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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
THE ERADICATION OF OCTOCORAL AND OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES  
FROM THE WATERS OF PEARL HARBOR, INCLUDING WEST LOCH,  
MIDDLE LOCH, AND EAST LOCH.

1           WHEREAS, two invasive species of octocoral, or *Unomia*  
2 *stolonifera* and *Capnella spicata*, are two of many invasive  
3 species that threaten Pearl Harbor's maritime ecosystem; and  
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5           WHEREAS, octocoral takes over marine habitats extremely  
6 quickly because it is a "soft coral" that does not form a  
7 calcium exoskeleton like reef-building corals, allowing it to  
8 rapidly grow and spread colonies, smothering Hawaiian coral reef  
9 ecosystems; and  
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11           WHEREAS, in areas where octocorals dominate the marine  
12 habitat, there is a lower density and diversity of fish; and  
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14           WHEREAS, the United States Navy reported the presence of  
15 octocoral near Pearl Harbor in late 2020 during surveys that  
16 were not focused on these octocorals and recent surveys have  
17 documented these species in a much larger area and indicate that  
18 they were most likely present before 2019; and  
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20           WHEREAS, consistent maintenance is necessary to preserve  
21 and care for the natural features of Pearl Harbor and its  
22 shoreline; and  
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24           WHEREAS, a strong unified response is required to remove  
25 and eradicate octocorals and other invasive species from the  
26 waters of Pearl Harbor; and  
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28           WHEREAS, the United States Navy is the principal caretaker  
29 of Pearl Harbor, including both its waters and shoreline; now,  
30 therefore,  
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# H.C.R. NO. 78

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the United States Navy is  
4 encouraged to take responsibility for the eradication of  
5 octocoral and other invasive species from the waters of Pearl  
6 Harbor, including West Loch, Middle Loch, and East Loch; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Navy is  
9 encouraged to allocate resources to eradicate octocoral and  
10 other invasive species from the waters of Pearl Harbor,  
11 including West Loch, Middle Loch, and East Loch; and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Navy is urged  
14 to allocate resources to clean, maintain, and secure the  
15 shoreline of Pearl Harbor, including West Loch, Middle Loch, and  
16 East Loch; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to United States Secretary  
20 of the Navy.  
21  
22  
23

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 12 2026

