



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2021**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 1368, RELATING TO AIRFIELDS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 **TIME:** 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 224, Via Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): **Clare E. Connors, Attorney General or
Marjorie Lau, Deputy Attorney General**

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General has the following comments on this bill.

This bill prohibits the eviction of the tenants of the Kawaihapai Airfield who are in good standing until the expiration of the current lease that the Department of Transportation (“DOT”) has with the U.S. Army, which lease has an expiration date of July 5, 2024 (the “Kawaihapai Lease”), provided that the tenants remain in good standing.

Prohibiting the eviction of tenants of the Kawaihapai Airfield may be deemed to be special legislation, in violation of article XI, section 5, of the Hawai‘i Constitution.

Article XI, section 5, of the Hawai‘i Constitution provides:

The legislative power over the lands owned by or under the control of the State and its political subdivisions shall be exercised only by general laws, except in respect to transfers to or for the use of the State, or a political subdivision, or any department or agency thereof.

Because the bill is clearly an attempt to exercise legislative power over lands owned or under the control of the State, the next issue is whether this bill, if passed, would be a general law or a special law.

An instructive case on this issue is *Sierra Club v. Dept. of Transportation of State of Hawai‘i*, 120 Hawai‘i 181, 202 P.3d 1226 (2009), as amended (May 13, 2009) (“Sierra

Club”). In that decision, the Hawaii Supreme Court adopted a two-step analysis to determine if a law was special legislation.

The first step is to determine “whether the classification adopted by the legislature is a real or potential class, or whether it is logically and factually limited to a class of one and thus illusory.” *Sierra Club*, 120 Hawai‘i at 203-04, 202 P.3d at 1248-49. A class is not illusory if it has potential future applicability and could include other members in the future. *Sierra Club*, 120 Hawai‘i at 204, 202 P.3d at 1249. The actual probability of other members joining the class must be considered in determining whether a class is illusory. *Id.* at 214, 202 P.3d at 1259.

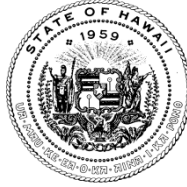
The second step of the analysis requires determination of whether the class is reasonable. *Id.* To be reasonable, the classification must be based on some distinguishing peculiarity and must reasonably relate to the purpose of the statute. *In re Interrogatory Propounded by Governor Roy Romer on House Bill 91S-1005*, 814 P.2d 875, 887 (Colo. 1991).

The classification in section 2 at page 2, lines 10-16, limits application of this bill only to tenants at the Kawaihapai Airfield. Many, if not all, of the tenants at the Kawaihapai Airfield are under a revocable permit, which is an occupancy permit that is revocable upon thirty days’ prior written notice from DOT, with or without cause. DOT has issued such revocable permits at other airports within the State airport system. By prohibiting eviction of a tenant in good standing at the Kawaihapai Airfield until the expiration of the Kawaihapai Lease, the bill effectively transforms the tenant’s revocable permit to a term agreement that can only be terminated for cause (please see discussion below regarding the bill’s phrase “good standing”). Tenants at other DOT airports are not included and there is no provision to do so in the future. Because this bill is limited to tenants at the Kawaihapai Airfield, and no tenants from any other DOT airport could be included in the class, the classification created by this bill appears to be special legislation. Therefore, it is subject to challenge as being in violation of article XI, section 5, of the Hawai‘i Constitution.

Should this bill go forward, we have the following comments on some technical issues in the bill. The bill refers to a tenant who is in “good standing.” However, it is

unclear what is meant by “good standing.” That term is sometimes used to refer to an entity’s registration status with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Business Registration Division. Whether a tenant’s registration status is in good stand does not appear to be a sound basis for prohibiting eviction. Instead, it appears the intent of this bill is to prohibit the eviction of a tenant who is not in breach or default under its revocable permit (or other disposition) from DOT. However, the term is not defined and it is not clear from the wording in the bill.

For the above reasons, we respectfully ask the Committee to hold this bill.



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 16, 2021
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 224
Via Videoconference

S.B. 1368
RELATING TO AIRFIELDS

Senate Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation – Airports Division (DOTA) **strongly opposes** S.B. 1368 which prohibits the eviction of any tenant of Kawaihapai Airfield from being evicted from the airfield until the expiration of the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of the Army’s lease, so long as the tenant remains in good standing. The bill also requires that the Department of Transportation cooperate with any private entity performing an economic feasibility study of Kawaihapai Airfield.

This legislation will not address the reasons that DOTA has found it necessary to terminate the lease for Kawaihapai Airfield and would in fact exacerbate the problems that have led DOTA to decide to terminate the lease. DOTA does not believe that this legislation is prudent, in light of DOTA’s decision to terminate the lease as of June 30, 2021.

Many of the existing tenants and permittees at Kawaihapai Airfield are already in default under their permits. Because the legislation would apply only “tenants who are in good standing until the current lease expires,” it would not affect these users who are already in default. As a result, only a small number of existing tenants could continue to operate. That would mean that DOTA revenue would decrease and thereby exacerbate the current deficit in operating this facility – over \$1 million per year.

But, there are two other important factors that this legislation ignores.

First, one of the principal reasons that DOTA found it necessary to terminate its lease is for public safety. There are numerous tenant improvements at the Airfield that were constructed without building permit approval through the C&C of Honolulu Dept. of Planning and Permitting and are unsafe. Without approved building permits, DOTA is exposed to additional liability risk and has concerns for the safety and health of tenants and users of the Airfield. If a few permittees were allowed to remain on the Airfield for three more years, there would be no incentive for them to repair their buildings or

otherwise to improve the safety of the facilities. In fact, the facilities would continue to deteriorate.

Second, under the U.S. Army Lease, the DOTA operates and maintains the Dillingham Public Water System, but the use of DOTA funds for this purpose is not lawful under federal law. This water system provides the sole water supply not only to the Airfield, but also to the entire surrounding civilian/public community of about a dozen residents, one commercial bed and breakfast operator, a City and County of Honolulu beach park, a U.S. Air Force radar installation, and a YMCA Camp. DOTA is not in the business of being a water system operator or purveyor. More importantly, regarding DOTA's payments of the costs of operation and maintenance of this system, federal law prevents the use of airport funds for these very purposes. Violating the federal restrictions on revenue use at Kawaihapai could jeopardize an annual FAA revenue stream of approximately \$75M for all of the facilities in DOTA's system. That unacceptable financial risk places all of our state airports across the islands in jeopardy.

Even if DOTA had the authority to operate the water system, the system needs significant and costly repairs to address infrastructure corrosion and potential contamination. These costs could exceed \$10 million. DOTA cannot continue to bear these costs as well as the liability for any potential contamination when it not only receives no fees from any of the users, but also does not even own the underlying land.

DOTA reached the decision to terminate the lease after more than a decade of negotiations with the U.S. Army for a lease that is long enough to satisfy DOTA's legal obligations to the federal government as an airport sponsor. Waiting until the current lease expires in 2024 is not an option because it would increase DOTA's known exposure, including compliance with its legal obligations regarding rights and powers and revenue use; safety for stakeholders and customers should building structures fail; and liability for any potential contamination in the public water system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 2:14:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Devine	Testifying for Save Dillingham Airfield (SaveDillinghamAirfield.org)	Support	No

Comments:

I write to urge you to postpone the planned closure of Kawaihapai Airfield (HDH), fka. Dillingham Airfield. This time is needed to pursue a long term solution to maintain civil use at the Airfield and ensure this important community resource is not lost.

No input or communication with the tenants or surrounding community was sought prior to this declaration. It is imperative that the termination of the lease between the U.S. Army and HI DOTA be extended to the end of the lease in 2024. The current timeline of June 30, 2021 will cause severe economic hardship for the airport tenants, users, and North Shore community. The community and legislators are seeking out solutions for the airport and need time to implement those solutions.

The City of Honolulu enlisted a private 3rd party to update the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan. An economic study of the impact Dillingham airfield has will be part of that report. Lawmakers should make decisions using all the information they can. This study will not be complete until after the June 30th 2021 closure.

Last year, Dillingham Airfield had over 37,000 air operations. It is a thriving civil airport with 11 aviation businesses that employ about 130 people. Those businesses generate more than 12 million dollars in revenue, and attract over 50,000 visitors annually to the airfield and the North Shore. If the airfield closes, it will cause significant loss of jobs and an economic ripple effect to the North Shore community.

We are ready and willing to work collaboratively with DOT and the U.S. Army to explore ways to keep the airfield open. In the meantime, however, a lease extension for the tenants until 2024 is a more considerate and reasonable approach for both the tenants and surrounding North Shore community. I strongly urge you to put the HI DOTA on a path to protecting the airport and the positive economic benefits it brings to the area and to the state.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 4:22:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reno Soverns	Testifying for North Shore Oahu Flight School	Support	No

Comments:

I have lived on O'ahu for nine years and have worked solely on Dillingham Airfield during that time. I co-own and operate a flight school, North Shore Oahu Flight School, which is located on Dillingham Airfield. It is my only source of income.

I have lived in a rental property in Mokuleia since I arrived on the island. I eat out at least once a week in Haleiwa. I do my grocery shopping at Malama Market and buy my essentials from Longs Drugs and Ace Hardware, all are located in Haleiwa. Each year I spend thousands of dollars at these local establishments.

If Dillingham Airfield is closed I will have no choice but to leave the islands and re establish myself in a new place. At 54 years old this would be devastating to myself and my business. Please save our beloved airfield and allow me to continue to live and work and continue to contribute to our local economy in this beautiful and unique place.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 7:10:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Pacheco	Testifying for North Shore Oahu Flight School	Support	No

Comments:

I work as a pilot flying out of Dillingham Airfield and have lived and worked here for nine years.

I co-own and operate a flight school at Dillingham Airfield which was started three years ago to service the north shore community. Our plane is the only plane experienced pilots can rent on the north shore.

The majority of my shopping is done locally in Haleiwa and I spend thousands of dollars there annually.

I relocated to Oahu specifically because of Dillingham Airfield and would be forced to move back to the mainland if the field closed.

Randy Pacheco

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:00:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Naiman	Testifying for USPA	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Respected Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I write to you today as the Pacific Regional Director of the United States Parachute Association (USPA). I would like to voice my strong support for SB1368. There are many businesses and individuals who rely upon civilian access to Dillingham Airfield to make their livelihood. I know specifically that Skydive Hawaii & Pacific Skydiving Center employ dozens of individuals and bring in tens of thousands of tourists every year. These tourists not only spend money to skydive at the dropzones which operate out of the airfield but also spend money at local businesses such as restaurants, hotels, gas stations, other adventure activities, etc. The loss of civilian / public access to Dillingham airfield would be an enormous economic loss to the area.

I beseech the representatives to support this piece of legislature to protect access to the airfield.

Best Regards,

Brian Naiman

USPA Pacific Regional Director

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:02:27 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Peter Besenbruch	Testifying for Hawaiian Astronomical Society	Support	No

Comments:

I support the bill, as it impacts the Hawaiian Astronomical Society. We are a group of astronomy enthusiasts who try to show the sky to the general public, as well as holding more private events for our members. Dillingham is the last dark area on Oahu and critical to our mission. We show the sky to from 30-60 people at a time.

Closing the airfield to civilian groups and businesses will harm many people, and eliminate activities that contribute to the richness of life in Hawaii. I urge you to approve this measure, and when life returns to normal, we invite all legislators to join us, look through our telescopes, and enjoy the night sky.



