

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 131

Designating April 2011 as “Tsunami Awareness Month.”

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 5, 2011

Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following resolution;
which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating April 2011 as “Tsunami Awareness Month.”

Whereas a tsunami is a series of ocean or sea waves generated by a sea floor disturbance, such as an earthquake, landslide, volcanic eruption, or meteorite;

Whereas a tsunami could occur during any season and at any time;

Whereas a tsunami is a threat to life and property for all coastal communities, and tsunamis have caused serious injuries and millions of dollars in property damage in the United States;

Whereas the danger posed by a tsunami cannot be eliminated, but the impact of a tsunami can be mitigated through community preparedness, timely warnings, and effective response;

Whereas tsunamis historically have posed the greatest hazard to Hawaii, Alaska, California, Oregon, Washington, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, tsunamis also pose risks to all ocean coasts of the United States;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials have partnered to coordinate a national effort to reduce the impact of tsunamis through the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program;

Whereas the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service operates 2 tsunami warning centers, the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center and the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center, that detect potential tsunamis and issue warnings;

Whereas Tsunami Awareness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of tsunami preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for tsunamis at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for tsunamis by finding out if their home, school, workplace or other frequently visited locations are in tsunami hazard areas, and by identifying evacuation routes; and

Whereas additional information about tsunami preparedness may be obtained through TsunamiReady at National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, at www.tsunamiready.noaa.gov: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates April 2011 as “Tsunami Aware-
3 ness Month”; and

1 (2) encourages the Federal Government, States,
2 localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, busi-
3 nesses, and other applicable entities, along with the
4 people of the United States, to observe Tsunami
5 Awareness Month with appropriate events and ac-
6 tivities to promote tsunami preparedness.

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