HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII TO UPGRADE THE CAPACITY OF ITS SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND REDUNDANCY OF THE COMPONENTS TO ENSURE THAT FINAL EFFLUENT QUALITY IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

WHEREAS, Marine Corps Base Hawaii discharges two million gallons of treated wastewater a day into Kailua Bay, which is intensively used by swimmers, paddlers, divers, and surfers; and

WHEREAS, Marine Corps Base Hawaii must comply with final effluent bacteria limitations set forth by the Department of Health through the issuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Eliminations System permit in order to protect water quality and human health; and

WHEREAS, Marine Corps Base Hawaii has exceeded those limitations in August 2020, March 2021, July 2021, August 2021, October 2021, and February 2022 due to a lack of treatment; and

WHEREAS, the United States Marine Corps has plans to expand troops on the island of Oahu to meet strategic needs in the Pacific, and more troops may increase inputs to the sewage treatment plant at Marine Corps Base Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Water Quality Plan by the Department of Health sets forth the goal of increasing water reuse for irrigation and industrial purposes in order to conserve water and reduce discharge into the ocean; and

WHEREAS, Maui County and Kauai County have met the goals for reuse of wastewater, while the City and County of Honolulu and Hawaii County have made progress toward reuse goals; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session

H.R. NO.**ሬ**ን

of 2022, that Marine Corps Base Hawaii is urged to upgrade the capacity of its sewage treatment plant and redundancy of the components to ensure that final effluent quality is in compliance with state permitting requirements; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Marine Corps Base Hawaii is requested to reestablish their water reuse system to irrigate Klipper Golf Course and increase distribution to other parts of the base to reduce the use of drinking water when reused wastewater could be used instead and reduce the amount of discharge into Kailua Bay; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY: Lisa Kartas

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