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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR 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. The Hawaii civil air patrol  
5 also provides low-cost humanitarian emergency services and  
6 homeland security support to the State through pre-disaster  
7 emergency warning and post-disaster recovery operations, as well  
8 as support to federal agencies involved with homeland security  
9 in the event of a terrorist attack.

10           The legislature further finds that the \$75,000 appropriated  
11 for fiscal year 2007 was exhausted by March 31, 2008. The  
12 legislature also finds that there was no funding for the Hawaii  
13 civil air patrol for fiscal years 1997 through 2003. The level  
14 of funding from fiscal year 2004 through 2007 was below  
15 historical funding levels from fiscal year 1982 until fiscal  
16 year 1997. Thus, the Hawaii civil air patrol has historically  
17 struggled to maintain its readiness capabilities. In the past,  
18 it has relied upon combining pilot proficiency and competency



1 training with the United States Air Force and federal Drug  
2 Enforcement Administration programs. However, this federal  
3 funding is declining.

4 The legislature further finds that the lack of funding  
5 adversely affects other state functions, including the  
6 maintenance of an adequate tsunami warning system and disaster  
7 relief missions.

8 Since the early 1950s, the civil air patrol has provided  
9 tsunami warning services to the State. When a tsunami alert is  
10 issued by the National Weather Service, the civil air patrol  
11 mobilizes its aircraft and makes repeated passes over beaches  
12 and coastal communities, using sirens and loudspeakers to warn  
13 residents. This function provided an essential service during  
14 the tsunami that occurred on February 27, 2010, as eighty per  
15 cent of the shoreline in Hawaii does not have a fixed based  
16 siren. The civil air patrol launched nine aircraft around the  
17 islands to warn persons near the shore who may not have heard  
18 tsunami warnings through radio and television broadcast.  
19 Reports later indicated that virtually everyone on the islands  
20 was successfully evacuated to high ground.

21 The civil air patrol also plays a vital role in disaster  
22 relief. Volunteer civil air patrol members fly disaster relief



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 also transports time-  
 4 sensitive medical materials, blood products, and body tissue  
 5 among medical centers in the State.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to help  
 7 defray the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air patrol.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and  
 11 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 12 year 2012-2013 for the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil  
 13 air patrol.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
 15 of defense for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.  
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**Report Title:**

Civil Air Patrol; Funding; Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes appropriations for the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air patrol.

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