
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PEACE CORPS TO IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH A MISSION IN THE
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

1 WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands signed a
2 Compact of Free Association with the United States in 1983; and

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4 WHEREAS, the United States has full authority and
5 responsibility for security and defense of the Marshall Islands
6 and the two nations have full diplomatic relations; and

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8 WHEREAS, the economy of the Marshall Islands is mainly
9 derived from United States payments under the terms of the
10 Compact of Free Association and the United States Department of
11 Defense is one of the largest employers in the nation; and

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13 WHEREAS, only approximately forty-three per cent of
14 Marshallese people over the age of twenty-five have completed
15 high school and only nine per cent have graduated from college;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, nuclear testing in the vicinity of the Marshall
19 Islands has led to significant health issues, including various
20 forms of cancer and birth defects; and

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22 WHEREAS, years of nuclear testing, overfishing, and climate
23 change have significantly diminished traditional food sources;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, ninety per cent of the Marshallese food supply
26 chain is made up from imported goods; and

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28 WHEREAS, eighty per cent of food imports are processed
29 foods which have led to alarmingly high rates of obesity and
30 diabetes among the adult population; and

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H.C.R. NO. 160

1 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps previously served in the Marshall
2 Islands from 1966 through 1996; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Peace Corps immediately
7 establish a mission in the Marshall Islands; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Peace Corps coordinate
10 humanitarian efforts with as many additional agencies as
11 possible, such as the U.S. Department of Defense, the State of
12 Hawaii, the United Nations, the Red Cross, and any other
13 organization providing economic relief and food security in the
14 region; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Marshall Islands
18 Minister of Foreign Affairs, U.S. Secretary of Defense,
19 Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development,
20 Director of the Peace Corps, and Governor of the State of
21 Hawaii.

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24 OFFERED BY: 

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