
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR A STATE-OWNED AIRCRAFT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the United States
2 Army's 68th Medical Company's Medical Assistance to Safety and
3 Traffic (MEDEVAC) helicopter has served Hawaii for the past
4 thirty-one years. The MEDEVAC helicopter has transported over
5 seven thousand patients and saved countless lives by
6 transporting patients from rural areas, particularly in West
7 Oahu and the North Shore of Oahu to tertiary hospitals. Located
8 at Wheeler Army Air Field, the MEDEVAC helicopter provides a
9 vital service at no cost to rural Oahu.

10 However, the legislature also finds that due to the
11 increased military activity in Afghanistan, Somalia, and Iraq,
12 the MEDEVAC helicopter may soon be deployed to those areas,
13 leaving rural Oahu residents without aeromedical services. The
14 legislature believes that providing intra-island aeromedical
15 services to rural Oahu is necessary for the health and safety of
16 residents and therefore is a matter of statewide concern.

17 It is not the intent of this Act to supplant existing
18 ground or fixed-wing transport, especially for routine or non-



1 emergency inter-facility transportation. The aeromedical
2 helicopter unit would use triage protocols to ensure the
3 medically appropriate dispatch of the unit. Helicopter use
4 would be based on national aeromedical triage and transport
5 guidelines as established by the Association of Air Medical
6 Services, the American College of Surgeons, and the National
7 Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to provide
9 intra-island only aeromedical services to rural Oahu.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,900,000 or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for the
13 purchase of an intra-island only roto-wing aeromedical services
14 aircraft for rural Oahu; provided that the emergency aeromedical
15 helicopter services:

16 (1) Shall not supplant existing ground or fixed-wing
17 transport, especially for routine or non-emergency
18 inter-facility transportation; and

19 (2) Shall use triage protocols that are based on national
20 aeromedical, triage, and transport guidelines
21 established by the Association of Air Medical
22 Services, the American College of Surgeons, and the



1 National Association of Emergency Medical Services
2 Physicians.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 transportation for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. Within six months of purchase of the aircraft,
6 the department of transportation shall adopt rules, pursuant to
7 chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to the use and
8 maintenance of the aircraft.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.



Report Title:

Appropriation; State-Owned Aircraft

Description:

Appropriates \$1,900,000 for the department of transportation to purchase an aircraft to be used for aeromedical emergency services. Requires the department to adopt rules concerning the use and maintenance of the aircraft. (HB3081 HD1)

