

JAN 25 2012

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# SENATE 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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31           WHEREAS, these combat exclusionary rules keep women from  
32 promotion, in contrast to exclusively male combat specialties  
33 that are often fast-tracked; and

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# S.R. NO. 10

1 WHEREAS, there is a failure of leadership with regard to  
2 women on and off the battlefield; and  
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4 WHEREAS, women and gay service members are harassed and  
5 assaulted as too many male commanders tolerate such abuse; and  
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7 WHEREAS, senior military leaders of both genders have  
8 stated that combat exclusionary rules degrade both morale and  
9 readiness; now, therefore,  
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,  
13 that the President and the United States Congress is requested  
14 to immediately repeal the combat exclusionary rules as contrary  
15 to good order and discipline and as the humane, ethical thing to  
16 do; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
19 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States  
20 of America, the Secretary of Defense, the Majority Leader of the  
21 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of  
22 Representatives, and members of Hawaii's congressional  
23 delegation.  
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OFFERED BY: *Siobhán Chun Oakland*

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