

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1568  
A BILL MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE  
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

March 3, 2009

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

I am Bob Lee, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony on House Bill 1568 which appropriates funds to the Department of Defense to assist the American Red Cross with needed capitol improvement projects.

The Hawaii Chapter of the American Red Cross is an organization that serves a critical role in State and county disaster response and recovery operations and which deserves our continuing support. It is an important organization that requires funding support to ensure that its facilities are hardened from the effects of natural and man-made hazards.

We recommend that SECTION 2 be amended to make the appropriation a 42F grant or clearly include language which reflects a finding that what the Red Cross does and the related appropriation it benefits from are for a public purpose.

The Department of Defense supports the intent of House Bill 1568 as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Years 2010-2011.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting the intent of this bill.