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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND THE HAWAII OFFICE OF VETERANS SERVICES TO DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF WOMEN VETERANS AND WOMEN ON ACTIVE DUTY.

1 WHEREAS, women have served honorably and with courage in  
2 all of America's wars and conflicts since the American  
3 Revolution; and

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5 WHEREAS, nearly fifteen per cent of the United States Armed  
6 Forces is comprised of women; and

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8 WHEREAS, the population of women veterans is increasing  
9 exponentially and is projected to comprise more than ten per  
10 cent of the total veteran population by the year 2020; and

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12 WHEREAS, more than 11,000 women veterans reside in Hawaii;  
13 and

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15 WHEREAS, veterans benefits have traditionally been designed  
16 to address the needs of male veterans; and

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18 WHEREAS, the circumstances and challenges faced by women  
19 veterans, as well as women on active duty, are often different  
20 from those of their male counterparts; and

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22 WHEREAS, there is a growing need to improve veterans  
23 services to address the specific needs of women veterans in such  
24 areas as medical and mental health care, child care services,  
25 housing, and financial assistance; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,  
29 that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and the  
30 Hawaii Office of Veterans Services are urged to develop  
31 comprehensive programs and services to address the needs of  
32 women veterans and women on active duty; and  
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1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Office of Veterans  
2 Services is requested to submit a report to the Legislature on  
3 the progress made on the development of comprehensive programs  
4 and services to address the needs of women veterans and women on  
5 active duty no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
6 the Regular Session of 2013; and

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8           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
10 and the Director of the Hawaii Office of Veterans Services.

