

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2879

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2879 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII
CIVIL AIR PATROL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make an appropriation for
the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol (CAP) to assist in defraying
operational expenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the State Civil Defense, Hawaii CAP, and three individuals.

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

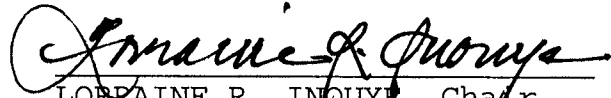
Your Committee finds that the Hawaii CAP depends on receiving
state funding to defray its operational expenses, but past budget
restrictions have hampered its ability to carry out necessary
operations. The State Civil Defense testified that the Hawaii CAP
operations are especially crucial to the civil defense warning
system for tsunami. Additionally, the Hawaii CAP performs other
important functions for civil defense such as air reconnaissance,



aerial damage assessments, inland search and rescue, and small cargo delivery when inter-island transportation is not available.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2879 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation and
Government Operations,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



