
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 funded the Hawaii civil air patrol with \$25,000
13 matched by \$50,000 of federal funds. The legislature also finds
14 that there was no funding for the Hawaii civil air patrol for
15 fiscal years 1997 through 2003. The level of funding from
16 fiscal year 2004 through 2007 was below historical funding
17 levels from fiscal year 1982 until fiscal year 1997. Thus, the
18 Hawaii civil air patrol has historically struggled to maintain



1 its readiness capabilities. In the past, it has relied upon
2 combining pilot proficiency and competency training with the
3 United States Air Force and federal Drug Enforcement
4 Administration programs. However, this federal funding is
5 declining.

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

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



1 The civil air patrol may be tasked with playing a vital
2 role in disaster relief. Volunteer civil air patrol members may
3 also be tasked with flying disaster relief officials to remote
4 locations, supporting local, state, and national disaster relief
5 organizations with experienced pilots and personnel, and
6 transporting time-sensitive medical materials, blood products,
7 and body tissue among medical centers in the State.

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

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

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

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.



Report Title:

Civil Air Patrol; Funding; Appropriation

Description:

Makes appropriations for the operational expenses of the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol. Effective July 1, 2011. (HB121 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

