

SB 1122

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII CIVIL AIR
PATROL FOR OPERATING EXPENSES.

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii civil air patrol for tsunami patrol
operations in Hawaii. Effective 7/1/11.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1122
A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE
HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL FOR OPERATING EXPENSES

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL WONG
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

February 3, 2011

Chair Espero and Committee Members:

I am Major General Darryll Wong, Interim Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing testimony on Senate Bill 1122.

This proposed bill will appropriate funds out of the general revenues for fiscal years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 for the operational expenses of the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol. This proposed bill will enable the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol to continue its operations in support of the Hawaii Civil Defense system. These operations are especially crucial to the Civil Defense warning system for tsunami alerts. Additionally, the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol performs other important missions for Civil Defense such as air reconnaissance, aerial damage assessments, inland search and rescue, and small cargo delivery when inter-island transportation is not available.

We support the intent of Senate Bill 1122 as long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as established in the Executive Biennium Budget Request.

This concludes my testimony. Are there any questions?

**HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL, HAWAII WING
United States Air Force Auxiliary
419 Lele Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819**

**TESTIMONY TO THE
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations
And Military Affairs**

**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE
CIVIL AIR PATROL, HAWAII WING**

SB1122

**Thursday, 3 February 2011
2:45 P.M.
Conference Room 224**

FROM

**Stanley Y. Fernandez, Colonel, CAP
Director, Government Relations**

TO

**Senator Will Espero, Chair
Rep. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair**

**IN SUPPORT OF SB 1122, Making an Appropriation to the Civil Air Patrol, Hawaii
Wing for Tsunami Operations.**

On Saturday morning, 27 February 2010, the Pacific Tsunami Center, notified the Hawaii State Civil Defense of a tsunami which was generated by the Chilean earthquake which measured 8.8 on the Richter scale. It was a major earthquake. The Hawaii State Civil Defense immediately alerted the Civil Air Patrol to fly and provide aerial warning to low lying inundated areas where there would be a danger for swimmers, surfers, campers, and to residents where the State did

not have sirens or public address systems. Civil Air Patrol airplanes were ordered by the State Civil Defense and nine CAP single engine airplanes were providing aerial warning throughout all of the Islands of Hawaii. We had two airplanes on Kauai, two on the Big Island of Hawaii, two on Maui, two for the island of Oahu. One of the Kauai CAP aircraft covered the Island of Niihau. CAP aircrews reported campers shining their flashlights and responding by breaking down their camp sites. CAP aircraft were instructed to fly into areas where the State Public Address and Siren systems were inoperative. Hawaii was very fortunate that it was spared a major tsunami. Recall the Hilo incident where Hawaii suffered major loss of life due to negative warning. There were 251 CAP volunteers on duty on Saturday, 27 February 2010. After the All Clear was sounded, CAP took an assessment of our capabilities. Many of the aircraft public address speakers on our airplanes overheated. One of our aircraft had to return to base (Honolulu) for maintenance which created a period where Maui was covered with just one airplane. We have one airplane out of the nine available without the siren/public speaker system so it could not be used for other than providing aerial communications. CAP is in dire need of up dated equipment. Also, CAP was lacking in mission qualified pilots to fly the tsunami warning flights due to minimum airborne training (due to lack of monies). The last year, CAP was provided training and equipment funds by the Legislature was back in 2003. It has been seven years that the Hawaii Wing has operated without Legislative funding. To fully operate the CAP mission in Hawaii would require \$298,000 per year (Optimum). We are fully aware of the fiscal situation and all we are asking for is any Funding that we can obtain for updating our equipment and money for aircrew tsunami training. Approximate cost of the siren/public address system is \$9,000 per aircraft X 9 aircraft = \$81,000 and \$50,000 for training and minor maintenance for our airplanes. This would total \$132,000. If not available, Any available funding will be of tremendous help to continue our tsunami mission for the State of Hawaii. Thank you for allowing me to share my views on SB1122.

STANLEY Y. FERNANDEZ, Colonel, CAP
Director, Government Affairs
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HEADQUARTERS
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CIVIL AIR PATROL
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10 Hickam Ct. Bldg. 2094
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808-449-9935



3 February 2011

Senate Testimony

TESTIMONY BEFORE: Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

FROM: Carswell Ross, Lt Col CAP, 66th Composite Squadron, Commander

SUBJECT: Strongly Supports SB 1122: Making an Appropriation for the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol for operating expenses

Good afternoon Chair Will Espero, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani, and members of the Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs. My name is Carswell Ross, Lt. Col., Civil Air Patrol, Commander of the 66th Composite Squadron located at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Presently there are 100 members of my Composite Squadron. Sixty of these members are Senior Members, age 21 and older and forty are cadets between the ages of 12 through 18. The 66th strongly supports Senate Bill 1122, which seeks to make appropriations for the Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol for operating expenses associated with tsunami training and patrol operations.

