
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND TO MORE PROACTIVELY COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN HAWAI'I BY MAKING A ZERO-TOLERANCE COMMITMENT, SHARING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVALENCE DATA WITH THE STATE GOVERNMENT, AND LAUNCHING AN ANTI-COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION PROGRAM ACROSS ALL HAWAI'I MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the negative impacts of a large military presence
2 extend beyond carbon footprint, environmental degradation, water
3 contamination, and housing competition to also include
4 gender-based violence against women and children at scale; and
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6 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the most densely militarized state in
7 the United States; and
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9 WHEREAS, according to The New Republic, the United States
10 military is the world's largest employer and second largest
11 employer in Hawai'i, and it is an industry with unique
12 aggravating factors for sex trafficking; and
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14 WHEREAS, there are approximately forty thousand active duty
15 military agents stationed in Hawai'i; and
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17 WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of military personnel are
18 male, and the majority of military service members are white;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS, across all branches of the United States military,
22 men are more likely than women to be officers; and
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24 WHEREAS, over eighty percent of sex traffickers, sex
25 buyers, fatal domestic violence perpetrators, rapists, child



1 pornography consumers, and online child sexual predators are
2 men; and

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4 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense Sexual
5 Assault Prevention and Response Office's Annual Report on Sexual
6 Assault in the Military Fiscal Year 2021, published in 2022,
7 concluded that there has been an overall growth in an unhealthy
8 military environment on sexual violence and found an increase in
9 sexual assault perpetrated by military members against civilians
10 and military members; and

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12 WHEREAS, the sex trade is a historical creature that began
13 with the onset of Western colonization in Hawai'i; and

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15 WHEREAS, according to Holoi ā nalo Wāhine 'Ōiwi: Missing and
16 Murdered Native Hawaiian Women and Girls Task Force Report (Part
17 1), the United States military played a direct role in creating
18 a sex trade, including prostitution and sex trafficking as
19 systemic occurrences in Hawai'i; and

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21 WHEREAS, according to a historic placard on Hotel Street in
22 Honolulu, "the United States military and Honolulu Police
23 Department previously ran the brothel industry" in Hawai'i; and

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25 WHEREAS, according to the Organization for Security and
26 Co-operation in Europe Office of the Special Representative and
27 Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the
28 United States military is consistently a substantial contributor
29 to fueling sex trafficking and sexual exploitation through the
30 practice of buying sex; and

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32 WHEREAS, according to child pornography watchdog Internet
33 Crimes Against Children Child Online Protective Services, the
34 United States Department of Defense's network consistently ranks
35 in the top tier of internet service providers for trafficking
36 child pornography and is ranked nineteenth of nearly three
37 thousand networks surveyed in 2018; and

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39 WHEREAS, the military impact on women and children in
40 Hawai'i is an open secret that has not been directly addressed or
41 prioritized by state government beyond the Hawai'i State



1 Commission on the Status of Women and Office of Hawaiian
2 Affairs; and

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4 WHEREAS, the United States Indo-Pacific Command submits an
5 annual report on human trafficking to the Combatting Trafficking
6 in Persons Management Office of the United States Department of
7 Defense, but these reports are not public or available to state
8 government, local victim assistance service providers, Native
9 Hawaiian organizations, or gender equality advocates; and

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11 WHEREAS, twenty-five percent of child sexual predators
12 arrested for arranging sex with a thirteen-year old online on
13 Oahu in 2019 and thirty percent of arrests in January 2023
14 through Operation Keiki Shield were active duty military; and

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16 WHEREAS, none of the thirty-two active duty military
17 personnel arrested for soliciting sex from a twelve- to fifteen-
18 year-old child online through Operation Keiki Shield since 2019
19 have been women; and

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21 WHEREAS, sex trafficking is a form of recruitment of
22 vulnerable people into the sex trade that is a causal factor for
23 missing and murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

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25 WHEREAS, the United States Army Schofield Barracks is the
26 only domestic military base in the United States that is
27 conducting proactive investigations into sex trafficking, but
28 these efforts are embryonic; and

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30 WHEREAS, seventy-three percent of child sex trafficking
31 victims in Hawai'i were sexually abused as minors; and

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33 WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence Action Center identified two
34 hundred military batterers in fiscal year 2022 and served one
35 hundred nine military victims of domestic violence without any
36 compensation for these services from the United States
37 Department of Defense; and

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39 WHEREAS, in January 2023, United States Senator Mazie
40 Hirono convened a public roundtable to bring attention to the
41 crisis of missing and murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls



1 and expressed concern about the inadequate military response;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, Hale Kipa leadership testified at a January 2023
5 roundtable that United States military personnel and tourists
6 constitute the majority of perpetrators commercially sexually
7 exploiting at-risk youth served by the agency; and

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9 WHEREAS, the majority of sex trafficking victims in Hawai'i
10 are Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women
13 has been leading state government efforts to expose and address
14 the connection between the military and sex trafficking since
15 2018; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of
18 Women, Native Hawaiian organizations, and community advocates do
19 not have ready access to data critical to implementing sex
20 trafficking prevention; and

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22 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women
23 can assist in developing an anti-trafficking response that is
24 gender transformative and victim-centered; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States
29 Indo-Pacific Command is urged to:

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31 (1) Issue a public statement committing to zero tolerance
32 for sex buying, sex trafficking, child sexual abuse
33 material consumption, and child sexual exploitation by
34 United States Indo-Pacific Command personnel;

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36 (2) Share gender-based violence prevalence data with the
37 Missing and Murdered Native Hawaiian Women and Girls
38 Taskforce; and

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40 (3) Implement an anti-commercial sexual exploitation
41 program aimed at informing military personnel,
42 including through the placement of posters and signage



1 in visible areas, at all Hawai'i military installations
2 of the consequences for sex buying and holding sex
3 buyers accountable; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of Hawai'i's
6 Congressional delegation are requested to submit an amendment to
7 the next National Defense Authorization Act requiring the
8 Department of Defense to submit an annual report on efforts to
9 combat commercial sexual exploitation, including sex buying, and
10 non-commercial sexual exploitation, including child sexual
11 abuse, by service members to the United States House of
12 Representatives Committee on Armed Services and United States
13 Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Commander of the
17 United States Indo-Pacific Command, each member of Hawai'i's
18 congressional delegation, the Chairperson of the Office of
19 Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees, Executive Director of the
20 Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, and Executive
21 Director of Kamāwaelualani.

