SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE MILITARY STRATEGY OF FORWARD-BASING A VISIBLE MILITARY FORCE IN HAWAII AND URGING THE MILITARY AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII TO CONTINUE WITH ITS WORK AS THE LIAISON FOR HAWAII IN MATTERS RELATING TO THE MILITARY'S PRESENCE IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton, and Secretary of Defense Panetta have declared that United States' economic and security interests have pivoted to the Asia Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, North Korea has reportedly been involved in nuclear proliferation; and

WHEREAS, twenty-nine year old Kim Jong Un has succeeded as President of North Korea following the death of his father, Kim Jong II, in December 2011; and

WHEREAS, North Korea took unprovoked military action that resulted in the sinking of a South Korean naval vessel and the shelling of a populated village on a South Korean island; and

WHEREAS, terrorists groups operating in the Philippine Islands and other Southeast Asia countries continue to take military actions; and

WHEREAS, China continues to extend its military capabilities beyond the defense of its shores, including the building of offensive weapons systems such as nuclear submarines, long range ballistic missiles, and an aircraft carrier; and

WHEREAS, China continues its aggressive insistence that the coastal waters off its shoreline extend well beyond internationally recognized boundaries in the South China Sea through which flows more than fifty-one per cent of the world's commerce and trade; and

WHEREAS, the United States and its allies are partners who share the same economic and security concerns that could disrupt security within the Pacific region, which could result in the disruption of the free flow of commerce and trade that is vital to the economies of Asia Pacific nations, the United States, and specifically Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the United States military strategy of forward-basing its military forces in Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, South Korea, and Guam provides a visible presence that has successfully deterred adversaries from taking aggressive military actions that would cause political and economic instability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that the United States Secretary of Defense, the United States Department of Defense, the United States Secretary of State, and the United States Department of State are encouraged to continue with the United States military strategy of forward-basing a visible military force in Hawaii to deter enemy aggression and enable the free flow of global commerce and trade within the Asia Pacific region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of Defense is requested to consider basing additional United States military forces in Hawaii, as necessary, to satisfy the military strategy of forward-basing a visible military force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Military Affairs Council of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii is urged to continue with its work as the liaison for Hawaii in matters relating to the military's presence in Hawaii by cooperating with the Commander of the United States Pacific Command and Commanders of the United States Pacific Fleet, United States Pacific Air Forces, United States Army Pacific, United States Marine Forces Pacific, and the Fourteenth Coast Guard District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the United States Secretary of Defense, United States Secretary of State, Commanders of the United States Pacific Command, United States Pacific Fleet, United States Army Pacific, United States Pacific Air Forces, United States Marine Forces Pacific, and United

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- 1 States Coast Guard Fourteenth District, Hawaii's congressional
- 2 delegation, and the Military Affairs Council of The Chamber of
- 3 Commerce of Hawaii.