**UNITED
STATES
PARACHUTE
ASSOCIATION**

5401 Southpoint Centre Blvd., Frederickburg, VA 22407 • Phone: 540-604-9740 • Fax: 540-604-9741 • E-mail:
uspa@uspa.org

February 14, 2021

Senator Chris Lee - Chair to the Committee on Transportation

Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

Hearing Date: February 16, 2021 at 3:00pm

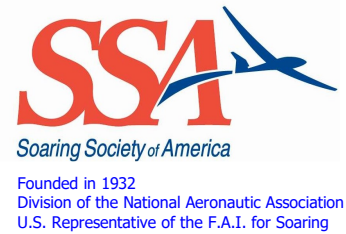
The United States Parachute Association (USPA) represents over 37,000 members nationwide, including more than 300 that reside in the State of Hawaii. USPA respectfully submits these comments on behalf of those members, especially the more than 130 of our members who are employed at Kawaihapai Airfield and live in the nearby North Shore communities. USPA supports SB 1368 which would prohibit the eviction of airfield tenants who are in good standing. USPA also agrees that HDOT should cooperate with entities conducting economic feasibility studies of Kawaihapai Airfield.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Albert Berchtold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Albert Berchtold
Executive Director

The Soaring Society of America, Inc.
P. O. Box 2100
Hobbs, NM 88241-2100
575-392-1177
575-392-8154 (fax)



Senator Chris Lee -Chair to the Committee on Transportation
Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields
Hearing Date: February 16, 2021 at 3:00pm

The Soaring Society of America (SSA) is an organization with approximately 10,000 members that was created in 1932 to foster and promote all phases of gliding and soaring. The Society is involved in safety programs and flight training, technological research and development, and representation to government agencies.

The SSA supports SB 1368 Relating to Airfields.

Kawaihapai Airfield (formerly Dillingham) is one of the best known sport aviation facilities in the world. It is a thriving civil airport with 11 aviation businesses that employ over 100 people and which attracts over 50,000 visitors annually to the remote North Shore of Oahu Island. The airport provides aviation-related jobs and exemplifies how much of an asset a successful general aviation airport can be to the surrounding community.

Kawaihapai is a unique aviating environment. Transferring the current operations to other locations on Oahu would be unfeasible and unsafe, there are no suitable alternatives for these activities.

The SSA encourages the Legislature to pass SB 1368 to keep Kawaihapai Airfield open, prohibit the eviction of tenants in good standing, and require the HDOT to cooperate with any entities conducting economic feasibility studies of Kawaihapai.

Regards,

/signature/

Stephen Northcraft, Chairman
Government Liaison Committee
Soaring Society of America

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:11:31 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Richards	Testifying for Uncomfortably Comfortable LLC	Comments	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is a magical place I have been lucky enough to visit as a civilian skydiver. My husband and I got engaged after spending time at this airport and vowed to someday bring our company out there to work. Please keep this airfield open to civilians. It would be devastating to us if we were not able to live out that dream. There is no where else in the world like this airport. Please, please allows us to continue visiting for the purpose of skydiving as both civilians & independent contractors.



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February 15, 2021

The Honorable Chris Lee
Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room # 216
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Lee and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding SB 1368, relating to airfields. The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is the world's largest aviation organization and represents the general aviation interests of over 1,000 members in Hawai'i. AOPA strongly supports SB 1368, legislation that would prohibit the eviction of any tenant of Kawaihapai Airfield from being evicted from the airfield until the expiration of the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of the Army's lease, so long as the tenant remains in good standing. And would require the Department of Transportation to cooperate with any private entity performing an economic feasibility study of Kawaihapai Airfield.

Kawaihapai airfield provides countless positive community contributions and value to the North Shore and the State of Hawai'i. Kawaihapai Airfield brings over 50,000 visitors from around the world annually to the airfield and the North Shore, which results in a direct economic impact of 12.6 million dollars. Additionally, the airfield is home to 47 based aircraft, 11 airport businesses, including flight schools, soaring, and skydiving operations, who employ more than 130 people.

As mentioned in SB 1368, there is a clear economic benefit to the community from keeping Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil use. Preventing the eviction of the tenants of the airfield, who are in good standing until 2024 is the right thing to do, and we commend Senator Riviere for the introduction of SB 1368. Preventing eviction would avoid a massive disruption to the families of the employees, both personally and financially at a time when Hawaiian families can least afford another strain. AOPA also supports section 3 of the bill, which talks about the department of transportation cooperating with an economic feasibility study of the airfield.

AOPA urges the committee to pass SB 1368 and supports keeping Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil use, ensuring the Airfield remains a strong community asset and home to thriving businesses for years to come. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact me directly at 301-695-2228 or Melissa.McCaffrey@aopa.org

Respectfully,

Melissa McCaffrey
Western Pacific Regional Manager, Government Affairs
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, AOPA

AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:38:56 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Richard DeLeon	Testifying for Above & Beyond Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha All!

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide feedback in support of keeping Dillingham Airfield open. I learned to fly here as a 12 year old Civil Air Patrol Cadet (CAP) in the mid 1970s. Lauded as a world-class destination for aviation related adventure and eco-tourism, Dillingham is uniquely situated to provide exceptional Sky Diving, Soaring, and Hang Gliding; not to mention the hiking, nearby surfing, snorkeling, fishing, wildlife viewing, and other nature-related activities.

Dillingham presents as an absolutely vital economic engine for the entire North Shore community with \$12 million+ in direct economic infusion via aviation related activities. Additionally, tens of millions more dollars benefit all local businesses when aviation enthusiasts also patronize local restaurants and eateries, beach rental equippers, art galleries, supermarkets, hotels, car rentals, sailing and fishing charters, and other attractions - not to mention the robust tax infusion directly to the city and state. Closing Dillingham would represent one of the most ill-advised, worst-ever, self-inflicted economic injuries to an already troubled state economy.

Going forward, I envision not only keeping Dillingham open, but adding sustainable and carefully planned expansion of services to include sit-down and take-out dining facilities, gift shops, playgrounds for children, historical aviation displays and eventually a museum to honor both the vital local Hawaiian cultural history of the area along with the more recent role aviation has played in the protection, defense and recreation legacy of the area.

On a personal note and in recognition of the long-term development of our island's Keiki, I and countless other youth who learned to fly here via programs like CAP, the Boy Scouts Aviation Explorers and the Young Eagles program were benefactors of a life-changing gift and opportunity. I know of many others who, like myself, were able to pursue their dreams of aviation and many other professions because of the skills, teamwork and discipline learned while training and working together at Dillingham Airfield.

In short, Dillingham represents a world-class gem and destination treasure not just for aviation, but a host of other attractions. If managed carefully, mindfully and sustainably, this resource will easily become the best-practice standard by which all similarly situated resources around the world are managed and enjoyed.

Thank you in advance for your positive consideration to save this singularly world-class resource!

Mahalo & Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Richard B. De Leon

Owner, Above & Beyond Hawaii

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:53:08 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shauna Dowis	Testifying for Pacific Skydiving Center	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Everyone,

I am in support of this bill! Dillingham Airport is important to me because it is the closest family that I have on this Island. The sport of skydiving has helped me to face my fears of the unknown in life by literally jumping out into the open blue sky with the trust that my equipment, training, friends and the Universe has my back. And isn't that exactly what life is about? Embracing the unknown with the support of loved ones and freinds that will always be by your side?

Dillingham airport is also home to flight schools that enrich the lies of young adults and adults alike. There is also a stunning hiking trail, Kealia, that offers a good quick work out & great views of the Airfield and the North Shore.

Not only does the Airfield clearly provide jobs to so many individuals and companies who work at the airfield, it also supports the local North Shore economy, such as restaurants, shops and local attractions.

My heart belongs at the Dillingham Airfield because it was opened here. I know I'm not the only one! Please save Dillingham Airfield and keep it open for years to come. It would be so saddening for this magical place to just be a memory of what was.

Aloha,

Shauna Dowis

North Shore Resident and Fun Jumper at Pacific Skydiving Center

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:09:03 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maksim Zaitsau	Testifying for SkymaxLLC	Support	No

Comments:

I'm Maksim Zaitsau is a Hawai'i resident, I think that Dillingham airfield is essential for the north shore economy,community as well for the businesses operating over there and for me personally because I'm working there too, if airfield will get close, me and my family will have to leave Hawai'i state.

Please don't kick us out, and keep airfield open.

mahalo!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:25:08 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Peterson	Testifying for Hawaiian Astronomical Society	Support	No

Comments:

The Hawaiian Astronomical Society has used Dillingham Airfield for over 20 years to share the wonders of the night sky with the public without charge by providing views through our telescopes at one of the darkest remaining sites on Oahu. It would be difficult to find another location so suitable for this purpose if we were to lose this site. Hundreds of people attend our "star parties" there each year. At our last meeting, our members unanimously passed a resolution in support of efforts to keep Dillingham open for this and other uses. Please allow our continued use of this facility.

Chris Peterson

President, Hawaiian Astronomical Society

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:15:24 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marufa Bhuiyan	Testifying for Everest Innovation Lab LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Dillingham airfield is a very special place to my heart. I remember, I went there few years ago (2016 or so) in a "Star Party" arranged by Hawaiian Astronomical Society (HAS) and realized ... "Time passes at different rate for different people".

That evening, we observed planets, moons of planets, distant stars, and faded galaxies (million light years away). I clearly remember that moment: "When I saw these faded galaxies, I realized how vast is our wide web universe and how small we are. I felt so humble that I even wondered about my own existence.. Then I walked away from everyone probably just 10 feet distance far and had to meditate (in standing) for a few minutes. That evening literally changed the view of my life, measure of measure/ scales and perspectives of things."

I believe, it would be great if we have Dillingham airfield open for Hawaiian Astronomical Society Star Parties. It would be extremely beneficial for us and the next generations.

Thank you for your support and i hope you have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,

Marufa Bhuiyan

President and Chief Executive Officer,

Everest Innovation Lab LLC

Member At-large, Hawaiian Astronomical Society



Testimony Presented Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Tuesday, February 16, 2021
3:00 PM

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1368 RELATING TO AIRFIELDS

Based out of Hale'iwa, HI, Shoreline Conservation Initiative is a small 501c3 non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting the sustainability and resilience of coastal communities and nearshore ecosystems through science, research, and conservation action. Our organization strongly supports Bill SB 1368 and its proposed Act to prevent the eviction of the tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield who are in good standing until the current lease expires.

Dating back to WWII era, the iconic Kawaihapai Airfield is a vital resource to the North Shore community. And due to geographical and atmospheric circumstances at this location, the airfield provides an excellent and unique venue for pilot training. Set between the coastline and steep inclined peaks of the Waianae mountain range, the wind patterns that exist here provide opportunities for training like none other found on the island. The airfield also provides important economic value to the North Shore community through tourism and small businesses, that will otherwise have no place to operate.

Our non-profit organization has enjoyed the opportunity to be able to provide unique and accessible services to the North Shore community, applying our multidisciplinary expertise in coastal geology, coastal engineering, nearshore ecology, and remote sensing to help solve environmental problems impacting our island. This type of work is only made possible due to the existence of joint-use of the Kawaihapai Airfield, and with its closure we would no longer be positioned to assist with these types of community services using fixed-wing aircrafts.

It will be a disservice to the businesses, community, and local economy to continue the evictions at Kawaihapai Airfield. We hope you will take our testimony into consideration and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Walker, PE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. Walker".

