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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP  
TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A STATE OF HAWAII  
COMMEMORATIVE VIETNAM VETERANS MEDAL.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii had a proud history of military service to  
2 the United States even before achieving statehood, such as  
3 during the American Civil War in which over one hundred Native  
4 Hawaiian and Hawaii-born residents fought; and  
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6           WHEREAS, Hawaii's proud history of military service went on  
7 to include the participation of Native Hawaiian and Hawaii-born  
8 residents in World War One, World War Two, the Korean War, and  
9 subsequent wars through the present; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the State has a deep connection to the Vietnam War  
12 with over two hundred seventy-five local service members  
13 memorialized on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington,  
14 D.C.; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the State actively honors its veterans through  
17 traveling memorials, dedicated parades, and veteran-led  
18 organizations; and  
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20           WHEREAS, The Wall That Heals, a traveling three-quarter  
21 scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington,  
22 D.C., visited the University of Hawaii West Oahu campus in  
23 January 2026; and  
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25           WHEREAS, National Vietnam War Veterans Day is celebrated on  
26 March 29 of each year and often features a parade in Waikiki;  
27 and  
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29           WHEREAS, local veterans are periodically honored with all  
30 expenses paid "Honor Flights" to Washington, D.C. through  
31 support from the Hawaiian Islands Honor Flight organization; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the State is home to active chapters of the  
2 Vietnam Veterans of America, such as Oahu Chapter 858, that meet  
3 monthly at the Oahu Veterans Center and participate in  
4 ceremonies at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific;  
5 now, therefore,

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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
8 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
9 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Defense  
10 is requested to convene a working group to develop  
11 recommendations for a State of Hawaii commemorative Vietnam  
12 Veterans Medal; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
15 to include the following:

- 16  
17 (1) The Adjutant General, or the Adjutant General's  
18 designee, who is requested to serve as chairperson of  
19 the working group;  
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21 (2) The Director of the Joint Staff of the Hawaii National  
22 Guard, or the Director's designee;  
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24 (3) The Director of the Office of Veterans' Services, or  
25 the Director's designee;  
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27 (4) One member representing Vietnam Veterans of America  
28 Chapter 858, to be invited by the chairperson;  
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30 (5) One member representing Vietnam Veterans of America  
31 Chapter 1139, to be invited by the chairperson;  
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33 (6) One member representing Vietnam Veterans of Maui  
34 County, to be invited by the chairperson;  
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36 (7) One member representing Veterans of Foreign Wars Post  
37 3830, to be invited by the chairperson; and  
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39 (8) Other members representing Hawaii veterans'  
40 organizations, retired military and defense leaders,  
41 and other interested participants, to be invited by  
42 the chairperson; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to develop eligibility criteria and verification steps, recommend an application process, and propose design recommendations for a State of Hawaii Commemorative Vietnam Veterans Medal to be awarded to Vietnam Veterans living in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group, with the assistance of the Department of Defense and based on data requested from State and federal defense agencies on Hawaii-Specific Vietnam Veterans, 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 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to include any estimated costs related to a State of Hawaii Commemorative Vietnam Veterans Medal, including but not limited to costs for:

- (1) Informing veterans in the State;
- (2) Design and production; and
- (3) Award and implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to be dissolved on June 30, 2028; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General; Director of the Joint Staff of the Hawaii National Guard; Director of the Office of Veterans' Services; President of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 858; President of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1139; President of Vietnam Veterans of Maui County; and Commander-in-Chief of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3830.

OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2026

