

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
KA 'OIHANA WAI
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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March 24, 2026

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
and Members
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Lowen and Members:

SUBJECT: HR 190 / HCR 200: Urging the United States Department of Defense to Reassess Prior Determinations and Closure Decisions Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, And Liability Act In Light Of Evolving Scientific Understanding Of Per- And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances And Recent Federal Hazardous Substance Designations

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports House Resolution (HR) 190 and House Concurrent Resolution 200, which urges the United States Navy (Navy) to reassess prior determinations and closure decisions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, And Liability Act (CERCLA) pertaining to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other hazardous substances.

PFAS are a group of nearly 15,000 synthetics chemicals, highly persistent in the environment, also known as "forever chemicals", used since the 1940s to make products resistant to water, grease, and heat. They do not break down easily in the environment and accumulate in human body, causing cancer, liver diseases, compromised immune systems, and other illnesses.

In August 2023, a Report on Critical PFAS Uses was published by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment. The report identified over a dozen of critical PFAS uses within military installations, including but not limited to aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) for firefighting, weapons, energetic slurry processing, advanced metal working, casting, and fabrication processes used in production of metal parts, and advanced turbine engine oils, greases, fluids, and lubricants common throughout the United States civil transportation, industrial, and space sectors. However, in many CERCLA PFAS preliminary assessments conducted,

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
and Members
March 24, 2026
Page 2

decisions of no further actions needed were concluded solely based on no "AFFF" uses in initial document searches.

Previously closed CERCLA investigations of PFAS at all United States military installations shall be reopened and reassessed based on processes and materials listed in the August 2023. This is critical in the restoration of our environment and natural resources, so that our next generation may have a future and the opportunity to experience life without concerns of potential health effects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HR 190 / HCR 200.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernest Y. W. Lau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:10:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONG SUPPORT!

DoD needs to pay and clean up the environmental and public health harms it has inflicted on Hawaii, especially with regard to the very dangerous PFAS and AFFF.

Please pass these resolutions!



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Testimony of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HCR 149/HR 141 to urge the US Navy to resume participation in communications with the community relating to Red Hill

Hearing: House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection (EEP)
Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 325 & Video

LATE

Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The 6,680 members of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, who reside in all counties of the State strongly support **HCR 200/HR190**, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS and related chemicals) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

Several branches of the U.S. military have, to varying degrees, conducted preliminary assessments regarding releases of PFAS at their various facilities and sites, concluding in many cases that no further PFAS investigation was needed. However, these conclusions have been based on spotty records, lack of sufficient testing and incomplete data, and unreasonably optimistic assumptions about the risk of toxic exposure during the decades and centuries in which many PFAS may persist in our environment.

This situation of uncertainty is unacceptable. We must be given a transparent, fair, and complete picture of the environmental contamination and public health risks created by the U.S. military's intentional and unintentional release of toxic PFAS chemicals across our islands. Without such knowledge, we will be unable to assess, much less mitigate, the threat of harm these PFAS chemicals will continue to pose not just to our own generations, but those born long after we are gone.

Accordingly, the Environmental Caucus urges you to **PASS** this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands.



Testimony on HCR 200/ HR 190 re PFAS contamination by US Military

Hearing: March 24, 2026

Page 2

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important resolution!

Alan B. Burdick, Co-chair burdick808@gmail.com

Mike Ewall, Co-chair mike@energyjustice.net

Melodie Aduja, Co-chair *emerita* legislativepriorities@gmail.com

Environmental Caucus Democratic Party of Hawai'i

LATE



SIERRA CLUB
OF HAWAII

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Marchh 24, 2026

9:00 AM

Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190: RELATING TO RED HILL

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS HCR200/HR190**, which urges the U.S. military to revisit its decisions regarding the investigation and remediation of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that have been released at its facilities and sites across Hawai'i.

Despite mounting studies showing the toxic effects and environmental longevity of PFAS, including its own, the U.S. military continued to use and release PFAS into our environment and waste streams for decades. Now, in order to protect ourselves and our future generations from this multigenerational threat to our water security, food security, public health, and local economy, we must first understand the extent to which PFAS may have been used and may continue to spread across our landscape, and the degree to which our aquifers, watersheds, farms, and communities may be contaminated or at risk of being contaminated in the future.

However, this first step to protecting ourselves and our future generations may be impossible without the good faith and sincere efforts of the U.S. military, to account for the harms it may have inflicted on our 'āina, wai, and communities.

