HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII H.C.R. NO. **15** 

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, INCLUDING THE NAVY, ARMY, AND AIR FORCE, TO INCREASE ON-BASE HOUSING AVAILABILITY FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS ASSIGNED TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, an affordable housing shortage and an increasing homeless population are among the most pressing challenges in 2 the State; and 3 4 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique strategic position in the Pacific 5 Ocean has led to one of the largest concentrations of United 6 States military forces in the country, as there are over forty-7 8 two thousand active duty military personnel assigned to military installations throughout Hawaii as of September 2022; and 9 10 11 WHEREAS, the large number of assigned military personnel to Hawaii results in competition among local civilian residents for 12 13 limited housing in the State; and 14 15 WHEREAS, many military personnel who choose to live offbase are provided a basic housing allowance based on location, 16 pay grade, and whether they have dependents to offset the cost 17 18 of non-government-provided housing; and 19 20 WHEREAS, nationally, about seventy percent of military personnel choose to live off-base; and 21 22 23 WHEREAS, in 2023, the monthly basic housing allowance for military personnel with and without dependents on Oahu ranged 24 25 from \$3,084 to \$4,608 and \$2,313 to \$3,939, respectively; and 26 27 WHEREAS, in instances when multiple military personnel 28 reside together, their combined basic housing allowance allows

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them to compete with civilian residents for higher priced 1 2 housing rentals; and 3 WHEREAS, Hawaii's high cost of living and housing scarcity 4 has resulted in a disproportionately high number of multi-5 generational households; and 6 7 8 WHEREAS, homeless encampments in the State are increasing, despite significant action by state and county government in the 9 10 form of emergency homeless shelters, temporary housing, and 11 affordable housing initiatives; and 12 13 WHEREAS, a major contributing factor to high rent and limited availability of housing in the State is the demand for 14 housing by active duty military personnel and their dependents; 15 16 and 17 18 WHEREAS, increasing on-base housing for active duty military personnel and their dependents will help to alleviate 19 the overall increased demand for housing in the State, resulting 20 21 in more housing availability for local residents; and 22 23 WHEREAS, this body requests that the military recognize the 24 negative housing impact its current housing policy is creating in the State and urges the Department of Defense to take 25 26 immediate action on this opportunity to be a respectful guest in 27 the islands; now, therefore, 28 29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the United States 31 Department of Defense, including the Navy, Army, and Air Force, 32 33 is requested to increase on-base housing availability for active 34 duty personnel and their dependents assigned to military 35 installations in the State; and 36 37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commander of Joint Base 38 Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Senior Commander of the United States Army Garrison Hawaii, and Commanding Officer of the Marines Corps 39 40 Base Hawaii are requested to support construction of additional 41 on-base housing to house at least ninety percent of their active 42 duty personnel and their dependents by 2030; and

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1 2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 3 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States 4 Secretary of Defense; Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, 5 Installations, and Environment; all Service Secretaries of the United States Armed Forces; Commander of the United States Indo-6 Pacific Command; Commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, 7 8 Senior Commander of the United States Army Garrison Hawaii, and Commanding Officer of the Marines Corps Base Hawaii. 9 10 11 12 OFFERED BY: MAR 0 6 2024

