forces' sixty-five year
 2 leases on more than thirty thousand acres of state land will
 3 expire in August 2029; now, therefore,

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 5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
 6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
 7 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States
 8 Armed Forces, Governor, and Hawaii's congressional delegation
 9 are urged to work together to facilitate the clean up and return
 10 of additional military lands, especially lands with expiring
 11 leases; and

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 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of
 15 Defense, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, United
 16 States Army Pacific Commanding General, United State Navy
 17 Pacific Fleet Commander, United States Pacific Air Forces
 18 Commander, United State Marine Corps Forces Pacific Commander,
 19 United States Coast Guard District Fourteen Commander, Governor,
 20 and Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

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OFFERED BY: Kurt Ferrel

