

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO ERADICATE OCTOCORAL AND  
OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES FROM PEARL HARBOR.

1           WHEREAS, two invasive species of octocoral, or  
2 Unomiastolonifera and Capnellaspicata, are two of many invasive  
3 species that threaten Pearl Harbor's maritime ecosystem; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, octocoral takes over marine habitats extremely  
6 quickly because it is a "soft coral" that does not form a  
7 calcium exoskeleton like reef-building corals, allowing it to  
8 rapidly grow and spread colonies, smothering Hawaiian coral reef  
9 ecosystems; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, in areas where octocorals dominate the marine  
12 habitat, there is a lower density and diversity of fish; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, the United States Navy reported the presence of  
15 octocoral near Pearl Harbor in late 2020 during surveys that  
16 were not focused on these octocorals and recent surveys have  
17 documented these species in a much larger area and indicate that  
18 they were most likely present before 2019; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, a strong unified response is required to remove  
21 and eradicate octocorals and other invasive species from the  
22 waters of Pearl Harbor; and  
23

24           WHEREAS, the United States Navy is the principal caretaker  
25 of Pearl Harbor and its waters; now, therefore,  
26

27           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
29 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the United States  
30 Navy is encouraged to take responsibility for the eradication of  
31 octocoral and other invasive species from the waters of Pearl  
32 Harbor; and  
33



# H.C.R. NO. 121

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Navy is  
2 encouraged to allocate resources to eradicate octocoral and  
3 other invasive species from the waters of Pearl Harbor,  
4 including West Loch, Middle Loch, and East Loch; and  
5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States  
8 Secretary of the Navy.  
9

10  
11

OFFERED BY:

MAR 07 2024

