
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DECREASE OF MILITARY SPENDING AND REALLOCATION OF
FEDERAL FUNDS TO INCREASE FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN ADDRESSING
ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN HEALTH CONCERNS AND FOR DEBT
REDUCTION.

1 WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change, including extreme
2 weather events, droughts, flooding, sea level rise, retreating
3 glaciers, habitat shifts, and the increased spread of life-
4 threatening disease, are a serious threat to the United States'
5 national security and to global peace and stability; and
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7 WHEREAS, the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review categorizes
8 the adverse impacts of a changing climate as "threat
9 multipliers," escalating security threats abroad, such as
10 poverty, environmental degradation, political instability, and
11 social tensions; and
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13 WHEREAS, the prioritization of military spending over
14 environmental investment and protection is a real and severe
15 threat to the people of Hawaii and other Americans; and
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17 WHEREAS, while the President of the United States has
18 proposed a \$54,000,000,000 increase in military spending, polls
19 indicate that the majority of Americans strongly favor a
20 reduction of \$41,000,000,000; and
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22 WHEREAS, the United States military budget is bigger than
23 the next eight nations' military expenditures combined, six of
24 which are recognized allies to the United States; and
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26 WHEREAS, the United States national debt stands at
27 \$19,900,000,000,000; and
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29 WHEREAS, increased military expenditures are inhibiting the
30 ability of the United States to effectively address modern
31 environmental challenges, including the nation's ability to



1 mitigate and adapt to climate change and its adverse impacts;
2 and
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4 WHEREAS, investment in national and international
5 environmental issues, especially concerning climate change,
6 constitutes an effective and necessary conflict-prevention
7 measure against the destabilizing and potentially violent
8 impacts of climate change and environmental degradation; and
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10 WHEREAS, the de-escalation of armed conflict abroad is a
11 critical step to alleviate the global refugee crisis and reduce
12 the number of refugees petitioning for asylum status in the
13 United States; and
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15 WHEREAS, Hawaii, as the only island-state in the nation, is
16 highly vulnerable to adverse impacts of climate change, such as
17 heightened natural weather events and sea-level rise; and
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19 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii remains an important
20 geostrategic military partner for national policy aims in the
21 Pacific and Asian region; and
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23 WHEREAS, this body recognizes climate change as real and as
24 the overriding challenge of the twenty-first century, posing
25 immediate and long-term threats to the State's economy,
26 sustainability, security, and way of life; and
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28 WHEREAS, the 2017 National Security Strategy affirms the
29 advancement of a national approach that balances energy
30 security, economic development, and environmental protection
31 that will allow the United States to remain a global leader in
32 pollution reduction, including greenhouse gases; and
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34 WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives' 2017
35 Republican Climate Resolution observed that climate change will
36 have "noticeable, negative impacts that are expected to worsen
37 in every region of the United States and its territories" and
38 that "increased pollutants and other factors contribute to
39 local, regional, and national environmental and human health
40 impacts"; and
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1 WHEREAS, efforts to mitigate the risks of, prepare for, or
2 adapt to our changing climate and its effects "will not
3 constrain the United States economy, especially in regards to
4 global competitiveness" as affirmed by the 2017 Republican
5 Climate Resolution; and

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7 WHEREAS, the prioritization of funds to environmental
8 security solutions from general military expenditures is a
9 viable, convincing, and ultimately necessary national security
10 strategy; now, therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
14 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the President of the United
15 States and members of the United States Congress are strongly
16 urged to immediately decrease military expenditures and
17 reallocate federal funds to increased environmental and human
18 protection and debt reduction; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the national security
21 consequences of climate change must be fully integrated into
22 national security and national defense strategies, and
23 explicitly address the threat of climate change to our national
24 security interests; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States should commit
27 to a stronger national and international role to assist with
28 global stabilization of climate change to avoid significant
29 disruption to global security and stability; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States should commit
32 to global partnerships and cooperation with its allies that
33 address modern environmental challenges, such as global
34 industrialization and transboundary air and water pollution, and
35 develop the capacity and resiliency to better mitigate and
36 manage adverse climate impacts; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
40 United States, United States Secretary of Energy, United States
41 Secretary of Defense, Chairperson of the United States Senate
42 Committee on Natural Resources, Chairperson of the United States



H.C.R. NO. 142

1 Senate Committee on Armed Services, Chairperson of the United
2 States House Committee on Natural Resources, and Chairperson of
3 the United States House Committee on Armed Services.
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OFFERED BY:

B. Taber

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