Unfortunately, a series of unsupported conclusions made by various military branches regarding the historical use and migration of PFAS from their installations, facilities, and training sites has only indicated a lack of diligence and good faith in their preliminary PFAS investigation efforts. A failure to investigate the many potential military sources of PFAS other than aqueous film-forming foam, or AFFF; an inadequate scope of investigation that failed to include dozens of PFAS and PFAS-related analytes that may be in our environment; a failure to employ appropriate water and soil testing protocols, especially when spotty records could not confirm nor refute past PFAS releases; a failure to consider all human exposure pathways over the decades and centuries that PFAS may persist in our environment; and other shortcomings have consistently led to fault-ridden determinations that there are no additional investigations, much less remediation efforts, needed for many, many military sites across the islands.

This is not acceptable.

This resolution accordingly reminds the U.S. military of our constitutional mandates as well as its own legal and moral responsibilities and urges it to revisit its PFAS investigations using concrete, specified methods and strategies. This in turn would provide a much better picture for the military, ourselves, and our future generations, of what may need to be done to mitigate the significant and irreparable human, environmental, and economic harms of these



extremely toxic “forever chemicals.”

Accordingly, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i urges the Committee to **PASS** HCR200/HR190. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 12:15:46 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice K T Shiira	Shimanchu Wai Protectors	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

TESTIMONY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR200 / HR190 URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REASSESS PRIOR DETERMINATIONS AND CLOSURE DECISIONS UNDER CERCLA IN LIGHT OF EVOLVING SCIENCE ON PFAS AND RECENT FEDERAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE DESIGNATIONS

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection (EEP)

Chair Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair Amy Perruso, and Members of the Committee

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Place: Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

LATE

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports HCR200/HR190, which urges the United States Department of Defense (DoD) to reassess prior determinations and closure decisions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in light of evolving scientific understanding of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and recent federal hazardous substance designations.

As the resolution outlines, PFAS are persistent, mobile, and resistant to degradation, with well-documented human health and ecological impacts (). Military installations across Hawai'i have historically used, stored, or disposed of PFAS-containing materials in connection with aqueous film-forming foam, industrial operations, aviation systems, maintenance activities, waste streams, and other treated equipment (capitol.hawaii.gov). These pathways extend far beyond AFFF alone.

The Environmental Caucus is particularly concerned that many DoD PFAS investigations in Hawai'i have been limited in scope, focusing narrowly on AFFF-related areas of potential interest while excluding other operational uses, waste handling practices, and disposal pathways that may have contributed to contamination (). In several cases, areas of potential interest were closed after limited investigation, without comprehensive sampling of groundwater, surface water, soil, sediment, stormwater systems, wastewater pathways, or potential off-base migration ().

This is especially concerning given that the Environmental Protection Agency's Method 1633A can detect forty PFAS analytes, yet DoD site inspection reports often disclose results for only a subset of those compounds (). With the federal government now designating certain PFAS as hazardous substances under CERCLA, prior determinations and closures must be revisited to ensure they reflect current science and regulatory requirements.

The State of Hawai'i is also entering a period of critical decision-making regarding military leases of state-owned lands. As the resolution notes, informed lease determinations require full transparency regarding contamination, monitoring status, investigative scope, and long-term remediation obligations (). Without comprehensive PFAS reassessment, the State cannot adequately protect its constitutional duties to safeguard water resources and public health.

For these reasons, the Environmental Caucus strongly supports the resolution's call for the Department of Defense to:

1. Reassess prior CERCLA determinations and closure decisions;
2. Initiate or supplement additional preliminary assessments and site inspections;
3. Expand PFAS investigations across all military installations, sub-installations, training areas, medical facilities, industrial sites, and former operating locations;
4. Evaluate all reasonably foreseeable PFAS-containing materials and operational uses;
5. Conduct comprehensive sampling across all relevant environmental media; and
6. Publicly disclose complete analytical results, including the full suite of PFAS analytes measured under EPA Method 1633A or successor methods.

These actions are essential to ensuring that Hawai'i's water, environment, and communities receive the full protections intended under CERCLA.

For these reasons, the Environmental Caucus respectfully urges the Committee to pass HCR200/HR190.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Alan B. Burdick, Co-chair burdick808@gmail.com
Mike Ewall, Co-chair mike@energyjustice.net
Melodie Aduja, Co-chair emerita legislativepriorities@gmail.com
Environmental Caucus Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 2:21:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong Support HR190

Dana Keawe

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:25:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PFAS chemicals scare me to death! Please pass HR190. Mahalo

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:27:23 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

190 HR URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REASSESS PRIOR DETERMINATIONS AND CLOSURE DECISIONS UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT IN LIGHT OF EVOLVING SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AND RECENT FEDERAL HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE DESIGNATIONS.

