

MAR 12 2021

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REPORT CURRENT  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 STATISTICS IN ORDER TO HELP  
PROTECT THE MILITARY AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THE  
GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ARE LOCATED.

1        WHEREAS, the State hosts numerous military installations  
2 for the United States Indo-Pacific Command including United  
3 States Coast Guard Station Maui, which is among the most active  
4 military installations operated by the United States Coast  
5 Guard; and

6  
7        WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, United States Defense Secretary  
8 Mark Esper ordered all commanders of the Department of Defense  
9 (DoD) installations worldwide to cease publicly releasing new  
10 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) statistical information; and

11  
12        WHEREAS, at the time of the March 31, 2020, order, the  
13 number of infected personnel at these installations, which  
14 include all military bases, was already one thousand cases; and

15  
16        WHEREAS, although Secretary Esper intended that the order  
17 protect the operational security at DoD global installations,  
18 the responsibility to the neighboring communities has been  
19 neglected, since members of the military and their dependents  
20 actively engage with the communities at shopping areas,  
21 restaurants, and other public gathering places; and

22  
23        WHEREAS, although Chief Pentagon Spokesman Jonathan Hoffman  
24 stated that Defense Department leaders worried that adversaries  
25 could exploit COVID-19 information, especially if the data  
26 showed the outbreak impacted U.S. nuclear forces or other  
27 critical units, concern for the local communities neighboring  
28 the military installations was not expressed, thus suggesting  
29 that the health and safety of said communities was not in  
30 jeopardy; and



1 WHEREAS, on Oahu, the numbers of infections as of August  
2 2020 had begun to surge, yet the military population's  
3 statistics remained unreported but may have been in excess of  
4 one hundred; and  
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6 WHEREAS, per the DoD Defense Manpower Data Center, the  
7 total active military population in the State is 36,620, and the  
8 Reserve Forces number 9,402, which does not include the families  
9 of the military personnel living on-base, nor does it provide  
10 disaggregated data for native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander  
11 populations subject to COVID-19 infections; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, although the DoD has released near-daily COVID-19  
14 statistics on its website, the statistics are delayed and not  
15 disaggregated by base or even by State; and  
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17 WHEREAS, as of August 2020, the DoD reported on its website  
18 the cumulative total cases (military, civilian DoD workers,  
19 dependents, and military contractors) was 43,634 with 1,056  
20 hospitalizations, 22,235 recoveries, and seventy-two deaths; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, although the DoD's website lists numerous  
23 memoranda indicating procedures to control the COVID-19 spread,  
24 it is unclear what protocols are set to protect the neighboring  
25 communities adjacent to the military installations in which  
26 military personnel and their dependents traverse; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, whenever the aforesaid personnel and their  
29 dependents encounter the local neighboring communities, the  
30 communities are exposed to communicable sicknesses in their  
31 interactions; and  
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33 WHEREAS, even after the order to installation commanders to  
34 censor disaggregated COVID-19 information, and notwithstanding  
35 the many DoD memos calling for preventative methods with respect  
36 to trainings, meeting, or other work-related gathering  
37 behaviors, several Hawaii news sources, as well as the  
38 Department of Land and Natural Resources reported two large  
39 gatherings each with more than two hundred participants located  
40 off military bases (at Mokuleia, Kaena Point, and Waimea Bay) by  
41 military personnel and their families during the Memorial Day  
42 weekend; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, not only were the gatherings in excess of the  
3 ten-person allowance rule established by the State and City and  
4 County of Honolulu, but also at that time, beaches were closed  
5 for any gatherings, and yet the two hundred plus participants  
6 disregarded the beach closures; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, breaking State and county restrictions on  
9 gathering could be interpreted as a belief that military  
10 personnel who report to the DoD and the federal government are  
11 exempt from State and county laws; and  
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13 WHEREAS, potentially unclear DoD COVID-19 protocols of  
14 quarantine could contribute to super spreading the virus; now,  
15 therefore,  
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the  
19 House of Representatives concurring, that this body urges the  
20 United States DoD to report current COVID-19 statistics  
21 (disaggregated by individual geographic installations and  
22 specific data to identify native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander  
23 military and DoD populations affected by COVID-19) in order to  
24 help protect the military communities and especially the local  
25 communities in which the government and military installations  
26 are located; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DoD reports this  
29 information to the Department of Health, and the Department of  
30 Health make this information public; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States  
34 Secretary of Defense, Governor, Director of Health, Chairperson  
35 of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,  
36 Chairperson of the State Senate subject matter committee on  
37



# S.C.R. NO. 253

1 Hawaiian Affairs, Chairperson of the State House committee on  
2 Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, and Mayor of each of the  
3 Counties.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. B. L.", written over a horizontal line.