Executive Director

Shoreline Conservation Initiative

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 1:08:51 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TK Hinshaw	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

DOT has mismanaged PHDH (Dillingham/Kawaihapai Airfield) for at least a generation if not more. They do not want to keep the airfield because they have allowed it to become in the sad and dangerous state that it is in today. I grew up at PHDH and learned to fly and be a mechanic and skydiver at PHDH and I believe the future of aviation in this state is at stake if PHDH does not continue to serve civil aviation.

I have issue with allowing the airfield to continue as is status quo. DOT has an arbitrary nature to their rules and have shown to practice economic discrimination in violation of the grant assurances. **I don't think things should continue as is, and that change of management now rather than later is imperative.** Do not let the lives lost at PHDH go unnoticed. The condition of the airfield and the management or absence of the management at the airfield contributed to allowing a culture of turning a blind eye to unsafe operations and practices.

Please make it known what "good standing" is and further define and clarify what that means. If it means abiding by the rules set by DOT or the airport manager, we've experienced that the rules can be made up as they go and that they may not be enforced equally among tenants. Same goes with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and the FARs (Federal Aviation Regulations), many tenants here frequently violate many of the FARs, but due to lack of resources at the FAA's honolulu office they are never held accountable or even investigated.

Many operators were run off when night maintenance became impossible with DOT using armed sheriffs to remove and threaten the arrest of mechanics and pilots at night. They made running a business from a hangar against the rules except for special chosen users like Paradise Air, mentioned in the language of the bill. Paradise Air is a tour company offering ultralight tours of the North Shore from PHDH. They are granted special exemption to the FARs by pretending to be a flight school rather than a tour operator. They operate from the aircraft hangars intended for aircraft storage and not a commercial tour operation. They do not have to abide by the more strict FAR Part 121 or FAR Part 135 required of similar tour operators, like helicopter operators. They have no minimum altitudes, even when flying over the entire north shore community at low altitudes, you can check their flight history with altitudes recorded. Will they continue to get a pass from the rules?

I don't think that things should continue as is. I don't think it is safe to push this issue back a few more years. The management needs to change now and not later. **The rules & regulations need to be enforced for all users, management of the airfield needs to be present and the previous mismanagement atoned for. Or the airfield should be temporarily closed until such safety changes and proper management can be put into place.** Skydiving can continue from Daniel K. Inouye International Airport, as there are landing areas available within the 25 statute mile limit for skydiving operations from the airport of origin. And motorized aviation can be accommodated at HNL in combination with Kalaeloa, but sadly I do not think unmotorized glider operations can occur without the consent of the US Army during a temporary closure to civil aviation at PHDH.

These are the questions I raise and the reason **I oppose SB1368 and its companion HB1160**, at least for now unamended; perhaps if the bills also stripped DOT of their authority and began the process of airfield safety improvements I would be in support of the bills.

I am a citizen of the United States of America, born and raised in Honolulu, and I hold current & valid FAA pilot, mechanic, and parachute rigging certificates.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 3:36:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mason LaCoste	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love the Dillingham airport. I've used the field for General Aviation and skydiving over the years and would like to continue to do so.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 3:44:24 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kinyon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support keeping Dillingham open for civil access. Flying has been a life-long dream of mine that, with hard work and time, turned into a rewarding reality. So few countries allow their citizens to earn the privilege to fly. We should keep the opportunity alive for current fliers as well as youth and future generations alive. Clearly the field should be kept available for tourism and local employment reasons too.

Thank you,

John Kinyon, Waipahu.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 4:26:07 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Larry Wiss	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is so important that Dillingham (Kawaihapai) Airfield remains open to civil access. Closing the field would negatively impact not only the dozen or so businesses that operate at the field but also deny aviation activities and educational opportunities to all citizens of Oahu. Please do not close this valuable asset to our citizenry.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 4:27:30 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Davidson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham is a gem in paradise with great utility in hosting the daily operations it has now. This must also be preserved for emergency contingency use for both local and inter-island disasters that perhaps cannot now be imagined. When it is not maintained, and its purpose changed, it cannot be recovered.

You will be able to proudly stand strong in this land conservation effort when you vote to preserve the status quo and explore forward-looking use strategies. Think drones; and beyond.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 4:27:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jens Esselstrom	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is my understanding that the closure of dillingham airfield will be a great detriment to to the entire north shore economy. Causing hundreds of people who live and work on the NS to move elsewhere.

please keep dillingham airfield open room the public.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 6:49:45 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alexis revel	Testifying for USPA Save Dillingham	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! I support Dillingham Airfield remaining open to the Public. It is an amazing place and like no other in Hawai'i or the World. Keeping the Airfield open will allow it to positively effect many People, Visitors & Residents alike, and continue to generate a steady revenue base. I appreciate your time. Mahalo loa! - Alexis H Revel

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 6:53:32 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Georgia Jean	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is one of the most important aspects of my life on the North Shore of Oahu. Not only as an avid skydiver and hiker, but also because of the incredible community of friends that I have found, through my involvement with skydiving. I consider the people who work at the dropzones my Ohana, my emotional support network and inspiration to become a better person through the sport of skydiving.

In addition to the community of people built around Dillingham, I also have many friends who work in tourism, and hospitality, that benefit financially from the influx of visitors (tourists and residents), who support our shops, bars and restaurants in Haliewa, after coming for a tandem at Dillingham, or enjoying one of the other recreational activities available there.

In these extraordinary times, where so many are also locked down due to Covid, providing the getaway, and the extraordinary experience of skydiving on the island, also assists with our collective mental health.

I know it does for me. And I can't imagine life on the North Shore without the activity of skydiving, and my sky Ohana.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Best Regards
Georgia Jean

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 8:03:38 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sascha Franz Schindler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is my Home and Workplace for over 25 Years and I don't want to loss it.

Sascha Schindler

Sascha Schindler

CEO North Shore Shashin LLC

USPA (United States Parachute Association):
D-22516

DFV (Deutscher Fallschirmsportverband e.V.):
DFV 3019
Head Office :67-339 B Farrington Hwy, Waialua,Hi 96791
Phone: (808) 469-2893

E-Mail: saschasky67@gmail.com

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/13/2021 8:34:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Madelief Schelvis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is enormously valuable to the general aviation community and the businesses that operate there. Closing it to the public would be devastating to us. Please protect this valuable community resource and keep Dillingham Airfield open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:41:42 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Sanders	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha! Dillingham Airfield is the air sports capital of Hawaii. The privilege of flying there and the views are amazing! It's location to the mountain and predominant tradewinds make it an ideal gem for trike flying, soaring and skydiving. Please keep Dillingham open. I love flying here! I'm in my 17th year flying here. There's no other suitable airfield on Oahu. Mahalo nui!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:01:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracie Tapeni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a local resident of the state of Hawaii, I would like to testify that the homes of these people on the airfields should not be taken away. I support this bill for the sole purpose of these people keeping their homes and not being displaced. I kindly ask that the airfields will be safe and not taken away from those who follow the guidelines and regulations to live there. Mahalo.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:59:15 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Brackett	Testifying for USPA	Support	No

Comments:

I support general aviation and the skydiving community. Please keep Dillingham Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil access and Skydivers from around the world. I have never had the privilege of experiencing your beautiful island, however I will make that trip soon. I would like nothing more than to be able to skydive at the most unique and beautiful drop zone in the world.

Very Respectfully,

Scott Brackett

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:09:21 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jack McColl	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield and think it is a major asset to the community. To see Dillingham defunded and no longer operate would be terrible to the community. Please keep the airfield open.

Thank you

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:15:36 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vaitea Tahauri	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep this airport open for civil use!! This airfield has such a big Ort in making north shore what it is.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:32:53 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Makali'i Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil access! It is where my parents met and it's where I love to skydive!

Sincerely, Makali'i

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:39:53 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Drew Longest	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Pacific Skydiving at Dillingham Airfield has been the place I've been able to go to, to help transition out of the Marines and build a new family around me. It's the only place here on island I'm able to keep my moral high and experience the activity that keeps me excited every week.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:13:28 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jarrod Blaisdell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To all elected officials. I live in Haleiwa and enjoy all that the North Shore of Oahu has to offer. A goal of mine for some time has been to learn to skydive. The team at Pacific Skydive helped me make that dream a reality. The people that are employed there love their jobs and take safety very seriously. Closing Dillingham would put many people out of a job in an Enconomy that has already been decimated by COVID. Furthermore that would be millions of dollars in lost revenue from tourism. Please vote YES on SB 1368 and keep the most beautiful skydiving location in the world open.

Respectfully

Jarrod Blaisdell

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 12:06:48 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Bartlett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. As a civilian pilot, military pilot, and resident of Oahu, I recommend passing SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. Closing the airfield to the current companies would have a significant negative impact on the local community. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 12:11:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brycen Blaskey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have been jumpng here for 5 years and cannot think of a better place to learn and progress in the sport I love surrounded by experienced professionals willing to help everyone learn. Please keep the airfield open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 12:42:02 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luz Diaz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have not yet had the opportunity to visit this airfield but have always hoped to one day have the opportunity to skydive here. Please keep it open to the public!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 12:43:57 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan DeFilipps	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear senators,

Please, please keep this airfield open. I've done many things in this life and the only thing that centers me is flying in all ways. I've been skydiving since I was 14 years old and it is my true passion. And all flying. This past couple years have been hard on all of humanity but we need this in our lives. I say our lives because this airfield helps soooo many peoples dreams come true. Skydivers and visitors. It means the absolute world to all of us. I beg of you to please don't shut this airfield down. It will crush so many of us and really hurt the north shores economy.

Thank you all very much for your time,

Daniel DeFilipps

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:01:39 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation (Chris Lee)

Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study.

Sincerely,

Michael Wong

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:02:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas DeBonis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield and the airspace above and around it is a truly unique place. The aviation business that operate there offer something that cannot be found anywhere else on the planet, let alone somewhere else in Hawaii. Please do not prohibit or hinder the businesses that are there from doing what they do. If Dillingham airfield is no longer able to be used by the people and businesses who use it now, many people will lose their jobs, their reason for coming to and living in Hawaii. Not only will the people who work there suffer financial loss from losing their incomes, but they will suffer emotional loss from no longer being able to spend their lives in a place that is near and dear to their hearts. Please do not evict the businesses from Dillingham. Doing so will also evict the people from Dillingham and with them, a major piece of Hawaii's beautiful aviation world.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:04:09 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wes Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a citizen of Hawaii. I love Dillingham airfield and wish to keep skydiving because it is my favorite thing to do here. Please don't take it away from us.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:15:45 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william andrews	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:37:19 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kate Behrens	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is a unique airstrip that promotes general aviation and the economy on the North Shore by providing numerous jobs, tourism, and opportunities for youth interested in aviation. I've skydived at the airfield multiple times and traverse the Kealia trail multiple times a week. I urge you to keep the airfield open for civil access and support the irreplaceable opportunities it provides!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:44:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Horton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We must keep Dillingham Field Open

I visited Hawaii in 1999 to see the sights. I took a sail plane ride at Dillingham and fell in love with the Islands .I saw skydivers jumping there and eventually became a jumjper myself. I bought a piece of land on the Big Island to be able to retire in the land of paradise. I am but one person that had a life changing experience at that wonderful airport. It is a draw for tourists and their dollars.

Please, keep the airport open so the future tourists can experience life changing events. It truly is a magical place.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 1:57:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
matthew kimmerly	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep Dillingham airfield open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 2:33:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Rambaut	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

No tenant in good standing should be evicted from Kalwaihapai Airfield at least until the expiration of its current lease with the Department of the Army. These tenants are the lifeblood of the airport and sustain its private and commercial activities.

