
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE REPEAL OF COMBAT EXCLUSIONARY RULES.

1 WHEREAS, the United States military has an epidemic rate of
2 rape in all branches of the armed services; and
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4 WHEREAS, in her book, "The Lonely Soldier: The Private War
5 of Women Serving in Iraq", Helen Benedict refers to several
6 studies of the military funded by the United States Department
7 of Veteran Affairs; and
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9 WHEREAS, according to these studies, thirty per cent of
10 military women are raped while serving, seventy-one per cent are
11 sexually assaulted, and ninety per cent are sexually harassed;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense
15 acknowledges the problem, estimating in its 2009 annual report
16 on sexual assault, that approximately ninety per cent of
17 military sexual assaults are never reported; and
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19 WHEREAS, the combat arms specialties of the United States
20 military continues to foster misogynist attitudes such as those
21 expressed in this still-popular Jody call: "Who can take a
22 chainsaw, Cut the bitch in two, F*** the bottom half, And give
23 the upper half to you..."; and
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25 WHEREAS, closing combat specialties does not keep women out
26 of combat or safe; and
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28 WHEREAS, women have been toting M60 machine guns and M16
29 rifles into the forefront of battle zones for decades; and
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1 WHEREAS, these combat exclusionary rules keep women from
2 promotion, in contrast to exclusively male combat specialties
3 that are often fast-tracked; and
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5 WHEREAS, there is a failure of leadership with regard to
6 women on and off the battlefield; and
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8 WHEREAS, women and gay service members are harassed and
9 assaulted as too many male commanders tolerate such abuse; and
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11 WHEREAS, senior military leaders of both genders have
12 stated that combat exclusionary rules degrade both morale and
13 readiness; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the President and the
18 United States Congress is requested to immediately repeal the
19 combat exclusionary rules as contrary to good order and
20 discipline and as the humane, ethical thing to do; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
24 United States of America, the Secretary of Defense, the Majority
25 Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
26 States House of Representatives, and members of Hawaii's
27 congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

John M. M...
Steph...
Cindy Evans
Meli Carrall

Maui B. Lee
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Linda Ichizawa
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