KEEP PFAS OUT OF OUR DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

Several branches of the U.S. military have, to varying degrees, conducted preliminary assessments regarding releases of PFAS at their various facilities and sites, concluding in many cases that no further PFAS investigation was needed. However, these conclusions have been based on spotty records, a lack of sufficient testing and incomplete data, and unreasonably optimistic assumptions about the risk of toxic exposure during the decades and centuries in which many PFAS may persist in our environment.

This is unacceptable. We must be given a transparent, fair, and complete picture of the environmental contamination and public health risks created by the U.S. military's intentional and unintentional release of toxic PFAS across our islands. Without such knowledge, we will be unable to assess, much less mitigate, the threat of harm these PFAS will continue to pose not just to our own generations, but those born long after we are gone.

Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts on our islands. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 5:04:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 5:20:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney Chung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

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This is unacceptable. We must be given a transparent, fair, and complete picture of the environmental contamination and public health risks created by the U.S. military's intentional and unintentional release of toxic PFAS across our islands. Without such knowledge, we will be unable to assess much less mitigate the threat of harm these PFAS will continue to pose not just to our own generations, but those born long after we are gone.

Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 5:26:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DIANE CHOY FUJIMURA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

/Cmd+V

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

If you care about the health, safety, and well-being of your children, family, friends, the people of Hawaii, please pass this and hold the military responsible for their reckless, irresponsible actions regarding release of PFAS in our precious 'aina.

My name is Diane Choy Fujimura.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

Several branches of the U.S. military have, to varying degrees, conducted preliminary assessments regarding releases of PFAS at their various facilities and sites, concluding in many cases that no further PFAS investigation was needed. However, these conclusions have been based on spotty records, lack of sufficient testing and incomplete data, and unreasonably optimistic assumptions about the risk of toxic exposure during the decades and centuries in which many PFAS may persist in our environment.

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Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Diane Choy Fujimura

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 6:13:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nanea Lo and I'm writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

Several branches of the U.S. military have, to varying degrees, conducted preliminary assessments regarding releases of PFAS at their various facilities and sites, concluding in many cases that no further PFAS investigation was needed. However, these conclusions have been based on spotty records, lack of sufficient testing and incomplete data, and unreasonably optimistic assumptions about the risk of toxic exposure during the decades and centuries in which many PFAS may persist in our environment.

This is unacceptable. We must be given a transparent, fair, and complete picture of the environmental contamination and public health risks created by the U.S. military's intentional and unintentional release of toxic PFAS across our islands. Without such knowledge, we will be unable to assess much less mitigate the threat of harm these PFAS will continue to pose not just to our own generations, but those born long after we are gone.

Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands.

Me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo, 96826

Sierra Club of Hawai'i Member

Hawai'i Workers Center Board Member

Clean Elections Hawai'i Member

Honolulu Tenants Union Member

350 Hawai'i Member

Carbon Cashback Hawai'i Member

Hawai'i Tax Fairness Coalition Member

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 6:37:54 PM
Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

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Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Diane Ware Volcano 96785

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 7:00:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise Boisvert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I FULLY SUPPORT THIS RESOLUTION.

The U.S. military has a moral obligation to reopen and expand investigations into PFAS contamination at ALL military facilities and sites. And not just for fire-fighting foam!

Don't let them act like the oily water they created under Red Hill and take the path of least resistance.

They need to investigate all types of PFAS by using appropriate soil and water testing methods.

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 7:06:51 PM
Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Jorgensen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This testimony is in STRONG SUPPORT of the resolutions.

It is ridiculous to limit the investigations to a narrow field of a few PFAS when there are so many others that the military has put into Hawai'i's land and water.

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:03:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

After years of dealing with the Army at Pōhakuloa, I'd say the military is so focused on its mission as dictated by superiors who know little about our islands that it keeps destroying the village in order to save it.

Please support this bill so we at least have an accurate picture of the problems with PFAS.

mahalo,
Cory Harden, Hilo

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 11:21:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ashley Nishihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

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This is unacceptable. We must be given a transparent, fair, and complete picture of the environmental contamination and public health risks created by the U.S. military's intentional and unintentional release of toxic PFAS across our islands. Without such knowledge, we will be unable to assess much less mitigate the threat of harm these PFAS will continue to pose not just to our own generations, but those born long after we are gone.

Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify,

Ashley Nishihara

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 11:26:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynda Nishihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR200/HR190, which will give us a much better understanding of the extent to which our islands and current and future generations will have to contend with highly toxic per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) released by the U.S. military in our lands, waters, and communities.

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Accordingly, I urge you to PASS this resolution, and make clear that the U.S. military must do a much better job in investigating and disclosing its impacts to our islands. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Lynda Nishihara

LATE

HR-190

Submitted on: 3/24/2026 6:30:00 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christy Shaver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

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Christy Shaver