

MAR 11 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO CONVEY DILLINGHAM
AIRFIELD TO THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield, formerly known as Dillingham
2 Airfield, is a general aviation airfield owned by the United
3 States Army and managed by the state Department of
4 Transportation, Airports Division under a revocable lease on two
5 hundred seventy-eight acres of the six hundred fifty acre
6 Dillingham Military Reservation; and

7
8 WHEREAS, the site has been operated as a military
9 installation since 1927, was expanded during World War II, and
10 has been managed by Airports Division for general aviation since
11 1962; and

12
13 WHEREAS, the topography and weather provide ideal
14 conditions found nowhere else in the State for recreational
15 skydiving, glider planes, flight instruction, and other general
16 aviation businesses that generate more than \$12,000,000 in
17 revenue for the local and state economy; and

18
19 WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield is recognized around the world
20 as a premier location for skydiving and gliding, and is the most
21 heavily used drop zone in the United States; and

22
23 WHEREAS, the number of daily flight operations at
24 Kawaihapai Airfield exceed operations at Kapaua, Lanai, and
25 Kalaupapa airports combined; and

26
27 WHEREAS, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
28 Year 1991, Section 2831, Public Law 101-510, required the
29 Secretary of the Army to convey eighty-seven acres of land to
30 the State of Hawaii, which included a portion of the western end
31 of the Kawaihapai Airfield and adjacent shoreline, locally known
32 as Army Beach; and

33
34 WHEREAS, in contemplation of the transfer, the Legislature
35 enacted Act 276, Session Laws of 2001, to change the official



1 name of Dillingham Airfield to Kawaihapai Airfield upon
2 completion of the land transfer; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the land transfer has not yet been completed, but
5 remains authorized and is pending disposition; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the eighty-seven acres of airfield and beach
8 property are valuable assets that rightfully belong to the State
9 of Hawaii; now, therefore,
10

11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 2022, that
13 the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources is
14 requested to work with United States officials to enter into the
15 necessary agreements to effectuate the conveyance of the
16 relevant lands; and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
20 Secretary of the Army, Governor, Chairperson of the Board of
21 Land and Natural Resources, and the Director of Transportation.
22
23
24

OFFERED BY:

