
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONVENE A MAKUA VALLEY TASK FORCE TO PREPARE FOR THE
TRANSITION OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MAKUA MILITARY
RESERVATION FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, Makua Valley on Oahu was seized by the United
2 States military for training following the attack on Pearl
3 Harbor on December 7, 1941; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaiian, Japanese, and Portuguese families living
6 in Makua Valley were evicted from their lands, with the promise
7 that the displacement would be temporary and their lands would
8 be cleaned up and returned; and
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10 WHEREAS, instead, Makua Valley remained under the
11 management of the United States Army and continued to be the
12 site of decades of live-fire military training; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Makua Military Reservation spans nearly five
15 thousand acres and is home to over forty endangered and
16 threatened species and dozens of sacred and cultural sites; and
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18 WHEREAS, in December 2023, the United States Department of
19 Defense confirmed that it would permanently end live-fire
20 training in Makua Valley; and
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22 WHEREAS, under the terms of a 2001 settlement, the military
23 has not conducted live-fire training at Makua Valley since 2004;
24 however, the court filing removed the threat that Makua would
25 ever again be subjected to live-fire training; and
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27 WHEREAS, management of the Makua Military Reservation will
28 transfer from the United States Army to the State when General
29 Lease No. S-3848 expires in 2029; and
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1 WHEREAS, the creation of a task force would facilitate
2 conversations necessary to prepare for the transition of the
3 management of the Makua Military Reservation from the United
4 States Army to the State; now, therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
8 Session of 2024, that the Department of Land and Natural
9 Resources is requested to convene a Makua Valley Task Force to
10 prepare for the transition of the management of the Makua
11 Military Reservation from the United States Army to the State;
12 and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Makua Valley Task Force is
15 requested to consist of the following members:

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17 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
18 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
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20 (2) A member of the Board of Trustees of the Office of
21 Hawaiian Affairs, or the member's designee;
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23 (3) A member of the House of Representatives, to be
24 selected by the Speaker of the House of
25 Representatives;
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27 (4) A member of the Senate, to be selected by the
28 President of the Senate; and
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30 (5) A member of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
33 invite representatives of the following organizations to serve
34 on the task force:

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36 (1) One representative of families who were evicted from
37 Makua Valley or whose lands in Makua Valley were
38 condemned by the federal government;
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40 (2) Three representatives, each representing a different
41 non-profit organization, with expertise on Makua
42 Valley; and



1
2 (3) A representative selected from a list provided by
3 native Hawaiian organizations; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
6 invite the Commanding General of the United States Army Pacific,
7 or the Commanding General's designee, to serve as a military
8 representative on the task force; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
11 elect a chairperson from among themselves; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in preparing for the transition
14 of the management of the Makua Military Reservation from the
15 United States Army, the task force is requested to enter into
16 discussions with the United States Army to:
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18 (1) Facilitate the expedient return of the Makua Military
19 Reservation upon the expiration of the United States
20 Army's lease;
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22 (2) Ensure the clean-up of unexploded ordnance; and
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24 (3) Ensure the expansion of opportunities for cultural
25 access; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
28 base its plans and policies for transition on the goal of
29 transferring the lands currently held by the United States Army
30 under General Lease No. S-3848 to the State, which shall:
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32 (1) Hold the lands in trust as part of the public land
33 trust; and
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35 (2) Transfer management and control of the lands to the
36 sovereign native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition
37 by the United States and the State; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall
40 serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
41 reasonable expenses necessary for the performance of their
42 duties, including travel expenses; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall cease to exist six months after the August 16, 2029, expiration of the United States Army's lease for the Makua Military Reservation under General Lease No. S-3848; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Commanding Officer of the United States Army Pacific, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Executive Director of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 07 2024

