

MAR 0 6 2020

---

---

## SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO REFRAIN FROM COMMENCING  
LIVE GUNFIRE ACTIVITIES AT PUULOA RIFLE RANGE BEFORE 10:00  
A.M. DAILY, IN ORDER TO HELP LIMIT THE NEIGHBORING  
COMMUNITY'S EXPOSURE TO LOUD AND EXCESSIVE NOISE.

1 WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization,  
2 excessive noise poses serious harm to human health and  
3 interferes with daily activities during school, work, home life,  
4 and leisure time; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, exposure to excessive noise may result in sleep  
7 disturbances, cardiovascular effects, hearing loss, other  
8 psychophysiological effects, reduced performance, annoyance, and  
9 changes in social behavior; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, residents of Ewa Beach have repeatedly raised  
12 concerns about the timing and levels of noise, including  
13 loudspeaker announcements and live gunfire, emanating from the  
14 Puuloa Rifle Range and Training Facility operated by the United  
15 States Marine Corps; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, minutes of Ewa Neighborhood Board meetings held in  
18 May, June, August, and September 2019 reflect numerous  
19 observations and concerns relating to noise from the rifle  
20 range, including:

- 21  
22 (1) Increased residential development that has resulted in  
23 a higher concentration of residents affected by  
24 excessive noise;  
25  
26 (2) The lack of observed quiet hours at the Puuloa Rifle  
27 Range and Training Facility, compared to other  
28 military-operated rifle ranges on Oahu;  
29  
30 (3) Announcements made from the range's public address  
31 system that routinely commence before 7:00 a.m. and  
32 sometimes as early as 5:00 a.m.;

33



# S.R. NO. 79

- 1           (4) Live gunfire that sometimes commences as early as 6:00  
2           a.m. and continues into the evening hours;
- 3
- 4           (5) Reports from area residents about noise that can be  
5           heard before 7:00 a.m., subsequent to the making of  
6           adjustments at the range;
- 7
- 8           (6) A recent six-month closure of the range that resulted  
9           in heavier use upon re-opening, for purposes of re-  
10          certifying service members;
- 11
- 12          (7) Further efforts by the Marine Corps to mitigate the  
13          noise, which include reducing the volume of the sound  
14          system; reducing the time spent on live firing, which  
15          runs from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and more recently,  
16          installing noise abatement equipment; and
- 17
- 18          (8) Discussion among members of the Ewa Neighborhood Board  
19          on a proposed resolution and amended resolution, which  
20          ultimately went unadopted, relating to noise from the  
21          rifle range; and
- 22

23           WHEREAS, the Legislature understands the importance of the  
24           Puuloa Rifle Range and Training Facility in relation to the  
25           United States Marine Corps' ability to conduct long-range rifle  
26           training, but also believes that it is reasonable to seek to  
27           balance military preparedness with maintaining a high quality of  
28           life for nearby community members; now, therefore,

29

30           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
31           of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the United  
32           States Marine Corps is urged to refrain from commencing live  
33           gunfire activities at Puuloa Rifle Range and Training Facility  
34           before 10:00 a.m. daily, in order to help limit the neighboring  
35           community's exposure to loud and excessive noise; and

36

37           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Marine Corps  
38           is requested to work with any non-government entities allowed to  
39           use the rifle range, such as the Puuloa Rifle and Pistol Club,  
40           to ensure that uses of the range not involving military training  
41           also do not commence before 10:00 a.m.; and

42

# S.R. NO. 79

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Commanding Officer of the  
 3 United States Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Noise Section Supervisor  
 4 of the Department of Health, President of the Puuloa Rifle and  
 5 Pistol Club, and Spokesperson of A Quieter Oahu.

6  
 7  
 8

OFFERED BY: Kurt Fovella

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