The appropriation from the state to the Wing will benefit not only my Squadron but all CAP units statewide in our efforts to provide training in search and rescue activities, perform Tsunami warning to citizens of Hawaii, offer aerospace educations to the cadets, and demonstrate the meaning of community service. Many of our cadets become military members, however, many do not, nevertheless, the lessons learned through participation in CAP activities are used to succeed in their future endeavors. We understand that during this economic downturn that funds are scarce, however, teaching good citizenship and volunteerism to future leaders and providing tsunami warning services to the community is a good investment.

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB 1122.

From: Cooper, Barbara B. [mailto:barbara.cooper@helcohi.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 5:37 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: Testimony for SB 1122

SB 1122 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL

Hearing: Thursday, February 3, 2011, 2:45pm, Rm 224

February 1, 2011

Aloha Committee members,

I am writing you in support of **SB1122** to enable the citizens of Hawaii to continue to receive aerial warnings of tsunamis, help with search and rescue operations, transportation of emergency supplies, help with disaster recovery operations and community service - all provided by **VOLUNTEER** adult and teenage members of the Hawaii Civil Air Patrol.

The funding we are asking for is to keep our planes operational and available for the above mentioned services, and to provide training for our personnel. All other costs for squadron operations and cadet programs are acquired through community fundraisers and donations. Every squadron member in CAP is a volunteer and receives no monetary compensation. We understand that many organizations are seeking help during this economic downturn, and hope that you will determine that what the CAP can provide for the people of Hawaii is worth investing in.

Sincerely,

Barbara B. Cooper, 1Lt., CAP

Lyman Field Composite Squadron

Hilo, Hawaii

pbocoop@hawaii.rr.com

From: J W [mailto:judyann_williams@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 8:44 AM

To: PGM Testimony

Subject: support of the SB 1122

TO: "COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS"

Chairman, Senator Will Espero, and Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

REGARDING: support of the SB 1122, Making An Appropriation to the Civil Air Patrol

On behalf of the 21 Cadets of the Kona Composite Squadron and myself, please seriously consider supporting this bill.

Live Aloha,

*Judy Ann Williams, CAP
Deputy Commander of Cadets
Kona Composite Squadron
75-6138 Alii Drive #1
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
808.269.2408*



From: Dave's [mailto:cessnaflyer.partlow@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 11:48 AM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: SB1122 Hearing date Feb. 3, 2:45pm

Aloha committee members,

I am a volunteer in the Civil Air Patrol and urge you to support SB1122. Without this vital funding the CAP will not be able to fulfill its role in assisting the citizen of our beautiful state in the event of an emergency.

Every person involved with the CAP is a volunteer and receives no compensation for our service, however the funding for equipment and training is still needed to perform this invaluable service.

Mahalo,

David D Partlow, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Civil Air Patrol
Lyman Field, Hilo

From: Tony Schena [mailto:kh6pv1@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 2:19 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Subject: Support of SB1122

TO: Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs
Chairperson: Senator Will Espero
Vice Chair: Representative Michele Kidani

Time of Hearing: Thursday, 3 February 2011 at 2:45 PM

Dear Senator Espero,

I wholeheartedly support SB1122, which appropriates monies to the Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol to perform various civil defense missions for the State of Hawaii.

Civil Air Patrol members, all volunteers, have continued to play a pivotal role in the areas of Airborne Tsunami Warning Missions, Search and Rescue and Homeland Security Missions.

Previous state funds allocated to Hawaii Wing, resulted in an increase in flight utilization, mission capability and training to meet these commitments. Proof of CAP's ability to perform these missions is on record. CAP provided rapid responses and flown missions as requested by the State and Counties, during incidents in 2010 and over the past years.

In return for funding, Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol provides, for pennies on the dollar, vital services to the citizens of the State of Hawaii, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Funds are spent in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement agreed upon by the State Civil Defense and the Civil Air Patrol.

I strongly urge you and the committee, to support this bill, and thank you all for your consideration.

Anthony R. Schena
91-1037 Kuhina Street
Ewa Beach, HI 96706