Over the past thirty-five years my family members from the mainland, while visiting Hawaii, have taken advantage of the glider and parachute activities offered at Dillingham. Personally, as a private pilot and aircraft owner living in Hawaii, I have regularly flown in and out of Dillingham for the past twenty-five years.

As the only airport on Oahu outside of controlled airspace Dillingham provides an important backup airport for General Aviation flights. On one occasion, while enroute from Lihue to Hilo I had a radio failure and was unable to communicate with the Honolulu Control Facility. Rather than rely on emergency procedures to land at Kalaeloa or Honolulu I was able to land at Dillingham and have the problem resolved before overflying Oahu.

As a State and National asset Kawaihapai Airfield one of the most picturesque General Aviation Facilities in the country. I would urge you to support this bill.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 2:42:35 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Rykken	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a member of the Hawaii Astronomical Society. I am a former officer as well. I served as the editor of the club newsletter, AstroNews, for about five years. The Hawaii Astronomical Society (HAS) is a group of mostly amateur astronomers who get together to share our interest in all things astronomical. One of our primary functions is public outreach. We have public star parties (that is where club members host a public gathering to share with the public an opportunity to view the night sky). Many families attend along with their children to give their children an opportunity to meet astronomy enthusiasts who will let them view stars, nebulae, galaxies and the planets. Another public outreach is going to schools to let students experience the night sky through the lens of a telescope. One of the public star gatherings has been at Dillingham Airfield for long before I joined the club in 2009. Dillingham Airfield is unique in being remote and away from light pollution. The area used by the club is large enough to accommodate a large group. We have had as many as 200 visitors at Dillingham Airfield during the time I have been a club member. With computers and cellphones society has become fragmented and insular. Experiencing the stars at night is exhilarating and opens up the mind to the infinite vistas and potential of being human. This is a public service that is uniquely suited to the venue at Dillingham Airfield. I hope you will see clear to pass this extension of access to the Dillingham Airfield. This will be a public service of deep importance to our current residents and tourist visitors, but most especially to our future through our keiki.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 2:51:57 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Zitney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

Message: I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

Thank you,

Maria Zitney

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 2:53:28 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stefani Specker-Cook	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep the airfield open. Mahalo!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 3:36:36 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Verret	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is David A Verret. Though no longer living in HI, I lived there from 1984-2016. When I drove for OTS (TheBUS), I helped initiated a City Council ordinance regulating the public use of cell phones while on City Buses.

I learned to fly gliders at Dillingham. The beauty of the island as seen from that vantage point is priceless. Additionally, my flying was a tremendous source of joy and stress relief. My flying helped me be a more joyful, balanced person. I want that to continue for others.

I also have several friends whose employment is at Dillingham in various forms of aviation. During this time especially, removing their economic lifeline would be devastating to so many families, most of whom could no longer stay on Oahu. If there is a positive way to find a good solution whereas Dillingham can stay open, please find that way. I thank you for your time and consideration.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 3:50:55 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spencer Bowman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I, Spencer Bowman, strongly support this bill, as a certified flight instructor at Barbers Point Flight School and as a local who grew up here and had my very first flight at Dillingham in a glider. No tenant in good standing should be evicted early. PHDH is a very important airfield for pilot training and for the community. Pilots who learn to fly gliders are better pilots. It is also important that student pilots, such as my students, have an uncontrolled airport to fly to on Oahu such as PHDH. Otherwise students would be robbed of that experience that would have made them better pilots. Also they would be robbed of any opportunity to work at PHDH as a pilot to build hours to make it to the next level such as an airline job. As a Certified Flight Instructor I firmly believe we need PHDH to be operating to its fullest capacity for the future of our pilots. I know I want other pilots I share the sky with to be well experienced pilots and the glider, skydiving and the rest of the operations at PHDH are able to provide very valuable experiences for making better pilots. I would like to see Dillingham grow, make more money for our community and provide more experiences for our pilots and tourists. I would like to see new facilities and hangars built (at a reasonable price) and more reasonable services offered at PHDH.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 3:52:03 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Ashley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee**Subject:** SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

Message: I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. This past December I first came to the airfield to begin learning how to skydive, and skydiving has rapidly become a passion of mine that I now love. In speaking with the many of other "fun jumpers" and the tandem jumpers I know all of the them feel simliarily. Currently, this airfield is the only place we can skydive here in Hawaii, and closing it would deny dozens of skydivers like myself the ability to revel in their passion. While I can't speak for all of the organizations that use the airfield, I do know that the people who work and skydive at Pacific Skydiving are some of the best group of people that I have come to know. They are egar to share their passion with anyone who wants to learn, and without hesitation and willing to help beginners like myself learn aboutt he sport at the drop of hat. I know that for many, this airfield is not just were they work, but also an extension of their home and central to their livelihood here in Hawaii. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study. It will revel the extensive nature of the economic benifits that keeping the airfield open will bring to the state of Hawaii. Finally, as we all know Hawaii is one of the most beautiful places on Earth. The recreational skydivers, tandam jumpers, pilots, hangliders, and other persons who fly out of this airfield will attest that the Hawaiian beauty is only magnified when looking at it from in the sky. Thank you for your time and consideration.

-Ryan Ashley

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 3:53:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Richardson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have been taking part in skydiving and aviation related activities at Dillingham Airfield since 1993. I am an active skydiver, an FAA Parachute Rigger with multiple ratings and a consumer of small aircraft general aviation. Dillingham Airfield has been an important resource for me personally and for Oahu in general. It is literally the only place we have. Please help us keep it.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:14:44 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Becky Gustafson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

Message: I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

This Airfield offers opportunities not offered any place else on the island. I have used the Airfield for sky diving; as a professional property manager on North Shore I rent to employees of the Airfield and I raised my kids to have an appreciation of the night sky and all it has to offer by attending Star Gazing gatherings at the Airfield. This Airfield provides jobs, education and supports our community. Don't shut them down.

Becky D. Gustafson
94-233 Hokulewa Loop
Mililani, HI 96789

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:20:11 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gregory McManus	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

As you are aware this is a much bigger issue than just shutting down an airport. The economic fallout to the local area needs to be fully understood. It's not just the few hundred of people who will become unemployed but the hundreds of people in the local community that will see significant loss of income from the loss of employment caused by the airport shutdown.

The arguments I have heard from the DOT were about how Dillingham is a financial drain to the DOT. It appears the DOT has not tried to develop the existing resources at Dillingham to increase revenue and/or remedy the losses at Dillingham. The DOT has had multiple hangars for years the DOT was unwilling to rent to tenants resulting in income losses . There are many possible fixes to the losses incurred by the operations of the water system but the DOT has not (to my knowledge) tried to address any fixes to the water system problems. I personally ran a water District as the President of a PUD and understand how creative you need to be to operate a water system. There are other opportunities to increase revenue from Dillingham but it appears the DOT has not explored them.

Dillingham airport is a diamond in the rough and to abandoned it without trying to exhaust the possibilities would be unacceptable.

On numerous occasions I have personally flown a number of children to Dillingham to attend camps for children who have gone through or are going through Cancer treatment. Many of them see aviation as a goal for their life after flying there. For some it was the first time they realized they felt " they could do this" and wanted to "go back and study" with aviation as a goal.

Thanks for your time.

Please keep Dillingham open

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:32:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Gentsch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

Dillingham airfield needs to stay open! It is the livelihood for many poeple working at the airfield and for us who enjoy the sport of Skydiving.

Mahalo,

Nancy Gentsch

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:32:09 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Wagner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live and work in Hawaii and at dillingham airfield and I absolutely love it!!

Please keep it open! Thank you!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:40:05 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Ashlock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha all,

Please save Dillingham Airfield from being taken away from general aviation in Hawaii! This airfield has helped countless airline pilots build their flight hours and gain the valuable experience needed to go on and work for the airlines. Personally, I would not be at Hawaiian airlines now if it weren't for the years I've spent flying gliders at HDH. This airfield is also the only place where gliders can be flown on Oahu. Without HDH, the glider community would all but disappear here. We cannot let that happen.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:51:55 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Valorie Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is my favorite airport. I am currently a pilot for Hawaiian Airlines. However, my roots are at Dillingham. My first commercial pilot job was a glider pilot working for Mr. Bill. I worked all over the field, glider pilot/instructor, tow plane pilot, and skydive pilot. At Dillingham I learned so many great stick and rudder skills that have helped me through out my entire career. The lessons I learned and connections I made helped me to acquire my dream job of flying for Hawaiian. The strong trade winds, beautiful weather, long runway, and the close proximity to the ridge line make it one of the best gliding airports in the country. It would be a tragic loss of the perfect field to learn how to fly gliders if Dillingham is shut down. It's getting harder and harder for an aspiring aviator to learn how to fly in hawaii. With the civil air patrol program Dillingham shows the youth that being a pilot is possible for those that want to learn. There are so many reasons to keep Dillingham open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 4:59:27 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maverick Robbins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is one of Oahu's greatest gems. It would be a tragedy to see this beautiful airstrip taken away from the public. Save Dillingham Airfield!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:02:07 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROBERT MOSTELLER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please Keep Dillingham Field open to the Public. I support SB1368.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:02:15 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Imai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield is critical for our aviation community, both current and future. As a hawaiian airlines pilot I can say that this airfield has help nourish generations of pilots; for me it was my first flight ever in a WWII Boeing Steerman. We need more of these airports to strengthen our communities, inspire our Keiki, and contribute to the economy. Please keep our GA airports OPEN!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:13:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Kerner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a senior captain for Hawaiian Airlines as well as GA pilot flying gliders, motorgliders and airplanes. I have flown all of the above in and out of Dillingham as well as towed gliders. Dillingham is a gem to the Hawaiian Islands. Whether it gives the opportunity to soar along the ridges and over the ocean, the only place in the world I have been able to watch whales from a glider, it has history, it is one of the kinds. It needs. To be preserved for the Hawaiian Islands.

It's a safe, wonderful airfield. There is absolutely;utterly no reason I can think of to close it.

Any accidents which happened there could have happened at any other airport the same way and have nothing to do with Dillingham airport.

Dillingham airport is unique. Please keep it open for the Hawaiian residents and for the tourists.

Mahalo

Christine Kerner

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:29:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike jones	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Mike Jones (Michael John Jones) and I am a skydiver registered with the NZPIA (New Zealand Parachute Industry Association and had the privilege and pleasure to have skydived at Dillingham Airfield with Pacific Skydive.

I found the operation to be highly professional and safety oriented and the staff and management to be friendly and committed to giving everyone, either Tandem passengers who I noted had come from all over the World but a lot from Japan and other Asian countries, no doubt high value tourists for the Hawaii economy, and people like myself an unforgettable experience.

I found the scenery from 14000 feet stunning and you are able to see all of Oahu. I have just checked my logbook and note that I had completed 33 descents including 3 Helicopter descents in 2018 and 2019. All were safely completed without incident and there were no incidents while I was there. Having said that, like all human endeavour there is an element of risk but we manage and mitigate that risk. Aviation in general has become much safer over the years with improvements in technology and standards and procedures.

I would say that the social, cultural and economic value of this airfield being utilized in it`s current form is a valuable asset for the State of Hawaii not to mention the historical significance of Dillingham which was not lost on me when I jumped there. Hawaii is heavily reliant on the tourism dollar and the experience of Tandem skydiving in this beautiful place alone will make tourists want to come back again and again. I had booked another trip in 2020 but unfortunately was denied my third consecutive trip by Covid. My activities were not exclusively skydiving and I enjoyed other activities such as SCUBA and boat trips as well.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity of hearing my submissions on this important issue.

