SB 2340

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

Requires the department of transportation to report to the 2013 legislature on providing the best and most modern security technology at Hawaii's harbors and airports to detect and prevent terrorist activity.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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February 1, 2012

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

SB 2340 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

SENATE COMMITTEE(S) ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS and PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

The Department of Transportation (DOT) opposes SB 2340 which requires the DOT to conduct a study and make recommendations on the best and most modern security systems and technology that the DOT's harbors and airports divisions can implement to detect and prevent terrorist activity. As the report is to include findings and recommendations, we are also concerned that security sensitive information may possibly be compromised.

The Harbors Division receives funding support for the implementation of its security systems from the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Port Security Grants monies. The purpose of the grants is to reduce the security risks identified by a Risk Mitigation Plan (a document that is classified as Security Sensitive Information and not releasable to the general public) that has been approved by DHS. The Harbors Division has a working group that includes maritime stakeholders to oversee the security of the ports with the goal of reducing any security risks.

The Airports Division works in conjunction with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in the implementation of its security systems. Security threat assessments (a document that is classified as Security Sensitive Information and not releasable to the general public), are conducted and addressed to reduce the security risks. Therefore, the Airports Division with its Federal regulators (TSA) who oversee the security of the airports, continually review and mitigate issues, with the ultimate goal of reducing the security risks to the airports.

The DOT assures the Committee that technology such as video surveillance, access control systems, sensors, motion detectors, radar, and other systems and technologies are explored; and to-date, have been implemented.



Via Email

Honorable Senator J. Kalani English, Chair Committee on Transportation and International Affairs Hawaii State Senate

Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations
Military Affairs
Hawaii State Senate
Hearing: February 1, 2012; Room 224 at 1:15pm

RE: SB 2340 --- RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Dear Chair English, Chair Espero and Honorable Senators:

My name is David Naleway and I am a security consultant. I recently was a consultant with Lockheed Martin. I am a frequent visitor to Hawaii and I love Hawaii and all that it stands for.

I fully support this bill and I urge you to pass it.

In my opinion, there is no reason not to pass this bill that has no cost implications and ensures an evaluation and report is presented to this Legislature as to possible security measures and improvements that should be considered for Hawaii's public harbors and airports.

While working with Lockheed Martin, I've found that businesses and agencies can save as much as 25% to 50% on their security costs and at the same with a result of better and more expansive security. This is a tremendous opportunity.

Unfortunately, with budget cutbacks and limited personnel, businesses and agencies typically don't make the effort to update themselves and take advantage of what the latest technologies have to offer while at the same time providing cost savings and better security.

This Legislature by requesting a report seeks to ensure that security at Hawaii's public harbors and airports remains the top priority that it should be and that the latest cost savings opportunities and measures are evaluated.

I am very hopeful and confident that a proper evaluation will lead not only to cost savings of 25% to 50% but also better security protection.

In closing, I urge you to pass this bill that seeks to ensure that this important evaluation is completed and assured with a report to you.

This is an important bill that also seeks to protect Hawaii's tourism sector which plays a critical role in helping with the recovery of Hawaii's struggling economy. Let's not take chances and let's seek to also protect Hawaii's tourism economy and the rest of Hawaii's economy at the same time.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I travel back and forth between Hawaii. If you would like to further discuss matters I can be reached by telephone at 925-352-5924 whether I'm in Hawaii or elsewhere.