
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO RECONVENE THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 18, H.D. 1 (2024) TO CONTINUE THE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO WATER AND AIR CONTAMINATION AND REMEDIATION ARISING FROM THE OPERATION OF THE PUULOA RANGE TRAINING FACILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the Puuloa Range Training Facility, located in Ewa
2 Beach on Oahu, is a shooting range that has been used by United
3 States Marine Corps for more than a century; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Ewa Beach community has grown around it, and
6 the training facility now sits in the middle of a residential
7 neighborhood; and
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9 WHEREAS, in conducting live-fire exercises, shooters fire
10 into impact berms, including berms that face the ocean and share
11 a coastline with the area's beach parks; and
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13 WHEREAS, lead contamination from shooting ranges can
14 accumulate in the soil and remain there for hundreds of years;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, in 2022, sampling done by the Surfrider Foundation
18 of soil taken from the beach side of the training facility
19 identified high levels of lead; and
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21 WHEREAS, there is a concern that lead from the soil at the
22 Puuloa Range Training Facility will leach into the ocean,
23 creating a serious risk to marine life in the area; and
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25 WHEREAS, there is further concern that dust from lead-
26 contaminated soil will enter the atmosphere and migrate into
27 residential neighborhoods via air or stormwater; and
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1 WHEREAS, addressing this issue will require input from
2 experts and community stakeholders; and

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4 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (2024), requested
5 the convening of a working group to address issues related to
6 water and air contamination and remediation arising from the
7 operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility; and

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9 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (2024), requested
10 that the working group be ceased on June 30, 2025; and

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12 WHEREAS, this body finds that the Department of Health
13 would be an appropriate agency to facilitate the working group
14 based on the Hazards Evaluation and Emergency Response Office's
15 authority to address contaminated sites through the
16 administration of the Brownfields Redevelopment Program and
17 Department of Defense-State Memorandum of Agreement Program
18 (DSMOA); and

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20 WHEREAS, this body finds that the threat to the health and
21 safety of the residents of the Ewa Beach community constitutes
22 an emergency that requires continued well-thought-out and
23 coordinated action; now, therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
27 of 2025, that the Department of Health is requested to reconvene
28 the working group established in House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1
29 (2024) to continue the efforts to address issues related to
30 water and air contamination and remediation from the operation
31 of the Puuloa Range Training Facility; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health, or the
34 Director's designee, shall serve as the Chairperson of the
35 working group; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to ensure that there is
38 sufficient community representation, the Representative of House
39 District 40 shall serve as Co-Chair of the working group; and

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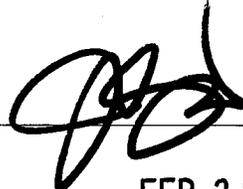


1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved
2 on June 30, 2027; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Commander of the Marine Corps
6 Base Hawaii, Director of Health, Chancellor of the University of
7 Hawaii at Manoa, Councilmember for District 9 of the City and
8 County of Honolulu, Vice Chair of Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23,
9 and Executive Director of Kuleana Coral Restoration.

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OFFERED BY: _____



FEB 28 2025

