

LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE RESOLUTION 62/SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 108
A RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPLICATION FOR, GRANTING OF, AND FISCAL SUPPORT FOR
EMERGENCY RELIEF AND EMERGENCY PREVENTION EFFORTS FOR THE COUNTY OF
HAWAII AND COUNTY OF MAUI IN THE WAKE OF THE MARCH 2011 TSUNAMI

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL WONG
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

March 31, 2011

Chair Espero and Committee members:

I am Major General Darryll Wong, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony in support of this resolution.

State, county, and various non-government organizations continue to provide disaster relief to residents and businesses affected by the March 11, 2011, Tsunami Disaster. As you are aware, Governor Abercrombie's request for a Physical Disaster Declaration from the Small Business Administration (SBA) was approved on March 29. SBA representatives are currently providing disaster loan outreach services in the Kailua-Kona area which was hard hit by the tsunami. SBA services will provide low-interest loans to businesses, property owners, renters, and non-profit organizations. Maui County and Oahu did not meet the criteria for this SBA program.

On March 29-30, twenty-seven organizations assembled at the Old Airport Events Pavilion in Kailua-Kona to provide information and services to residents and businesses affected by the tsunami. These organizations included representatives from State, county, and non-government agencies. Sixty-one individuals visited the Disaster Assistance and Recovery Center.

On March 25, Governor Abercrombie requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and for the City and County of Honolulu. If approved, the Governor's request may authorize Public Assistance (repair of State and county facilities), Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Legal Services, and funding for the conduct of Crisis Counseling outreach programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony that supports this resolution.