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

Subject: SB 1368.

Hearing Date: 2/16/2021

Aloha Senator Lee,

My name is Mimi Charette and I am a concerned citizen in support of SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S.. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and show fair support to the community as well as the tenants and the HDOT should support the study.

The Kawaihapai Airfield supports our local community. It would be a huge lose to our island. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Mimi A. Charette
99-1661 Aiea Heights Drive
Aiea, HI 96701
(808) 283-0594

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 5:53:31 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alvin Reinauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a U.S. Navy Officer and a Hawaiian airlines Pilot I owe my career to Dillingham Airport and to General Aviation. Dillingham was the foundation of not a job, not a hobby, but two full careers and to that of my ability to call Hawaii my home since 2003.

The state Department of Transportation (and Roy Socata) has a long history of attacking General Aviation, failing to make improvements, making it impossible or prohibitively expensive for users and business owners to make necessary improvements, and now reniging on his obligations to the Federal Government to maintain and operate what is likely the busiest general aviation airport in the nation.

Activities on Dillingham as more robust and well used than nearly any other in our nation - and in this State there is NO OTHER location that this activity could be moved to or relocated. I was a cadet member of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) who operates youth programs at Dillingham including youth encampments, youth international exchanges, youth aviation training including airplane orientation flights, glider flight lessons and licensing, and a critical service as a FREE community aviation Search and Rescue service based at Dillingham airfield (funded by the US Air Force and volunteer civilian Pilots). CAP also provides Hawaii with a Tsunami Warning aircraft service able to quickly reach remote areas of all islands, as well as provide immediate damage assessments and assist first responders in reaching communities in Hawaii touched by any number of our local disasters (Lava flows, flooding, tsunami, earthquake, fires, etc).

Other activities at Dillingham provide a significant number of local jobs, local jobs provided by an even more significant number of tourists that are vital to our Hawaii economy. From Glider Rides above Kaena Point, to multiple Skydive Operators, to both based and non based and non based aircraft flight schools and maintenance facilities - these are valuable jobs that support our community and Socata and his DOTA will make these persons unemployed while abandoning the tourist base that brings people to the North ashore communities who also benefit greatly by their patronage.

The FAA publishes a Pacific Chart Supplement with an airport operations diagram showing how greatly utilized, busy, and complex this small public use airport is. This chart in itself gives an undeniable evidence of the great use and utility this airport presents. In addition, the FAA is the regulatory agency for each business or activity on

or above this airport - NOT DOTA. The FAA has provided funding to DOTA with the obligation that general aviation shall be supported here - year DOTA has refused to provide improvements, or to allow businesses to make improvements that directly affect safety such as allowing dedicated maintenance businesses on the field, or allowing/providing facilities for fueling and parking of aircraft on the ramps or badly maintained hangars. These improvements are directly tied to the FAA funding provided to Hawaii Airports.

Most important here is that the airspace of Hawaii and density of residents or tourists in dictate that Dillingham is the SOLE LOCATION where any of these activities can take place without placing the public at great risk. You can not Skydive thru the airspace above Rodgers Field which is directly west of Honolulu airport, within the Honolulu Class Bravo airspace surrounding Honolulu airport, and is also on the most used approach path into the Honolulu airport. Glider rides can not be conducted from any other Pahu airport for the same reasons, and the aerobatic glider and airplane "box" can also not be located in the Honolulu airport airspace. Dillingham also provides a critical "untowered" airport that allows necessary repeat landing and takeoff practice that is not permitted at Honolulu and is already very dense in traffic at John Rodgers airport. Closing Dillingham with the idea that it can move to the only other public use airport on Oahu will be a dangerous move to increase traffic at one local airport - and to intentionally terminate activities that can not be moved.

Some will argue that "accidents" make Dillingham unsafe. A point must be made here that every activity on this airport, every operator, and every airman is part of the most highly regulated industry of any in existences - and the FAA has the sole authority over ensuring the safety and compliance for these operations on this airport. The accident rate is far lower risk than many other activities such as driving a car, scuba, pedestrian accidents in Honolulu alone, and so many more acts citizens and visitors here take part in without a thought.

Roy Socata and DOTA have attacked aviation museums, mechanics, aircraft owners, and operators in what seems clear to be harassment in efforts to thin out private aircraft ownership in Hawaii. Closing Dillingham is not only irresponsible, but it is an intentional attack on the tourism and businesses that provide our community with an international draw for tourism. I owe both my military career and my airline career at Hawaiian Airlines directly to my hundreds of landings and thousands of hours that originated at this airport - it was a relevant airport 25 years ago and remains so today. Only government harassment and mismanagement could change the relevance and service this airport provides today - and it comes with significant Federal findings.

This proposal to close Dillingham is unwise, uneducated, and no matter the cost in terms of support to local business, community business benefits, and the community service this airport provides. Closing Dillingham will drive more people to the mainland due to corrupt and ignorant mismanagement.

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

Subject: SB 1368.

Hearing Date: 2/16/2021

Aloha Senator Lee,

My name is Ed White and I am a concerned citizen in support of SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S.. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and show fair support to the community as well as the tenants and the HDOT should support the study.

The Kawaihapai Airfield supports our local community. It would be a huge lose to our island. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Ed White
99-1661 Aiea Heights Drive
Aiea, HI 96701
(808) 283-0593

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:10:27 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mykle kaye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham is one of the last places left in Hawaii for general aviation. Dillingham plays an enormous role in inspiring our youth towards a career in aviation. The community around the airfield also plays an enormous role in cultivating the dreams of our up and coming generations to fly and be involved in aviation. We should be fostering opportunities for our youth in Hawaii to become involved in the aerospace industry, an industry that actually pays enough to afford living in Hawaii. If we take away places like Dillingham, we force our citizens to look to the mainland for both inspiration and education. We shut down another opportunity for our youth at a time when it is increasingly difficult for local students to find a path to a prosperous career locally.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:18:43 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Peacock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 1368 and oppose any attempt to evict tenants or close Dillingham airfield. This airport is a critical part of our community and must remain a part of it. It is woven into the fabric of so many lives on the North Shore and beyond. I don't want to live in a future Hawaii without this airport. It has been a critical part of my life, my children's lives and I hope, their children's lives.
Mahalo

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:54:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lexi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a licensed skydiver at this airfield and it is such a special community. Not only is it the most amazing place to skydive, it's a second home to many, a family. Please please please keep this airfield open. Thank you.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:54:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
conner henderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep this airfield open! I am a pilot and a skydiver and rely on this airfield for training and recreation. The community of aviators here is amazing and irreplaceable. Most importantly countless numbers of people need this airfield open to feed their families. Thanks for reading.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 6:57:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Whitmore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It would be tragically wrong to close Dillingham Airfield. There are federal funds available to support airports in the US airport system. Aviation is very important, and having facilities to operate is critical to the freedom that all Americans and tax payers have a right to enjoy.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:00:25 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
bryan laschiver	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airport needs to stay open. This brings tourists to the islands of Hawaii which stimulates the economy. Restaurants, hotels, air travel, tourist attractions and a bevy of other businesses and services benefit. This is vital and needs to stay functional and operational. Do not close this airport

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:11:37 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Coyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support keeping Dillingham open as it currently exists. General Aviation is a very important part of Hawaii. Without it, our up and coming aviators will have limited avenues to pursue their aviation future. If you learn how to 'glide', you truly learn how to 'fly'. A 767 incident many years ago in Canada was flown to a successful resolution due to the Pilot in Commands gliding experience. It only takes one of these to make things worthwhile.

Please keep Dillingham open!!

Regards

John Coyle

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:18:39 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cuetiss aldrich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello I respectfully want to support SB1368 to prohibit eviction of tenants at the Dilingham airfield. This airport has a very important role to provide to citizens of Oahu. Not only does this airport allow for businesses to generate a taxable revenue stream of funding to Hawaii Government in these tough times, but this airport serves a very important role of safety. In the event of any severe storms, or earthquake or tsunami, it is entirely possible that both the airports on the South of the island, Honolulu and John Rogers could be incapacitated. This leaves Kaneohe MCAS, Wheeler AAF, and Dilingham as the only three airports open on the island. Wheeler is not ideal for large aircraft due to its runway length and location. But Dilingham has a long runway capable of handling a variety of large aircraft both civilian and military. If this airport becomes deactivated, we will lose a valuable asset that will be very important in a time of need. Please keep this airport open and operating.

Mahalo,

Captain Curtiss Aldrich, Hawaiian Airlines

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:21:28 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phil Davidson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a professional aviator who will contribute greatly to the tax revenue of this state over my career and lifetime, I believe it's imperative that our state government protect and support the overall health and development of Dillingham airfield. As a young boy I had the privilege though Hawaii State Civil Air Patrol, to fly gliders there. That experience helped further my passion for aviation and push me to seek further training. It would be foolish to let this airfield disappear with time, with the unique location and its potential impact on future aviators i employe you to save Dillingham Airfield.

Mahalo for your time,

Phil Davidson

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:21:56 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
peter kelley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep Dillingham Airfield open, i have worked there, skydived there and flown gliders there I plan on taking my daughter for an ultralight ride there next week.

Dillingham airport creates jobs, brings in revenue and tax money and tourism dollars There

is no reason to close this airport. Gliders, ultralights and skydivers can't operate out of

Kalaeloa airport for obvious reasons. This airport is vital to General aviation on Oahu. I am

also wondering if you have done a study to show the economic impact of Dillingham. Thankyou

peter j kelley

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:29:37 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas T Shirai Jr	Testifying for The Kawaihapai Ohana	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye & Committe Members,

Attached is my Testimony of Support with Reservations for SB1368 (Relating to Airfields) both as an Individual and as Po'o of The Kawaihapai Ohana. Additional information about my Ohana and Kuleana at Kawaihapai has been sent to each of you individually and pertinent to SB 1368. Thank you for your time and consideration. Malama Pono.

Thomas T Shirai Jr

Lineal Descendant of Kawaihapai Ahupua'a

The Kawaihapai Ohana - P o'o

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:36:18 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Angela Huntemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is imperative that any move to close this important business, education and recreation center on the North Shore be stopped. Not only does Kawaihapai Airfield provide opportunities for our residents to skydive and fly for fun, it is an important asset for training and employment. It is a low impact / high revenue visitor attraction and the ONLY place on the island suitable for small, privately owned aircraft to be enjoyed and the ONLY place that it is safe to skydive. Mahalo.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:40:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
debbie aldrich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

General aviation is important to my family and has been for 3 generations. Please keep the airfield open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:42:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Baughman	Testifying for Pacific Skydiving Center; USPA	Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation Senator Chris Lee

Subject: SB 1368 Relating to Airfields

Message: Aloha! I am an Oahu resident and I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:47:32 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kait Hearle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep Dillingham airfield open to civil access and allow general aviation to continue. I live in Waialua and work at the airfield. Business owners and employees have been forced to close or adapt to the challenges of Covid-19 and reduced/banned travel. When tourism is fully open again we need attractions to bring money back to the fragile north shore economy. These tenants are in good standing and should not be evicted.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:52:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Teeling	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

I work at Kawaihapai(Dillingham) airfield, and also live in Waialua. Beyond my personal interest to stay happily employed by general aviation at Kawaihapai, I believe in its value to the north shore communities and the state as a whole. It allows the public access to aviation in a way that is becoming more and more hindered. Some modes of flight enjoyed above Kawaihapai can't be replicated anywhere else in Hawaii, no less Oahu.

