STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2702 SD1 A BILL RELATING TO A MAJOR DISASTER TRUST ACCOUNT

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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

February 22, 2010

Chair Mercado Kim and Committee Members:

I am Bob Lee, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony in support of Senate Bill 2702 SD1.

Senate Bill 2702 SD1 establishes a Trust Account under the Department of Defense for the deposit of Federal disaster assistance grant reimbursements as these are received by the Department of Defense for eligible emergency response and recovery costs. The establishment of a Trust Account will ensure that Federal disaster assistance grant reimbursements do not lapse at the end of the fiscal year into the General Fund of the State. This will also ensure that these moneys remain available to support disaster response and recovery operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of an important disaster management initiative.

We urge your Committee to pass this measure.