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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARING OVERMILITARIZATION TO BE A THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF  
HAWAII AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND URGING  
PRIORITIZATION OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN THE UNITED STATES'  
RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINIAN CONFLICT AND INCREASED EFFORTS TO  
STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION.

1 WHEREAS, in February of 2022, Russia invaded the nation of  
2 Ukraine, producing the greatest humanitarian crisis in Europe  
3 since World War II; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, according to Filippo Grandi, the United Nations  
6 high commissioner for refugees, the conflict between Russia and  
7 Ukraine has displaced 1,500,000 Ukrainians as of March 6, 2022;  
8 and  
9

10 WHEREAS, human rights experts have estimated that the  
11 Ukrainian exodus from Russia's invasion could result in up to  
12 ten million refugees fleeing the conflict; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the Russian attack on Ukraine is a clear violation  
15 of international law that has been strongly and rightfully  
16 condemned by the international community, including the United  
17 Nations General Assembly; and  
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19 WHEREAS, to resolve the conflict in Ukraine, the United  
20 States must couple its condemnation of Russian imperialism with  
21 a reconsideration of the United States' militaristic foreign  
22 policy; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, following the end of the Cold War, the United  
25 States gradually expanded its military footprint in Europe,  
26 including through the acceptance of Poland, the Czech Republic,  
27 and Hungary into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)



1 in 1998, and later including in NATO additional Baltic nations  
2 that are perched on the border of the Russian Federation; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, numerous foreign policy experts warned that these  
5 actions would lead to future Russian aggression, including  
6 former United States ambassador to the Soviet Union George  
7 Kennan, who said, "I think it is the beginning of a new cold  
8 war"; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates stated in  
11 his memoir that "US agreements with the Romanian and Bulgarian  
12 governments to rotate troops through bases in those countries  
13 was a needless provocation" and that "trying to bring Georgia  
14 and Ukraine into NATO was truly overreaching" and a case of  
15 "recklessly ignoring what the Russians considered their own  
16 vital national interests"; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, in December of 2021, the United States Congress  
19 authorized \$768 billion in defense spending, including  
20 authorization for nuclear weapons programs, which was by some  
21 measures the biggest defense spending authorization bill in  
22 history; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, a primary international security concern of the  
25 Russian assault is a potential attack on a NATO member, which  
26 could draw the United States into a military conflict involving  
27 countries that possess nuclear weapons; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, this concern was magnified on February 27, 2022,  
30 when Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered his nation's  
31 nuclear forces into special combat readiness; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, a commitment to nuclear nonproliferation is  
34 essential to maintaining peace and security for the community of  
35 nations and all mankind; and  
36

37 WHEREAS, defense industry contractors often use  
38 international conflicts as opportunities to lobby for  
39 appropriations that generate profits for the United States'  
40 military-industrial complex; and  
41



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1 WHEREAS, former United States President Dwight D.  
2 Eisenhower warned about the expansion of the military-industrial  
3 complex in a 1961 speech given at the height of the Cold War,  
4 saying, "In the councils of government, we must guard against  
5 the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or  
6 unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for  
7 the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will  
8 persist."; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, overmilitarization also poses grave domestic  
11 consequences, including for the people of Hawaii; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, in November of 2021, the Department of Health,  
14 Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and United States Navy found  
15 that the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility was leaking  
16 petroleum into Honolulu's water supply; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, according to water sampling results released by  
19 the Department of Health on December 10, 2021, state testing of  
20 the Navy's Red Hill shaft found levels of gasoline and diesel-  
21 range hydrocarbons that were as much as three hundred fifty  
22 times higher than state approved levels for drinking water; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, mitigating the impact of the leak required the  
25 temporary closure of Honolulu's largest water source, the Halawa  
26 shaft, which provides approximately twenty percent of Oahu's  
27 daily water supply and serves roughly four hundred thousand  
28 residents; and  
29

30 WHEREAS, the military has also been responsible for the  
31 desecration of Hawaii's natural resources and ceded lands; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, in a unanimous decision in August of 2019, the  
34 Hawaii Supreme Court concluded that the State has a duty to  
35 protect ceded land, even when such land is leased to the  
36 military; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Supreme Court further found that the  
39 State had failed in its constitutional duty to inspect and  
40 monitor lands at the Pōhakuloa Training Area on Hawaii Island;  
41 and  
42



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1 WHEREAS, in response to the ruling, the Native Hawaiian  
2 Legal Corporation stated, "As a result of today's decision, the  
3 State is required to 'develop and execute a plan to conduct  
4 regular, periodic monitoring and inspection' for the lands at  
5 Pōhakuloa and to 'take an active role in preserving trust  
6 property and may not passively allow [trust lands] to fall into  
7 ruin'"; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, preserving Hawaii's natural resources is critical  
10 to safeguarding the public trust, protecting Native Hawaiian  
11 rights and culture, and advancing the State's goal of creating a  
12 sustainable economy; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, reconsidering the social, economic, and foreign  
15 policy impacts of unchecked militarization does not in any way  
16 undermine the force of the United States' denunciation of  
17 Russia's unjustified violation of Ukrainian sovereignty or the  
18 atrocities that Russia has committed against the Ukrainian  
19 people; now, therefore,

20  
21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
23 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that this body declares  
24 overmilitarization to be a threat to Hawaii and the  
25 international community; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that President Joseph Biden and the  
28 United States Congress are urged to commit to prioritizing  
29 humanitarian aid in the United States' response to the Ukrainian  
30 conflict; and

31  
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that President Joseph Biden and the  
33 United States Congress are urged to increase efforts to  
34 strengthen the international nuclear nonproliferation regime and  
35 reinforce its foundational bilateral and international  
36 agreements; and

37  
38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United Nations  
40 Secretary-General, President of the United States, Vice  
41 President of the United States, United States Secretary of  
42 Defense, United States Secretary of the Navy, United States



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1 Secretary of the Army, President Pro Tempore of the United  
2 States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of  
3 Representatives, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation,  
4 Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural  
5 Resources, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the  
6 Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

7  
8  
9 OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juan Jose", written over a horizontal line.

MAR 11 2022