Please consider SB1368 in order to protect the already in place lease, providing time for a more sustainable long term solution to be achieved. This way the people's access to the beautiful land and air of Kawaihapai will be ensured for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of SB1368,

adam

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:56:51 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Haley Toon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. This airfield provides an unbelievable amount of happiness and inspiration to every person that visits it, whether for a skydive or the hiking trails. It would be a devastating day if we were to lose our jobs, our passions and a place that we revolve our everyday lives around. I've met my closest friends, the love of my life and my mentors on this strip of land. It made my career what it is today and is a daily reminder of everything to be grateful for in my life. I consider myself one of the luckiest people in the world to have had the opportunity to be a part of this community.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:57:20 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul C Lawler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB 1368. I am testifying today in support of the various civilian uses of Dillingham Airfield. For the past several years as a member of the Hawaiian Astronomical Society, I have been able to use Dillingham field as one of the few accessible dark sky sites on island of Oahu. I have personally had thousands of people look through my telescope at no cost and gain a greater appreciation for and enjoyment of the night sky. This is a free service the Hawaiian Astronomical Society is happy to provide to our fellow citizens, which will be gone if we no longer have a suitable venue. I also support daytime use of Dillingham Field for civil aviation, gliding, and skydiving.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 7:57:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christina Jennings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Saving Dillingham Airfield means continuing to have jobs at one of the skydiving centers (I work in the office and before the pandemic I also drove the shuttle bus). It means having access to skydiving and the best coaches in our state (other dropzones in Hawai'i are tandems only). Dillingham has also provided me with flying lessons to become a pilot. If a resolution to keep Dillingham open to the public is not found, I'll be forced to leave Hawaii. Please allow SB1368 to pass so we can continue to have jobs at the airport and have access to flight schools and skydiving. Hawaii has been my home for almost 10 years and I can't imagine having to move to the mainland to start over again.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:00:58 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Boyd Ready	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators:

Our entire economy depends on civil aviation. This is the only Hawaii airfield suitable for year round glider operations. Training for effective pilots includes gliders so that they learn that 'seat of the pants' skill in flying that serves our airline pilots well when their fancy equipment doesn't work. Other nations often put less capable pilots in the air as they don't have vital civil aviation activities. Remember the foreign-piloted 747 that crashed in broad daylight at San Francisco airport? They relied on the automatic systems and ignored obvious instrument reports that they were losing altitude - they just hadn't set the autopilot correctly. Keep this airport and its civil aviation tenants and help find a way to keep it open with private management - it's the height of folly to close this place down. Hawaii needs good pilot training!

Boyd Ready, in my private capacity

North Shore Neighborhood Board member

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SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:06:48 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joel grzebik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a professional pilot employed by Hawaiian Airlines. While I've only flown into Dillingham airfield a couple of times I firmly believe that it is a extremely important part of general aviation in Hawaii. Small airports help to foster the next generation of aviators and provide a important economic boost to the local economy. Airports are unique resources in that building a new one is extremely difficult and expensive, so once one is removed it's essentially gone forever. We need to preserve the few small airports we have in Hawaii and work to increase their utilization for the betterment of general aviation and our local economy.

Thank you,

Joel Grzebik

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:07:04 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heidi Bosgieter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I've worked at the airfield for almost 2 years. Best job ever!! Please save Dillingham!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:09:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brett Freels	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Field is of utmost importance to the future of general aviation on Oahu and in the state of Hawaii. It had provided myself and countless other people opportunities that are unique and enjoyable and unmatched anywhere else. This airfield must remain open to ensure the prosperity of current and future aviation enthusiasts alike. ALOJA

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:10:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacob Roach	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

General aviation airports can be wonderful communities with a passion for flying, and for introducing flying to the next generation of pilots. As a flight instructor, I've watched first hand how a high school or college student's demeanor, confidence, and self-discipline can change as they discover flying and embark on their career. It's the kind of experience that kids in Hawai'i need more of — not less. I think the airport and general aviation community at large can work with reasonable concerned citizens to find solutions to their issues regarding the field. But it would be a shame to let Dillingham fade away as a consequence of an all-too-common knee-jerk reaction to close another small airport.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:15:38 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
brian hellenbrand	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I have been coming to Hawaii annually since 2009, and the place I spend most of my time is Dillingham airfield. As a military officer, commercial pilot, skydiver, and glider pilot, Dillingham is a truly special treasure. It is the main reason I look forward to returning to Oahu from San Diego each year. If access were no longer allowed, I am not sure I would spend so many months in Hawaii. Please allow its use to remain open to the public.

Sincerely,

Brian Hellenbrand

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:16:28 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
haley zeigler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love this airfield. I have come out from the mainland just to work on this airport. Please keep it open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:22:44 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jennifer pfister	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill to keep the airport open! I am a full time pilot and flight instructor at Dillingham and a home owner in Waialua. This airport and all that it offers is essential to my livelihood along with many more people. Dillingham is more than just the only airport where skydiving and gliders can exist, it's a family. It's a beautiful place where everyone loves to fly together. It's a place that transforms dreams into realities. It would be a devastation to close Dillingham, I strongly urge to pass HB1368,

Mahalo

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:24:06 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I learned to fly small airplanes and gliders at Dillingham Airfield in 2003-2006. I then went on to tow gliders for Mr Bill, fly skydivers for Skydive Hawaii, fly passengers for Island Air, then on to SkyWest Airlines and now I'm a Captain on the Boeing 717 at Hawaiian Airlines, where I've flown for the last 10 years. I am able to support my family and my community. All because of where it started - at PHDH. Please keep it open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:33:03 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Austin Ernst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello, My name is Austin Ernst, I am a resident of Honolulu and I STRONGLY urge you to keep Dillingham airfield open to civilian and public access. Dillingham Airfield has forever changed my life and in many ways may have saved it, as i am an avid sky diver at Pacific Sky Diving. Sky diving has given me a reason to live, and opened up the world of aviation to me and so many thousands of others! If you choose to close dillingham airfield to civilian and public access, you will be destroying hundreds of peoples livelihoods and careers who work and support the airfield... many of which have built there entire life around aviation and is how they support themselves and their families. There is not another airfield in the entire world that is like Dillingham airfield, it is truly a one of a kind, and has stories of those who came before, that go back generations and generations. Not only would you be destroying the entire legacy and history of the airfield and all of which has been built and of those who have come before, but you would be destroying all aspiration of the youth and future generations to come for any kind of dreams of aviation... but the worst part is, you will be also killing all their hopes, dreams, and aspirations to better their lives and find purpose in their lives that may inspire others. And in doing so, such youth may ultimately resort to lives of crime and become unproductive and counterintuitive members of society. However, Dillingham airfield is a staple of HOPE... LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION...have you ever been to an airshow, or seen a group of sky divers land, or an airplane or glider take off, and then looked into the eyes of the child besides you who is also witnessing the same experience in that very moment for the first time? And in that very moment you saw the raw excitement, awe, and wonder that is visible in that child's eyes?? The dreams that were just placed in their minds, the dreams of one day growing up to experience that for themselves.. and then one day when they are a full grown adult and THEIR child asks them, "Daddy/ Mommy, when did you know you wanted to be a [Pilot, sky diver, paraglider, etc.] " and they tell their child the very moment when they saw their first plane take off at Dillingham airfield... and from that moment on, the course of their life would forever be changed. However, I bet you haven't ever experienced that kind of moment... looking into a child's eyes who is unbiased and untainted by this world. Well let me put it this way, imagine that is YOUR CHILD... and because you choose to pass a bill that will ultimately ruin Dillingham airfield and the gateway to ALL aviation in hawaii, your child decides to go down the wrong path in life because they have nothing to look forward to... no dreams or goals to work towards, so they resort to drugs, and a life of crime! And ultimately end up in PRISON, or worse, dead. Now you may be reading this and think that this scenario is a bit far fetched, but honestly when you think

about it... it is not. And what is that actually WAS your child. How would you feel, knowing you had the ability to make a difference, but you choose no to. So thank you for your time, and i STRONGLY urge you to keep DILLINGHAM AIRFIELD OPEN to the public... because that child was me.

Thank you.

A VERY CONCERNED CITIZEN, and AVID SKY DIVER AT DILLINGHAM AIRFIELD!\

-Austin Ernst

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 8:35:25 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Johann Wolfaardt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I Johann Wolfaardt, support SB1368 to prevent business, from eviction forcing them to close resulting in the loss of many jobs. The airport is the lifeblood of many residents and Hawaii taxpayers, I strongly support SB1368.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 9:25:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Jandle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Robin Jandle and I have been at Dillingham Airfield since 2010. I fully support the SB1368 bill to keep this wonderful airfield open. Ive been an Oahu/Waialua resident for 13 years and have seen a very positive impact with in the local community by having this airport. There are more than 300 individuals that are employed by this location and the community would genuinely suffer with the loss of these jobs. I am a professional skydiver and representative of the United States Canopy piloting team. I not only represent the United states at championship competitions, but very much the state of Hawaii as my home. This has all been possible because of the Dillingham airfield. Please help us keep our home and airport that is widely admired around the world.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 9:45:48 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
george Ferrer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield provides such a great opportunity for the state and the resident of Oahu an escape from their everyday lives. This airfield provides people jobs and nature satisfaction. Losing this airfield means that some of our passion will be unethically taken away from us. As a skydiver and an aviator we need this airfield to remain open. Millions of revenue will be taken away from the state, and people's jobs are on the line here!! So please help us keep it open. Not just for us but for future generations to come!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:06:09 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Nishida	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I've met so many great friends through skydiving. And when friends come to visit I always try to get them to go. Also people who have jumped all over the world say that this drop zone is the most beautiful. Please keep this place open !!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:16:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
riley moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham is my home! Best place I have ever skydived. This place must stay open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:20:55 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mike biechler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

There is no reasonable reason to terminate the agreement between the state and U.S. Army for this lease. The airport is an essential part of our community and any liability or financial issues that may be driving the DOT decision to close the airfield are certainly outweighed by the benefits to the state and community at large, and, in any case, could be mitigated with contractual arrangements, insurance, and (potentially) additional fees charged to the leasees.

Please pass this bill and help save jobs in our community. Many of my neighbors and friends work at Kawaihapai and need this bill to pass. Please consider how a similar action in your community would impact the residents. Help save Kawaihapai airfield.

Aloha,

Mike Biechler

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:27:08 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler Streetman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live in Hawaii and skydive at pacific skydive center. This place is my second home. This home replaces the family that I've lost over the years. Please don't take away the family I have left. Please don't take away my home. Pacific Skydive/Dillingham foreverðŸ–ª

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/14/2021 10:57:03 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Mars	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this Bill. I support Dillingham airfield to remain open to aviation.

I am currently a LtCol in the Hawaii Air National guard as a senior evaluator and instructor flying the KC-135. In addition, I was an Aloha Airline Captain until its demise, and currently a Hawaiian Airlines Captain.

My first job in aviation was towing gliders at dillingham airfield with a short stint as a skydiver pilot. Without that initial experience, I would not be in the positions I enjoy now and a long term resident of Hawaii. Dillingham provides a critical entry level experience opportunity for our young aviators who would likely remain in Hawaii. I have seen first hand how our home grown aviation opportunities have been continuously degraded over the years. In turn, our local airlines need to hire more and more pilots from outside of Hawaii and thus those pilots eventually commute. I have seen this directly over the course of my 25 years in Hawaii aviation.

Dillingham also provides general aviation a critical location for experience building cross country and different airfield ops without the requirement to cross channels. Believe me, it's critical for this opportunity for entry level pilots to gain this experience.

