May 27, 2020

The Honorable David Ige
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
415 South Beretania St., 5th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor Ige:

Through our discussions with your administration and officers, it has become clear that the extension of the federal deployment of our National Guard is of utmost importance. As the state embarks on the remaining phases of re-opening our economy, the current missions of our National Guard are vital to safely accomplishing this endeavor.

To this point, the National Guard has been critical in the state's efforts to plan, organize, and respond in this time of uncertainty. If the National Guard's federal status were to terminate on June 10, as it is scheduled to do currently, it would cripple our state's ability to adequately respond to the unforeseen challenges we will inevitably face during this time. They must be retained through this period to aide in our efforts to securely re-open our state's economy.

For this reason, the Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 respectfully requests that you join numerous states in writing a letter to the President of the United States, asking that he extend the federal deployment of the National Guard through the end of July. Additionally, we ask that you include language highlighting the critical nature of this extension in our state's ability to re-open our economy.

The Committee appreciates your attention to this matter and respectfully requests a response regarding your intentions by **4:00 p.m., Friday, May 29, 2020**. Please email your response to all Senate Special Committee COVID-19 members. Should you have any questions, please contact Dane Wicker at 586-6639 or via email at d.wicker@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz   Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Michelle N. Kidani   Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Senator Sharon Moriwaki   Senator Kurt Fevella

Cc.   Senate President
       All Senators