

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PEACE CORPS EXPANSION ACT OF 2009.

1 WHEREAS, on March 1, 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed
2 an Executive Order establishing the Peace Corps; and
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4 WHEREAS, since President Kennedy established the Peace
5 Corps, more than 195,000 volunteers, 1,274 from Hawaii, have
6 served in 139 countries; and
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8 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps continues to be one of America's
9 finest expressions of friendship and solidarity across the
10 globe; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps is focused on grassroots, bottom-
13 up development, with volunteers working side-by-side with
14 community members in the most humble communities around the
15 world; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps has reported that over 20
18 countries have requested a Peace Corps program, and that many
19 countries with existing programs would welcome additional
20 volunteers; and
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22 WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2008, the Peace Corps reported that
23 its volunteers provided assistance to more than 2.1 million
24 people around the world, helped train nearly 160,000 service
25 providers, and assisted with nearly 600 grassroots projects
26 through the Peace Corps Partnership Program; and
27

28 WHEREAS, at the cost of less than \$45,000 per volunteer,
29 Peace Corps volunteers are highly cost-effective; and
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31 WHEREAS, in so many ways, returned Peace Corps volunteers
32 continue to provide service and play important roles as leaders
33 in our community; and
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35 WHEREAS, although 13,011 Americans applied in 2008 to
36 volunteer their service to serve the world's poorest



1 communities, the Peace Corps is able to provide placements for
2 fewer than 4,000; and

3
4 WHEREAS, a devalued dollar, increased energy prices, and
5 budget constraints would result in 300 to 400 further reductions
6 in volunteers with current funding; and

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8 WHEREAS, the grassroots MorePeaceCorps Campaign supports
9 doubling the size of the Peace Corps; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives is
12 considering H.R. 1066, the "Peace Corps Expansion Act of 2009,"
13 to increase the 2010 fiscal year budget of the Peace Corps to
14 \$450,000,000; now, therefore,

15
16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, to
18 provide support to the MorePeaceCorps Campaign and the
19 Congressional Peace Corps Expansion Act of 2009; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional delegation
23 and to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Hawaii.

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27 OFFERED BY:

Erzanne Chun Oakland

Norman Sekou

John

Mike Gifford Amy H. Bell

V.D.D. J.L.

S.S.D. J.L.

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Annalyse Alon

Will Eyo

Carol Finkmagn

Paul [unclear]

Michelle M. Liden

David Y. [unclear]

Anna [unclear]

Jim

Bob [unclear]