If Hawaii leadership desires to degrade opportunity for locals to gain eventual high income Hawaii based employment, I fear for Hawaii's future and the future of our children as opportunities become less and less. I believe without a strong self sufficient infrastructure, our island will continue the trend of being reliant upon the mainland and abroad and more importantly continue squeezing out local families from property with low income jobs.

Keep Dillingham Airfield open. Save opportunities for our next generations.

TO: Members of the Committee on Transportation

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
808-395-3233

HEARING: 3 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, 2021

SUBJECT: HB 1368, Dillingham Airfield - **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Lee and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 1368, which disallows the state from evicting tenants who are in good standing until their current leases expire.

This airfield offers unique opportunities for glider enthusiasts and others. Please vote "yes."

Please also see the attached resolution from the Honolulu City Council requesting the state work to ensure the continuance of general aviation at the airfield.



RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK WITH INTERESTED PARTIES TO ENSURE THE CONTINUANCE OF GENERAL AVIATION AT KAWAIHAPAI (DILLINGHAM) AIRFIELD.

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii ("State") Department of Transportation, Airports Division ("DOT-A"), has operated Dillingham Airfield under a lease from the U.S. Army ("Army") since 1962 for the purpose of supporting general aviation in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Section 261-27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, states that the official name of the airfield located at Kawaihapai, formerly known as Dillingham Airfield, is Kawaihapai Airfield; and

WHEREAS, the DOT-A has a lease from the Army to continue general aviation at Kawaihapai Airfield until July 5, 2024 but intends to terminate the lease by June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the terms of the existing lease stipulate that "[i]t is the intent of both parties in the future to negotiate and enter into a new longer-term lease"; and

WHEREAS, due to conditions attached to airport improvement funding granted to the DOT-A by the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") in 2003 and 2005, the DOT-A has an obligation to keep the airport open for civilian use through 2025; and

WHEREAS, the DOT-A's decision to terminate the lease was made without adequate opportunity for public comment and community engagement from the tenants, the Army, the FAA, State and City elected officials, airfield stakeholders, and the surrounding North Shore community; and

WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield is one of the most popular skydiving centers in the world based on the number of daily jumps as well as a world-class location for glider rides due to the natural lift provided by nearby cliffs, and there are no suitable alternative locations for these activities on Oahu; and

WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield supports 11 businesses and more than 130 employees, provides an ideal location for student pilots to train for high-paying pilot jobs, and generates approximately \$12 million per year in visitor spending; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 21-7

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, one of the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan's guidelines for transportation systems is to "[m]aintain small aircraft, general aviation and other recreational, commercial, or other military uses at Dillingham Airfield in cooperation with the U.S. Army," and "[a]s necessary, upgrade and maintain facilities to support airfield use"; and

WHEREAS, the North Shore Neighborhood Board No. 27, the North Shore Chamber of Commerce, the General Aviation Council of Hawaii, the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association, the U.S. Parachute Association, the Soaring Society of America, the National Aviation Association, and the Experimental Aircraft Association have all passed resolutions in strong support of continuing general aviation at Kawaihapai Airfield; and

WHEREAS, the DOT-A has identified the lack of a long-term lease, lack of authority over the airport, and area water system issues as justifications for closing the airfield, but area legislators are confident that these concerns can be favorably resolved; and

WHEREAS, three established private airport management companies have expressed interest in operating Kawaihapai Airfield under a long-term contract, which would relieve the DOT-A of responsibility for day-to-day operations; and

WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield is too valuable to the region as an employer and business hub, to the visitor industry, and to the future of general aviation in Hawaii to allow its closure without a comprehensive review of viable alternatives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests the State Department of Transportation to work with interested parties, including area legislators, interested business partners, the U.S. Army, and the Federal Aviation Administration, to ensure the continuance of general aviation at Kawaihapai (Dillingham) Airfield; and



RESOLUTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council also requests the State Department of Transportation to include the lineal descendants of Native Hawaiian families who previously resided on or owned land that is now occupied by the Kawaihapai (Dillingham) Airfield in all discussions related to the future use of the airfield; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor, the Managing Director, the State Director of Transportation, the President of the Hawaii State Senate, the Speaker of the Hawaii House of Representatives, and the Hawaii Congressional Delegation.

INTRODUCED BY:

Hiroshi Tsunayoshi

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JAN - 5 2021

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 21-7

Introduced: 01/05/21 By: HEIDI TSUNEYOSHI

Committee: TRANSPORTATION,
SUSTAINABILITY AND
HEALTH

Title: RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK WITH INTERESTED PARTIES TO ENSURE THE CONTINUANCE OF GENERAL AVIATION AT KAWAIHAPAI (DILLINGHAM) AIRFIELD.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

01/12/21	TRANSPORTATION, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH	REPORTED OUT FOR ADOPTION. CR-1 4 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, KIA'ĀINA, TULBA.
01/27/21	COUNCIL	COMMITTEE REPORT AND RESOLUTION WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:41:39 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Sheehan	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Once public access to a vital general aviation field like Dillingham is lost, the effects will be felt for generations of people in Hawaii. One thing the pandemic has taught us is we desperately need to build up local industries and not rely on external factors to stimulate our economy. Why on earth would we shutdown an asset like Dillingham in providing jobs to our kamaiana as well as growing our future pilots that are born and raised here in Hawaii???

Short sighted and stupid move in my opinion.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:20:42 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Alaggio	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is the world class glider soaring site. Since the Cocke's 21+ hour flight in the Nighthawk flight on December 17, 1931, Oahu has been a world record gliding site with multiple world records. It is the only place on earth with the optimal soaring conditions for over 330 days per year. Dillingham Airfield is the only access to these unique conditions that not only allow record flights but also the best soaring training and commercial rides operations in the world. Dillingham is the busiest commercial glider rides operation in the world for the past 45 years. There is nowhere in Hawaii that it can be relocated for these unique soaring conditions that allow nearly daily operations. It would be catastrophic to free flight, gliding/human flight, to close Dillingham public operations. Please keep HAWAIIAN soaring history alive by keeping Dillingham Airfield open for public use.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:30:34 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Huddle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Save Dillingham Airfield. This is where I learned to fly and it is special!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:47:08 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william swim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:20:27 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Lennard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1368

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Senator Chris Lee, Chair

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 2021

TIME: 3:00pm

PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Via Videoconference

Dear Chair Lee and Vice Chair Inouye,

I reside on the North Shore of Oahu and support SB1368.

The North Shore community cherishes Dillingham airfield and recognizes that it is an essential civil aviation hub on Oahu. It is hoped that a solution can be found to sustain this location as an airfield.

In the meantime, it is essential to allow tenants to remain on site as the local economy is in a very precarious position.

Thank you for your time

Alan Lennard

P.O. Box 818

Haleiwa, HI 96712

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:40:07 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerome Schnedorf	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable members of the committee, I submit my written testimony in support of SB1368 as part of an overall effort to preserve Kawaihapai Airfield, otherwise known as Dillingham Airfield.

Dillingham Airfield Is A Historic Landmark

Dillingham Airfield holds a place of historic military and general aviation significance on Oahu which pre-dates World War II and the attack on Pearl Harbor. The name Dillingham Airfield came about as part of honoring and recognizing the ultimate sacrifice made by heroic airman Henry Dillingham. This location was employed to defend the state from just after the close of World War I, through World War II, and for many decades thereafter.

Dillingham Airfield Supports Our Economy and Offers Opportunity For Our Keiki

Dillingham Airfield provides a unique service to the state's most populous island and most popular tourist destination through the ongoing glider and sky diving operations. These activities not only contribute to the diverse amenities available in the state supporting tourism and much needed employment and revenue producing opportunities, it also provides a unique opportunity for our local keiki to explore their interest in aviation as well as gain experience in working toward a rewarding life experience and potentially a career in aviation. In fact, many pilots at Hawaiian Airlines found their way into their flying careers in some part as a result of their access to Dillingham Airfield. We must not allow this valuable resource to disappear.

Dillingham Airfield Enhances Aviation Safety

Dillingham Airfield provides an additional margin of safety as a diversionary landing airport during the day for smaller aircraft that operate to and from Oahu. The runway at one time was lengthened to 9,000 feet to allow for the operation of the B-29 Superfortress and while it is clearly not the best location on Oahu for an emergency landing, its length is adequate to successfully land larger aircraft including the Boeing 717, 737, 767, Airbus 320, 321, and even the 330 in the most dire circumstances. If given a choice between a ditching offshore from Dillingham Airfield or an off-airport landing on uneven terrain with numerous obstructions, any pilot would value the paved runway that Dillingham Airfield offers and most certainly would save lives.

Dillingham Airfield Has No Substitutes

Given Dillingham Airfield's location on Oahu with respect to the airspace design surrounding the other civilian and military airports on the island, there is presently no other alternative location on this island to support the current general aviation activities that exist at Dillingham much less provide the enhancements to safety that can easily be taken for granted.

Dillingham Airfield Must Be Preserved and Enhanced

I am asking that all members of the Hawaii legislature, and most specifically the members of this committee, vote in all questions regarding the future of Dillingham Airfield in a manner that will preserve, protect, promote, and expand this irreplaceable resource that Oahu had been so fortunate to have had in the past and look for ways that Dillingham Airfield can continue to contribute to the island's future as an ongoing aviation operation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Schnedorf

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 5:10:37 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arvel Shults	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am an individual skydiver and past employee of both Skydive Hawaii and Pacific Skydiving, these two companies provided work to me for over 15 years after my retirement from the US Army. This specific skydiving location is one of the most beautiful on the earth!!! The work that this airfield provides to young pilots and the skydiving community would be a tragic loss to our community and the aviation enthusiast in our state. This location is also the only place on Oahu that our towed gliders can operate due to the unique position of the mountains and our trade winds. Please consider keeping the airfield open at least to the current lease date agreed upon by the state and the US Army.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:06:54 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Worthen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

PHDH - Dillingham Airfield is the only glider port in the State of Hawaii. It is also the only glider port in the Northern Pacific between the mainland United States, Alaska and Japan.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:13:22 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zoard Janko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:27:49 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Okasako	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE SB1368.

For years Dillingham Airfield has been the premier location for skydiving, glider, and lightsport aviation. There simply is NO other suitable location on Oahu for these activities. The Dillingham Airfield and the businesses it hosts provide hundreds of jobs to local residents. Closing Dillingham simply is NOT an option.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:32:46 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Cooper-Jensen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have enjoyed Dillingham Fields for many years as an experienced skydiver. Both on my own and as part of organized groups including commercial shoots. Each time i have spent a lot of money boosting the local economy by renting accommodations and supporting local business for food and entertainment. If the fields close I will not have reason to spend my hard earned dollars in that area any further. I want to return and enjoy the million dollar views from above and the world class adventure on the grounds. Please keep that option open for me and many like me.

Thank you for your consideration

Kathryn

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:39:06 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vincent Lowell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Subject: SB1368 Relating to Dillingham Airfield

Hearing Date: February 16, 2021

My name is Vincent Lowell, and I am a concerned citizen, testifying in support of SB1368.

Passage of this bill will support our local economy by preserving a one-of-a-kind resource for the post-pandemic resurrection of the tourist industry. Keeping Dillingham Airfield open will also preserve much needed local jobs and a venue for citizens of Hawaii to enjoy aviation and develop meaningful aviation skills necessary for future employment.

My family have been regular users of Dillingham Airfield for many years and strongly urge you to keep this beautiful and unique resource open and thriving!

