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S.B. 2903 MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR SECURITY AT HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs

The Department of Transportation—Airports Division, urgently seeks your **support** on S.B. 2903, making an Emergency Appropriation to replenish a \$5,000,000 shortfall in the Airports Division Security Budget.

The shortfall was created when funds from the Airport Division's security budget were used to cover unexpected and unbudgeted costs for maintenance and operations for a newly installed baggage handling system. These unanticipated costs were formerly the responsibility of the airlines, which necessitated using funds from the Airports' security contract. The new baggage system, which requires specialized maintenance and operations, is in need of specialized personnel.

This new system relocated the baggage screening function from the lobby to the baggage make-up area one floor below. With explosive detection capabilities integrated with the baggage handling out of sight, the lobby is much more spacious, and the increased capacity greatly enhances the check-in experience during peak periods.

This funding must be replaced immediately to prevent the interruption of critical security services at Honolulu International Airport. The security contract expires on February 15, 2014.

Thank you for supporting this request.