

MAR 07 2025

---

---

## SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO NOT APPROVE ANY NEW LAND DISPOSITION OR RENEW ANY LAND DISPOSITION TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY THAT ALLOWS FOR OR FACILITATES ANY MILITARY TRAINING ACTIVITIES ON STATE-OWNED LANDS.

1 WHEREAS, article XI, section 1 of the Hawaii State  
2 Constitution provides that "[f]or the benefit of present and  
3 future generations, the State and its political subdivisions  
4 shall conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all  
5 natural resources, including land, water, air, minerals, and  
6 energy sources, and shall promote the development and  
7 utilization of these resources in a manner consistent with their  
8 conservation and in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the  
9 State. All public natural resources are held in trust by the  
10 State for the benefit of the people"; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, the principle of malama aina requires the  
13 responsible stewardship of Hawaii's public lands and natural  
14 resources, ensuring their preservation for current and future  
15 generations; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, the United States military's use of public lands  
18 has been inconsistent with the principle of malama aina, as  
19 evidenced by the environmental and cultural degradation at sites  
20 such as Kahoolawe, Waikane, Makua, and Pohakuloa; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, the United States Navy failed to fully clear  
23 unexploded ordnance from Kahoolawe, leaving behind significant  
24 safety hazards and environmental contamination; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, a federal court determined that the United States  
27 Army "failed to use good faith efforts to develop a plan and  
28 secure funding for clearing [unexploded ordnance] from the high  
29 priority sites that the Army was supposed to identify" pursuant  
30 to a settlement agreement related to Makua; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, a state circuit court has found that portions of  
33 state land at Pohakuloa are heavily contaminated with materials



1 that pose explosive hazards and significant dangers to public  
2 health and welfare; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the United States military's sixty-five-year  
5 leases of certain state lands are nearing expiration, providing  
6 an opportunity for these lands to be returned to the people of  
7 Hawaii; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the continued use of state-owned lands for  
10 military training activities risks further environmental  
11 degradation, cultural harm, and public health hazards; now,  
12 therefore,

13  
14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,  
16 that the Board of Land and Natural Resources is urged to not  
17 approve any new land disposition or renew any land disposition  
18 that allows for or facilitates any United States military  
19 training activities on state-owned lands; and

20  
21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
23 Land and Natural Resources and the members of Hawaii's  
24 Congressional delegation.

25  
26  
27 OFFERED BY:



