
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PEACE CORPS TO IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH A MISSION IN THE
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

1 WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands signed a
2 Compact of Free Association with the United States in 1983; and
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4 WHEREAS, the United States has full authority and
5 responsibility for security and defense of the Marshall Islands
6 and the two nations have full diplomatic relations; and
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8 WHEREAS, the economy of the Marshall Islands is mainly
9 derived from U.S. payments under the terms of the Compact of
10 Free Association and the United States' Department of Defense is
11 one of the largest employers in the nation; and
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13 WHEREAS, only approximately forty-three percent of
14 Marshallese people over the age of 25 have completed high school
15 and only nine percent have graduated from college; and
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17 WHEREAS, nuclear testing in the vicinity of the Marshall
18 Islands has led to significant health issues, including various
19 forms of cancer and birth defects; and
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21 WHEREAS, years of nuclear testing, overfishing, and climate
22 change have significantly diminished traditional food sources;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, ninety percent of the Marshallese food supply
26 chain is made up from imported goods; and
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28 WHEREAS, eighty percent of food imports are processed foods
29 which have led to alarmingly high rates of obesity and diabetes
30 among the adult population; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps previously served in the Marshall
2 Islands from 1966 through 1996; now, therefor,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
6 Session of 2024, that the Peace Corps immediately establish a
7 mission in the Marshall Islands; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Peace Corps coordinate
10 humanitarian efforts with as many additional agencies as
11 possible, such as the U.S. Department of Defense, the State of
12 Hawaii, the United Nations, the Red Cross, and any other
13 organization providing economic relief and food security in the
14 region; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the Marshall Islands' Ministry of
18 Foreign Affairs, the Peace Corps, the Governor of the State of
19 Hawaii, U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Agency for
20 International Development.

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H.R. NO. 208

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Lipton", written over a horizontal line.

MAR - 8 2024

