

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND TO MORE PROACTIVELY COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN HAWAI'I BY MAKING A ZERO-TOLERANCE COMMITMENT, SHARING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVALENCE DATA WITH THE STATE GOVERNMENT, AND LAUNCHING AN ANTI-COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION PROGRAM ACROSS ALL HAWAI'I MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the negative impacts of a large military presence
2 extend beyond carbon footprint, environmental degradation, water
3 contamination, and housing competition to also include
4 gender-based violence against women and children at scale; and
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6 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the most densely militarized state in
7 the United States; and
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9 WHEREAS, according to The New Republic, the United States
10 military is the world's largest employer and second largest
11 employer in Hawai'i, and it is an industry with unique
12 aggravating factors for sex trafficking; and
13

14 WHEREAS, there are approximately 40,000 active duty
15 military agents stationed in Hawai'i; and
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17 WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of military personnel are
18 male, and the majority of military service members are white;
19 and
20

21 WHEREAS, across all branches of the United States military,
22 men are more likely than women to be officers; and
23

24 WHEREAS, over eighty percent of sex traffickers, sex
25 buyers, fatal domestic violence perpetrators, rapists, child



1 pornography consumers, and online child sexual predators are
2 men; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense Sexual
5 Assault Prevention and Response Office's Annual Report on Sexual
6 Assault in the Military Fiscal Year 2021, published in 2022,
7 concluded that there has been an overall growth in an unhealthy
8 military environment on sexual violence and found an increase in
9 sexual assault perpetrated by military members against civilians
10 and military members; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the sex trade is a historical creature that began
13 with the onset of Western colonization in Hawai'i; and

14
15 WHEREAS, according to Holoi ā nalo Wāhine 'Ōiwi: Missing and
16 Murdered Native Hawaiian Women and Girls Task Force Report (Part
17 1), the United States military played a direct role in creating
18 a sex trade, including prostitution and sex trafficking as
19 systemic occurrences in Hawai'i; and

20
21 WHEREAS, according to a historic placard on Hotel Street in
22 Honolulu, "the United States military and Honolulu Police
23 Department previously ran the brothel industry" in Hawai'i; and

24
25 WHEREAS, according to the Organization for Security and
26 Co-operation in Europe Office of the Special Representative and
27 Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the
28 United States military is consistently a substantial contributor
29 to fueling sex trafficking and sexual exploitation through the
30 practice of buying sex; and

31
32 WHEREAS, according to child pornography watchdog Internet
33 Crimes Against Children Child Online Protective Services, the
34 United States Department of Defense's network consistently ranks
35 in the top tier of internet service providers for trafficking
36 child pornography and is ranked 19th of nearly 3,000 networks
37 surveyed in 2018; and

38
39 WHEREAS, the military impact on women and children in
40 Hawai'i is an open secret that has not been directly addressed or
41 prioritized by state government beyond the Hawai'i State



1 Commission on the Status of Women and Office of Hawaiian
2 Affairs; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the United States Indo-Pacific Command submits an
5 annual report on human trafficking to the Combatting Trafficking
6 in Persons Management Office of the United States Department of
7 Defense, but these reports are not public or available to state
8 government, local victim assistance service providers, Native
9 Hawaiian organizations, or gender equality advocates; and

10
11 WHEREAS, twenty-five percent of child sexual predators
12 arrested for arranging sex with a thirteen-year old online on
13 Oahu in 2019 and thirty percent of arrests in January 2023
14 through Operation Keiki Shield were active duty military; and

15
16 WHEREAS, none of the thirty-two active duty military
17 personnel arrested for soliciting sex from a twelve-to fifteen-
18 year-old child online through Operation Keiki Shield since 2019
19 have been women; and

20
21 WHEREAS, sex trafficking is a form of recruitment of
22 vulnerable people into the sex trade that is a causal factor for
23 missing and murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

24
25 WHEREAS, the United States Army Schofield Barracks is the
26 only domestic military base in the United States that is
27 conducting proactive investigations into sex trafficking, but
28 these efforts are embryonic; and

29
30 WHEREAS, seventy-three percent of child sex trafficking
31 victims in Hawai'i were sexually abused as minors; and

32
33 WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence Action Center identified 200
34 military batterers in fiscal year 2022 and served 109 military
35 victims of domestic violence without any compensation for these
36 services from the United States Department of Defense; and

37
38 WHEREAS, in January 2023, United States Senator Mazie
39 Hirono convened a public roundtable to bring attention to the
40 crisis of missing and murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls
41 and expressed concern about the inadequate military response;
42 and



1
2 WHEREAS, Hale Kipa leadership testified at a January 2023
3 roundtable that United States military personnel and tourists
4 are the majority of perpetrators commercially sexually
5 exploiting at-risk youth served by the agency; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the majority of sex trafficking victims in Hawai'i
8 are Native Hawaiian women and girls; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women
11 has been leading state government efforts to expose and address
12 the connection between the military and sex trafficking since
13 2018; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of
16 Women, Native Hawaiian organizations, and community advocates do
17 not have ready access to data critical to implementing sex
18 trafficking prevention; and
19

20 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women
21 can assist in developing an anti-trafficking response that is
22 gender transformative and victim-centered; now, therefore,
23

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
26 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States
27 Indo-Pacific Command is urged to:
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- 29 (1) Issue a public statement committing to zero tolerance
30 for sex buying, sex trafficking, child sexual abuse
31 material consumption, and child sexual exploitation by
32 United States Indo-Pacific Command personnel;
33
34 (2) Share gender-based violence prevalence data with the
35 Missing and Murdered Native Hawaiian Women and Girls
36 Taskforce; and
37
38 (3) Implement an anti-commercial sexual exploitation
39 program aimed at informing military personnel,
40 including through the placement of posters and signage
41 in visible areas, at all Hawai'i military installations



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1 of the consequences for sex buying and holding sex
2 buyers accountable; and
3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of Hawai'i's
5 Congressional delegation are requested to submit an amendment to
6 the next National Defense Authorization Act requiring the
7 Department of Defense to submit an annual report on efforts to
8 combat commercial sexual exploitation, including sex buying, and
9 non-commercial sexual exploitation, including child sexual
10 abuse, by service members to the United States House of
11 Representatives Committee on Armed Services and United States
12 Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Commander of the
16 United States Indo-Pacific Command, each member of Hawai'i's
17 Congressional delegation, the Chairperson of the Office of
18 Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees, Executive Director of the
19 Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women, and Executive
20 Director of Kamāwaelualani.
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OFFERED BY: _____

