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 Hawaii civil air
- 2 patrol provides necessary disaster relief, search and rescue,
- 3 homeland security, and medical emergency transport services to
- 4 local and 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 its aircraft, making repeated
- 9 passes over beaches and coastal communities and using sirens and
- 10 loudspeakers 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 HB195 HD2 HMS 2007-2833



- 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 federal Drug Enforcement Agency, flying over one hundred
- 12 seventy-nine missions in 2003.
- 13 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii civil air
- 14 patrol depends on state funding to defray its operational
- 15 expenses, but past budget restrictions have hampered its ability
- 16 to carry out necessary operations. A lack of funding could
- 17 result in:
- 18 (1) Termination of weekly tsunami watch patrols;
- 19 (2) Difficulties in notifying emergency personnel;
- 20 (3) Operations conducted at the expense of members; and
- 21 (4) A lack of training for airplane pilots.

H.B. NO. H.D. 2

- 1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to assist
- 2 the Hawaii civil air patrol in defraying its operational
- 3 expenses.
- 4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1 or so much thereof
- 6 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to complement the
- 7 \$50,000 offered for support by the department of defense for the
- 8 operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air patrol.
- 9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 10 defense for the purposes of this Act.
- 11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

Report Title:

Hawaii Civil Air Patrol

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol. (HB195 HD2)

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