

Moses Kaiwi Jr.
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Pearl City, HI, 96782
February 25, 2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Committee: House Judiciary Committee
Hearing Date/Time: February 25, 2011 2:00 PM Room 325
Place: Conference Room 309
RE: Testimony in support of HB1107 Relating to the Hawaii National Guard

Dear Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Vice Chair Karl Rhoads,

I am writing in to you as a concerned citizen and resident of Hawaii and a member of the Hawaii National Guard for over 28 years. Currently I am the Executive Officer for the 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Hawaii Army National Guard. I have seen two deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a National Guardsman and I have participated in civil support operations in Hurricane Iniki in 1992 as well as other civil support operations in Hawaii.

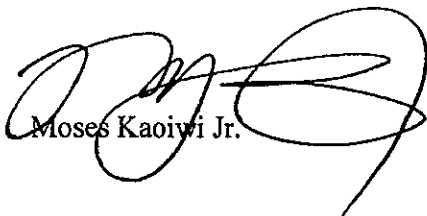
Your decision on this bill will have lasting effects on the safety of people of the State of Hawaii and the safety of our nation. I implore you to pass HB1107 in order to increase the capability our Hawaii National Guard "Hawaii's own" in using the appropriate level of force during civil disturbance and riots as well as enhance our Hawaii National Guard's readiness in a federal mobilization and deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Passing HB1107 will provide our Hawaii National Guard with the capability to use the appropriate level of force during civil disturbances in support of Law Enforcement. Currently only our Hawaii Law Enforcement (Police and Sheriffs) are allowed to use electric guns. This hinders the Hawaii National Guard's ability to adequately support Hawaii Police should they need our valued assistance in preventing and deterring civil disturbances and riots. Passing HB1107 will allow the Hawaii National Guard to fully support law enforcement adequately with the minimum level of force necessary to prevent or deter a civil disturbance or riot.

Passing HB1107 will allow our Hawaii National Guard to be prepared for our Federal Mission to protect the United States. Currently Active Duty units are training in non-lethal instruments to include electric guns in order to provide the appropriate level of force during situations in deployments to Afghanistan. Allowing our Hawaii National Guard to possess and train on electric guns will increase our readiness and prepare our Soldiers in the event of a deployment overseas for the Global War on Terrorism. It is necessary for the safety and protection of our Soldiers and Airman who are put into harm's way.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,


Moses Kaiwi Jr.