

JAN 22 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PEOPLE, BUSINESSES, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OF
HAWAII TO PARTICIPATE IN GRASS-ROOTS PROGRAMS SUPPORTING
MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii remains of high strategic
2 significance in the Asia-Pacific region; and

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4 WHEREAS, United States military presence in this region is
5 essential to protecting America's shores, deterring enemy
6 aggression, and maintaining peace throughout the region; and

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8 WHEREAS, military personnel deserve our utmost respect and
9 support for undertaking the daunting task of protecting our
10 nation and sacrificing their lives for our freedom; and

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12 WHEREAS, due to the military's presence in the State of
13 Hawaii, approximately \$600,000,000 of federal funds are awarded
14 annually for military programs and construction, and other
15 defense-related initiatives; and

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17 WHEREAS, in addition to protecting the security of our
18 Nation, Hawaii's military is one of the State's largest
19 employers, and, in conjunction with other federal activities is
20 one of the cornerstones of our economy; and

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22 WHEREAS, it is estimated that nearly twenty-five per cent
23 of Hawaii's population is composed of active duty, national
24 guard, reserve, and retired military, armed services veterans,
25 and their family members; and

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27 WHEREAS, Hawaii's military has proven itself to be a good
28 neighbor by providing assistance to save lives and property
29 during emergencies and disasters, as well as engaging in
30 community service and educational partnerships with charitable
31 organizations and schools through programs such as Toys for Tots
32 and Computers for Learning; and

1 WHEREAS, each year, events such as Military Appreciation
2 Month, and initiatives such as the Military Kamaaina Card and
3 Special Discount Coupon books, are sponsored to pay tribute to
4 Hawaii's military personnel; and

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6 WHEREAS, while these initiatives are often incentive-based,
7 military personnel and their families also need community
8 outreach and support to increase morale and family cohesion,
9 especially during deployment; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Defense encourages individuals,
12 businesses, and organizations to support its military personnel
13 and their families by building their morale during and after
14 deployment through community activities both big and small; from
15 sending greeting cards to deployed personnel on holidays to
16 organizing support groups for at-risk military children; and

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18 WHEREAS, in light of the security, economic, and community
19 benefits derived from the presence of the military, its
20 personnel, and their families in the State; the people,
21 businesses, and community organizations of Hawaii should support
22 their employees, colleagues, relatives and friends who are part
23 of the military; now, therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
27 House of Representatives concurring, that the people,
28 businesses, and community organizations of Hawaii are urged to
29 start or participate in grass-roots programs supporting military
30 personnel and their families; and

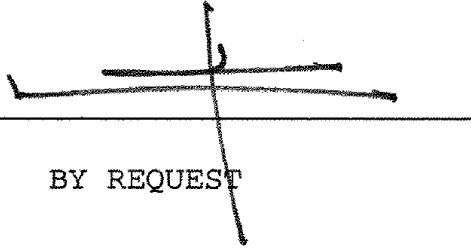
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people, businesses, and
33 community organizations of Hawaii are urged to visit
34 www.americasupportsyoudo.com for ideas on activities that can be
35 locally implemented to support military personnel, spouses, and
36 children throughout deployment, as well as help veterans and
37 families readjust when arriving home; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Mayors of
41 the City and County of Honolulu, and the Counties of Maui,
42 Kauai, and Hawaii; the Commander in Chief of the United States
43 Pacific Command, State Adjutant General and Director of Civil
44 Defense, and senior military commanders in Hawaii; Director of

1 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, The Chamber of
2 Commerce of Hawaii, and community and nonprofit organizations in
3 Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY: _____



BY REQUEST

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Defense

TITLE: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE PEOPLE, BUSINESSES, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OF HAWAII TO PARTICIPATE IN GRASS-ROOTS PROGRAMS SUPPORTING MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES.

PURPOSE: To seek the approval of the Legislature by concurrent resolution to support the presence of the military, its personnel, and their families in Hawaii.

MEANS: Adoption of a concurrent resolution.

JUSTIFICATION: The United States military's presence in Hawaii has brought the State tremendous security and economic benefits. The military and its personnel have also been great neighbors to fellow Hawaii residents by participating in community service activities and providing assistance during emergencies and disasters. For all that the military has done for the State, its personnel and families are in need of community outreach and support during times of deployment. In order to increase morale and family cohesion, as many personnel and their families are experiencing the effects of deployment and returning home, Hawaii residents, businesses, and community organizations are urged to do their part.

The United States Department of Defense encourages individuals and grass-roots organizations to help soldiers and their families with tasks big and small—from sending cards and care packages to deployed troops to renovating houses that accommodate soldiers who return home wounded.

Impact on the public: The public's generosity and aloha spirit will bring about

a more tight-knit and responsive community that reaches out to and supports those in need.

Impact on the department and other agencies:
Increased morale will benefit the department as personnel and their families recover from these trying times with the help of their family, friends and colleagues in the community.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: None.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption.