
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the civil air patrol
2 provides necessary disaster relief, search and rescue, homeland
3 security, and medical emergency transport services to local and
4 national organizations.

5 Since the early 1950s, the Hawaii civil air patrol has
6 provided tsunami warning services to the State. Once a tsunami
7 alert has been issued by the National Weather Service, the
8 Hawaii civil air patrol mobilizes and puts its aircraft in the
9 air, making repeated passes over beaches and coastal communities
10 using sirens and loud speakers to warn residents.

11 The legislature also finds that the civil air patrol flies
12 more than ninety-five per cent of the nation's inland search and
13 rescue missions. Approximately one hundred people are saved
14 every year by civil air patrol volunteers. In July 2002, the
15 Hawaii civil air patrol was instrumental in locating a small
16 plane that went down on Maui.

17 The civil air patrol also plays a vital role in disaster
18 relief. Volunteer civil air patrol members fly disaster relief



1 officials to remote locations and support local, state, and
2 national disaster relief organizations with experienced pilots
3 and personnel. The civil air patrol transports time-sensitive
4 medical materials, blood products, and body tissue.

5 Today, as a peacetime auxiliary of the Air Force, the
6 Hawaii civil air patrol remains an active volunteer organization
7 with approximately five hundred fifty members, including two
8 hundred cadets. The Hawaii wing has three primary missions:
9 search and rescue, aerospace education, and the cadet program.
10 It is also an active participant in counter-drug operations for
11 the Drug Enforcement Agency, flying over one hundred seventy-
12 nine missions in 2003.

13 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii civil air
14 patrol depends on receiving state funding to defray its
15 operational expenses, but past budget restrictions have hampered
16 its ability to carry out necessary operations. A lack of
17 funding could result in:

- 18 (1) Termination of weekly tsunami watch patrols;
- 19 (2) Difficulties in notifying emergency personnel; and
- 20 (3) Operations conducted at the expense of members.



1 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the
2 Hawaii civil air patrol to assist in defraying operational
3 expenses.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to
7 complement the \$50,000 offered for support by the department of
8 defense, for the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air
9 patrol.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 defense for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.



SB2879, SD1

Report Title:

Hawaii Civil Air Patrol

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol. (SD1)

