

LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE RESOLUTION 100/SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 163
A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CIVIL DEFENSE DIVISION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE TO INSTALL ADDITIONAL CIVIL DEFENSE WARNING SIRENS IN AREAS STILL
WITHOUT SIRENS AND ENSURE THAT ALL SIRENS ARE IN WORKING ORDER AT ALL TIMES
IN CASE OF DISASTER EMERGENCIES

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 Civil Defense labors continuously to ensure that its fleet of 367 outdoor siren systems is operational. The current modernization plan for the replacement of old, electrical mechanical sirens and installation of additional new outdoor siren systems will result in a fleet of 517 outdoor siren systems statewide. The priority for the fielding of new siren systems will be given to replacement of those older siren systems in tsunami evacuation zones as well as to the installation of new siren systems in gap areas along our coastlines.

We appreciate the Legislature's continued support in providing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding appropriations for the outdoor siren warning system. The Legislature's support is also needed in providing an appropriation for the maintenance of these siren systems. In the last year, we have had to request the use of CIP funds to repair or replace inoperable siren systems because maintenance funding was not appropriated.

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

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March 31, 2011

Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

SR100 / SCR163

Requesting the Civil Defense division of the State Department of Defense to install additional Civil Defense warning sirens in areas still without sirens and ensure that all sirens are in working order at all times in case of disaster emergencies

Chairman and fellow committee members, I am George Waialeale and I speak in favor of SR100/SCR163. I believe we may have the same problem as Sendai, Japan were a locally generated earthquake of the island of Hawaii would cause a tsunami and we would have 30 minutes to evacuate the low lying areas in the State of Hawaii.

I have worked at State Civil Defense for about a year. They have good leadership and many experience employees. What they need the most is and expanded budget to put up more sirens. Without more sirens we may put the residents of the State of Hawaii in jeopardy.

I ask that you pass SR100/SCR163.

Aloha and Mahalo,

George Waialeale