
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO WATER
AND AIR CONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION ARISING FROM THE
OPERATION OF THE PUULOA RANGE TRAINING FACILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the Puuloa Range Training Facility, located in Ewa
2 Beach on Oahu, is a shooting range that has been used by United
3 States Marine Corps for more than a century; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Ewa Beach community has grown around it, and
6 the training facility now sits in the middle of a residential
7 neighborhood; and
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9 WHEREAS, in conducting live-fire exercises, shooters fire
10 into impact berms, including berms that face the ocean and share
11 a coastline with the area's beach parks; and
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13 WHEREAS, lead contamination from shooting ranges can
14 accumulate in the soil and remain there for hundreds of years;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, in 2022, sampling done by the Surfrider Foundation
18 of soil taken from the beach side of the training facility
19 identified high levels of lead; and
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21 WHEREAS, there is a concern that lead from the soil at the
22 Puuloa Range Training Facility will leach into the ocean,
23 creating a serious risk to marine life in the area; and
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25 WHEREAS, there is further concern that dust from lead-
26 contaminated soil will enter the atmosphere and migrate into
27 residential neighborhoods via air or stormwater; and
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29 WHEREAS, addressing this issue will require input from
30 experts and community stakeholders; and
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1 WHEREAS, this body finds that the threat to the health and
2 safety of the residents of the Ewa Beach community constitutes
3 an emergency that requires immediate and decisive action; now,
4 therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
8 Session of 2024, that a working group be established to address
9 issues related to water and air contamination and remediation
10 arising from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training
11 Facility; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
14 to consist of the following members:

- 15 (1) The Representative of House District 40;
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- 17 (2) The Councilmember for District 9 of the City and
- 18 County of Honolulu; and
- 19
- 20 (3) The Vice Chair of the Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23;
- 21 and
- 22
- 23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
25 to invite other individuals with relevant experience and
26 expertise to be members of the working group, including:

- 27 (1) A marine biologist from the University of Hawaii at
- 28 Manoa;
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- 30 (2) A representative from Kuleana Coral Restoration;
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- 32 (3) A representative from the fishing industry;
- 33
- 34 (4) A representative from the United States Marine Corps;
- 35 and
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- 37 (5) Any other members the working group deems necessary;
- 38 and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
42 to conduct informational briefings on issues related to water



1 and air contamination and remediation from the operation of the
2 Puuloa Range Training Facility and to take any other action as
3 the working group deems appropriate; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
6 to meet on a quarterly basis; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
9 to provide a quarterly report to the House of Representatives;
10 and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall cease
13 on June 30, 2025; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Commander of the Marine Corps
17 Base Hawaii, Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa,
18 Councilmember for District 9 of the City and County of Honolulu,
19 Vice Chair of Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23, and Executive
20 Director of Kuleana Coral Restoration.

