

SB 2502

Measure Title:

Making An Appropriation To The Hawaii Civil Air Patrol For Operating Expenses.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2502
A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE
HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL FOR OPERATING EXPENSES

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

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

February 2, 2010

Chair Espero and Committee Members:

I am Major General Bob Lee, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing testimony on Senate Bill 2502.

This proposed bill will appropriate funds out of the general revenues for fiscal year 2010-1011 for the operational expenses of the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol. This proposed bill will enable the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol to continue its operations in support of the Hawaii Civil Defense system. These operations are especially crucial to the Civil Defense warning system for tsunami alerts. Additionally, the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol performs other important missions 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.

We support Senate Bill 2502 so long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

This concludes my testimony. Are there any questions?

**HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL, HAWAII WING
United States Air Force Auxiliary
419 Lele Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96820
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**TESTIMONY TO THE
Senate Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee**

**MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE
HAWAII WING CIVIL AIR PATROL**

SB 2502

**Tuesday, 02 February 2009
1:25PM
Conference Room 229**

FROM

**Stanley Y. Fernandez, Colonel, CAP
Director, Government Affairs**

**TO: Chairman Espero and Vice Chair Bunda and Members of the
Senate Committee**

I support and strongly endorse SB 2502, making an appropriation to the Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol. I am a former Wing Commander of this great organization of "volunteers," a former Squadron Commander of Cadets for the Moanalua High School and Kailua High School Cadet Squadrons. I have been personally involved with the men and women volunteers who serve our Great State and community who give so much of their time, personal treasure, and talents as pilots, aircrew, maintenance, radio operations, command operations, vehicle, logistics, and administration and all of what it takes to operate and maintain the Civil Air Patrol. I started as a "cadet" in the Civil Air Patrol, when I attended high school (over 50 years ago). The Civil Air Patrol in Hawaii has served our

State in areas of civil defense, flying airborne tsunami warning flights in all of the areas in the State of Hawaii (all islands) providing warning to swimmers, surfers, of an impending tsunami. The CAP flies and provide airborne warning to all areas not covered with state public address systems and siren warning. CAP has provided this service faithfully for over 50 years. The CAP provides aerospace training to cadets and schools who request this training at no charge. The CAP this past year, 2009, even with limited funding that we received from the State Civil Defense, provided airborne capability in three actual tsunami warnings this past year. CAP had nine airplanes with aircrews ready to respond Had the State Civil Defense requested CAP to fly. This funding bill request will ensure that CAP in Hawaii can continue this much needed civil defense support to the State of Hawaii. The cost of flying an aircraft amounts to \$135 per hour vs the many thousands of dollars an hour to fly Air National Guard flying assets or Coast Guard flying assets. CAP is provided funding for flying search and rescue missions for the Air Force and when requested by the Coast Guard. CAP IS NOT FUNDED TO FLY "TSUNAMI WATCH OR WARNING PATROL MISSIONS!" In the past six years, CAP Hawaii, has been more involved with "tsunami" type missions as requested by State Civil Defense. CAP Hawaii critically needs funding for tsunami mission training, maintenance, and operations. We are fully aware of the fiscal problem in the State this year. The federal government issues the Hawaii Wing CAP with nine airplanes to provide the state to support this tsunami mission, however, does not provide funding for fuel, oil, maintenance and training. The Air Force expects each airplane to fly a minimum of 200 hours per year, however, with limited funding since 1996, CAP Hawaii has not been able to fulfill this requirement. Last year, the Air Force took one airplane away from Hawaii. Until 2008, CAP Hawaii had "ten" aircraft to support Hawaii. To preclude losing any more aircraft assets, we need to increase our flying training hours or risk the loss of further aircraft assets. Once lost, it takes a long time to recover from this loss of aircraft assets. Other states are hungry to gain our losses. Therefore, I strongly endorse SB2502, Making an Appropriation to the Civil Air Patrol bill. Thank you for the opportunity to share my views on this important matter.

STANLEY Y. FERNANDEZ, Colonel, CAP
Director, Government/Legislative Affairs

SENT: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2010 11:40 AM
TO: PSM TESTIMONY
SUBJECT: SB 2502 MAKING AN APPROPREATION TO HAWAII WING CIVIL AIR
PATROL

TO: CHAIRMAN ESPERO, VICE CHAIR BUNDA AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE
COMMITTEE

I SUPPORT AND STRONGLY ENDOSE SB 2502, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL. I AM A FORMER WING COMMADER.AND WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS TO HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL. WITH OUR AIRCRAFT, OUR ROLE IS TO FLY TSUNAMI MISSIONS FOR THE STATE OF HAWAII BY PROVIDING WARNING TO THE PUBLIC THAT ARE AT THE BEACHES OR IN REMOTE AREAS.WE DO NOT HAVE FUNDS FOR THIS TRAINING NOR FUNDS FOR THE GAS, OIR OR MAINTAINENCE FOR THE AIRCRAFT, TO DO THIS TASK. WE ARE ASKING FOR SOME FUNDING FOR THIS PURPOSE. ANY KIND OF FUNDING THAT THE LEGISLATOR CAN APPROPRIATE TO HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE LIMITED FUNDS WITHIN THE STATE BUDGET NEVER THE LAST TRAINING FOR A DISASTER IS WORTH THE EXPENSE.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE MY VIEWS ON THSI MATTER.

HERBERT T. KANESHIGE, COLONEL, CAP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT/LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



HEADQUARTERS
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29 January 2010

TESTIMONY FOR: Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

FROM 66TH SQUADRON COMMANDER, Lieutenant Colonel Carswell Ross, CAP

Good morning Senator Will Espero, Chair and Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair and members of the Public Safety and Military Affairs committee. I strongly endorse and support SB 2502, making an appropriation to the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol for operating expenses.

I am the commander of a Civil Air Patrol unit stationed at Hickam. My unit has 55 cadets and 45 senior members. Our senior members are volunteers who train to fly tsunami missions for the state of Hawaii. Our role is to provide warning to beach goers and boaters who may be off shore. Our secondary mission would be to perform damage assessment. In order for our pilots, observers, and scanners to be of value to the Department of Defense, Civil Defense, County Civil Defense units and Homeland Security we need to train. Unfortunately, bad events rarely occur between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. A tsunami can occur at dusk, dawn, to middle of the night. That is why the funds from the state are so important; we need to provide trained teams to perform our Tsunami Mission.

We understand that there are limited funds within the state budget; nevertheless, training for a disaster is worth the expense.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my view on this matter.

Carswell J. Ross, Jr., Lt Col CAP
66th Composite Squadron, Commander
Hangar 11

FROM: MAILINGLIST@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV
[MAILTO:MAILINGLIST@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV]
SENT: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2010 7:41 AM
TO: PSM TESTIMONY
CC: EGREENIA@HHSC.ORG
SUBJECT: TESTIMONY FOR SB2502 ON 2/2/2010 1:25:00 PM

TESTIMONY FOR PSM 2/2/2010 1:25:00 PM SB2502

CONFERENCE ROOM: 229
TESTIFIER POSITION: SUPPORT
TESTIFIER WILL BE PRESENT: NO
SUBMITTED BY: EARL GREENIA
ORGANIZATION: INDIVIDUAL
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
E-MAIL: EGREENIA@HHSC.ORG
SUBMITTED ON: 2/1/2010

COMMENTS:

HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL PROVIDES A CRITICAL SERVICE TO OUR ISLANDS - AT A VERY LOW COST. CAP VOLUNTEERS ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE TSUNAMI WARNING SERVICE. I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THIS BILL.