
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND UNITED STATES ARMY TO CONTINUE THE STATE'S LEASE OF DILLINGHAM AIRFIELD.

1 WHEREAS, in 1941, the United States Army established the
2 Mokulē'ia Airfield to house military aircraft during World War
3 II; and
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5 WHEREAS, Mokulē'ia Airfield became an Air Force Installation
6 in 1946; and
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8 WHEREAS, in 1948, the airfield was inactivated and renamed
9 Dillingham Air Force Base, in memory of Captain Henry Gaylord
10 Dillingham, a B-29 pilot who was killed in action over Kawasaki,
11 Japan, on July 25, 1945; and
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13 WHEREAS, now commonly known as Dillingham Airfield, the
14 State leased Dillingham from the United States Air Force in 1962
15 for general aviation use on a short-term basis; and
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17 WHEREAS, in 1974 the Air Force transferred Dillingham
18 Airfield to the United States Army; and
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20 WHEREAS, that same year, the State acquired a longer-term
21 lease from the Army and in 1983, signed a 25-year lease; and
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23 WHEREAS, Dillingham Airfield is primarily used for gliding
24 and sky diving operations and also houses Civil Air Patrol
25 glider aircraft; and
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27 WHEREAS, Dillingham Airfield is currently home to a number
28 of successful business that employ, directly or indirectly,
29 hundreds of local residents and generates over \$12,000,000 in
30 revenue ever year; and



1 WHEREAS, according to the Federal Aviation Administration
2 over 36,000 civilian aircraft operations occur annually at
3 Dillingham Airfield; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State's lease was extended in 2019 to run
6 until 2024, but in January 2020, the United States Army received
7 a letter from the Department of Transportation announcing the
8 State's intent to exercise its right to terminate its lease
9 early and vacate Dillingham Airfield by June 30, 2020; and
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11 WHEREAS, Dillingham Airfield is an important community
12 resource that generates jobs and provides recreational services;
13 now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
17 2020, that the Department of Transportation is urged to work
18 with the federal government and United States Army to continue
19 the State's lease of Dillingham Airfield; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Commanding General of the
23 United States Army Pacific Command and Director of
24 Transportation.
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OFFERED BY: S. Q. J.

Jan M. White

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