

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 75 SD2,
RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS

PRESENTATION TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
ADJUTANT GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
DIRECTOR OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND COVID-19 STATE INCIDENT COMMANDER

MAY 10, 2020

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty Cullen and Members of the Committee:

I am Major General Kenneth S. Hara, Adjutant General, Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Advisor for the Department of Defense.

Our department thanks the legislature for its support during this pandemic and appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 75 SD2 with the following request for your consideration.

The Department of Defense requires an appropriation of \$100,000,000 from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to continue an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to protect the health and safety of the people residing and visiting our State, as well as the employees and Service Members of our department, and to minimize human suffering. Actions by the State of Hawaii, its Legislators and the Counties, along with the cooperation by the people of our State have ranked Hawaii among the best in the nation in measurable categories related to the COVID-19 response and recovery. This combined effort has greatly contributed to flattening the curve of positive COVID-19 test results, minimizing the deaths of those who have been infected, reducing health risks and infection to our population and conserving critical medical resources for the current and future response. It has also postured the State to take measured actions and to consider opportunities to minimize financial suffering by opening the economy.

As the State's designated Incident Commander for the emergency response to COVID-19, I ask for your support so we can continue the response and concurrently prepare Hawaii for a phased approach to recovery. These funds, as allowed by the CARES Act, will be administered and expended for the full spectrum of emergency management response requirements which include, but are not limited to equipment (personal protective equipment, respirators, medical supplies and

equipment, tents, environmental control units, etc.), operating and office supplies, contracted labor and professional services (planners, logisticians, maintainers, etc.), logistics operations, transportation, security, subsistence (food, clothing, shelter, etc.), decontamination and disinfection related requirements, communications related requirements, contracted studies, COVID-19 testing, Contact Tracing, isolation, quarantine related requirements, alternate care facilities, search and rescue, telework, and other activities related to the COVID-19 response.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure and for your support to protect the health and safety of our people.

MG Kenneth S. Hara, kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1001