Vincent M. Lowell

182 Kuuahale St.

Kailua, HI 96734

808-840-7813

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:49:33 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Juan Carlos Guerra	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 1368. As a student pilot and lifelong enthusiast of flight I understand the value of having access to airfields on which to learn to fly and to promote the profession to future generations. Airfields in Oahu and Hawaii are precious and the loss of Kawaihapai Airfield would bring significant detriment ranging from local impacts to the North Shore all the way to the loss of a world renowned skydiving destination. The numerous benefits of the airfield to the state and the citizens of Oahu are clear as are stated in the bill. As such I support the motion that the department of transportation should honor it's lease agreement, not evict any airport tenant that is in good standing and cooperate with private entities studying the economic feasibility of the airfield.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Guerra

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:50:49 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
philip mackay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HI,

Dillingham Airfield is one of those insane specially places for me. As a skydiver theres really no place like Dillingham but more importantly the people who work there make it what it is! the views of the green tall mountains, deep pacific blue ocean, combined with beautiful warm weather. i come to oahu to surf but the thing that truely keeps me always coming back is the airfield. Its a second home and a second family for me.

I strongly vote in favor of keeping Dillingham open for recreational Air sports because its the only place left on any of islands of Hawaii!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:59:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kayla foster	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this airfield because it has changed my friends lives! They live for this shit. One thing they look forward to every weekend is skydiving at your facility. Please don't close it because a lot of peoples lives will change. Everything this world has gone through In the past year, this is what keeps some of them going. This Is their sanctuary, their sacred place, there everything!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 7:32:10 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a retired USAF Colonel and have used Dillingham Airfield many times. It is a very valuable pilot training location and should be retained as a very valuable asset to the State of Hawaii. I trained to fly gliders at Dillingham and even though I had been a Air Force pilot for many years the training environment at Dillingham taught me much more! I plan to return to fly at Dillingham as long as I am healthy to fly. Please retain this jewel.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 7:51:50 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Of the many trips I make to Hawaii I always make my way over to the North shore because of the Dillingham airfield. From skydiving to powered hang gliding it is the most beautiful way to see your wonderful island. It would be a shame and major loss of economic benefit to that side of the island. Also none of the general aviation jobs would move to Hoolulu airport because of so much commercial traffic. I hope you find a way to allow such a wonderful airport and economic hub to remain. Thanks.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 7:51:56 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kassie schwartz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB1368!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 7:53:49 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kieran	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the businesses at Dillingham. Mismanagement by the DOT should not destroy the lives of so many who earn their living at that airport. That community is so special and so beneficial to the north shore, and Hawai'i as a whole. There is no down side to figuring out a way to move forward and restructuring how the airport is managed. Give them ample time, make the DOT honor their lease, and the airport can continue to operate while solutions are found. I have worked at that airport on and off for a few years. We had a home, our daughter went to school. We supported business. None of that can happen anymore if that airport closes. But aside from my selfish reasons, that airport is good for the community. Not just the aviation community, but all of Oahu. Don't let the mismanagement of the post destroy the future.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:08:11 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jessica piff	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep dillingham airfield open! This place is my home and my livelihood. It provides jobs for many other people as well who call this place home. It brings so much joy to our lives and the lives of all the tourists who come and get to see this beautiful island from the sky. It's a place where people come together to enjoy the amazement of this place and offer their gratitude. I love dillingham airfield, it's what brought me to Hawaii in the first place. I don't want to see this island without it please!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:30:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kira Devitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is extremely valuable to the North Shore of Oahu. Our youth here on the North Shore have access to an incredible training facility right in their back yard. Jobs in aviation can be very high paying, and inspiring our young people to pursue that career path can change their future and, in the end, help our economy. The main airports on the island are already fully taxed and extremely busy. Access to hangars and tie downs at these airports are limited and difficult to acquire. Additionally, why would we want more people to fly in and out of our busy class bravo airspace, when people could be utilizing our smaller airports and reducing air traffic congestion in Honolulu's class Bravo airspace? This airport can and does relieve some of the stress that has been placed on the larger airports.

Closing this airport would uproot hundreds of professionals and their families. Glider operators, glider tow pilots, mechanics, flight instructors, ultra light pilots, securitas employees, tower operators, fuel concession employees, skydive instructors, skydive pilots, tour operators, skydive video editors, parachute riggers, etc would be forced to leave the island, the state or completely change careers after years working in their particular field. These professionals rent or own property here on the North Shore. Their children attend schools here and they spend their money in the Hale'iwa and Waialua area. If they were to lose their jobs, the places that they live would go vacant, affecting the home owners and the home price value in the Mokule'ia area.

It would also reduce tourism on the lesser visited part of the North Shore. Skydiving, glider flights and the air tours operate out of this airport. The gliders and the skydiving have nowhere to go. Shouldn't we be encouraging companies that show off our islands in unique ways? There is more to Hawaii than just our ocean and beaches.

All we would be doing if we shut down our airport is harming our community. We would be putting hundreds of people out of jobs in an economy where we we want to be saving jobs and taking away an educational resource from our children.

Please help us save our airport. Once it is gone, we will lose it forever. Closing an airport should not be a matter taken lightly.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:32:45 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Paul Collier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield means so much not only to those who operate out of there but also to the many tourists that come to skydive. The money that would be lost from closing the airfield would be detrimental to the families that make a living from it. Please keep dillingham open forever!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:49:07 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
danielle london	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm writing in support of SB1368. Beyond offering visitors a potentially once in a lifetime experience, the Dillingham Airfield supports hundreds of livelihoods. The instructors that enable visitors to skydive are all employed by businesses that would be forced to shut down should the airfield cease to operate. The airfield employs hundreds of north shore residents, and eliminating their jobs is unconscionable, especially in the midst of an historic pandemic and recession.

Further reasons to keep Dillingham Airfield open abound. It is one of the most unique and diverse airfields in the country, supporting general aviation, skydiving, trikes, and gliders. It offers a gateway to the North Shore for both visitors and residents, and can serve as a contingency plan (or alternative to HNL in some cases) in the event of an emergency or crisis. Activities made possible only through the continued operation of Dillingham Airfield bolster the tourism industry and provide incomes to hundreds of individuals and families on the island. Closing Dillingham Airfield would have devastating impacts for the economy and people of Oahu.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:55:26 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marc Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airfield is very important to the local economy of the North Shore and Oahu. It brings millions in revenue a year and holds jobs for many. Losing the airfield would be a major blow to the people of Hawaii during these times, in which our state is already one of the most economically impacted states in the nation.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:55:52 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Devitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support keeping Dillingham Airfield open for the extent of the lease. The DOTA needs to understand the extent of the economic impact closing several small and medium size businesses in the small rural North Shore community. My wife and I use the airport often. Abruptly pulling out of the lease will cause harm to my community. The method that DOTA is using to close the airfield is irresponsible and not in the best interest of the residence of Hawaii. Ford and Ross have decided they alone can close one of only three public use airports on Oahu.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:04:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katelyn Bateman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I live in Hawaii and frequently fly in and out of Dillingham Airport. With respect of the community please keep the airfield open. Thank you for your support and time.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:05:43 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Luca Costa Ferreira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Luca Ferreira and I'm testfying in support of SB1368 with the Dillingham Airfield.

The airport is the main source of income for my family and many others in Oahu. Please help us!

Thank you,

Luca Ferreira

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:07:17 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vicki MCMANUS	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in favor of SB 1368. Dillingham airport is an important part of the north shore community. In a Honolulu centric county, it is easy to forget the needs of more rural areas. The jobs created help to support the entire community and the educational opportunities provided are priceless.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:11:42 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele London	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airport supports the livelihood of many people and helps the economic stability of the area.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:11:52 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evan Musni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield is a travel destination for people all over the world and is responsible for inspiring every person who visits this amazing place!

I have been planning to travel to this destination with my partner to skydive there. It would be be awful if we could no longer continue with our plans to visit this airfield.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:14:18 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsay Wheeler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study. I have been working at Dillingham/Kawaihapai since 2015. It is the only place to make a living here in Hawaii for so many residents. Our lives revolve around aviation and this airport. Kawaihapai inspires and educates young people, aviation professionals and humans from across the globe every year. It brings business that would not be seen otherwise. The closure of Dillingham will have a severe negative impact on local economy and hundreds of lives. Please pass this bill.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:14:22 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Francis Whitmore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of O'ahu, I strongly support any legislation to protect the local, family-run businesses based at Dillingham Airfield which is a critical component of both the fragile general aviation industry in our state as well as the crippled north shore economy.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:15:33 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Russ Subia Macadangdang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I want Dillingham Airfield to remain in operation because it is such an integral part of the northshore! It brings in so many tourists and locals alike to enjoy the amazing views whether it be from the airplanes, or gliders, or the skydivers! It's an important piece of the northshore and I'm sure thousands of others would agree that losing it would be a tragedy! PLEASE DO NOT SHUT DOWN THE AIRFIELD!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:16:58 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alden alter	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield employs hundreds of people and allows thousands of people to enjoy the north shore of Oahu from the air every year. Dillingham airfield brings a large amount of tourists to the north shore which is a vital source of economic revenue for business in Haleiwa. Shutting down civilian access would hurt not just the employees of dillingham airfield but local businesses as well. Encouraging tourism is critical in sustaining the lively hoods of the people of Hawaii especially in hard times such as these.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:17:17 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Horatiu Dicher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep Dillingham Airfield open to the public! My son made his first astronomical observations here, and wish to do it in the future. This is the best location on the island for that, and our club used to go monthly bringing visitors from all over the world who heard about it! It is an awesome sight and perfect location, we could even see Milky Way from there. Please keep it open so many more generations can enjoy that! Thank you!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:17:46 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caleb Jorgensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Closing dillingham airfield would be detrimental to the north shore economy. Do the right thing and continue to keep it open! Many people from around the world travel to Hawaii to skydive and it would be an enormous loss if it were to close. COVID has done so much damage to the states economy already, closing the airfield will make it even harder on the people of Oahu.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:19:16 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Col John R. Bates USMC (ret)	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senator Chris Lee,

I have been, (and currently am) a skydiver of more than thirty years. I have been a resident of Hawaii for more than twenty years. Dillingham Air Field has provided me an opportunity to passionately pursue my discipline throughout this time. Please SAVE DILLINGHAM.

I join the fixed wing aircraft pilots, the glider pilots and my fellow body pilots in asking for your support to keep it open. People from around the globe know that Dillingham is one of the most beautiful places to jump. Because of that, more than twelve million dollars per year are spent by them. In this time of economic despair, the State should be trying their best to save jobs; not destroy them.

Please extend the current lease of all those doing business at the airfield. Proper action can be a definite "win" for everyone.

I humbly ask for your support for this measure. Again, PLEASE Save Dillingham.

Semper Fidelis, Col John R. Bates USMC (ret)

1459 Aupupu Street, Kailua, Hawaii 95734 808-721-1012

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:22:06 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Van Voorhis Christopher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As an airline pilot and resident of Oahu for 30 years, I would like to go on record as having helped to save Dillingham Airfield! There is no other place on Oahu that offers the unique things that Dillingham does! The fact that it attracts visitors to do gliding, skydiving and scenic flights is only a small part of the overall picture here. We have lost so much of what makes Hawaii such a great tourist destination! Let's not loose this too!!!!

Thank You,

Christopher Van Voorhis

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:27:59 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donya Rezayat	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fly to Oahu regularly strictly to use the Dillingham Airfield. Hearing that it may be closed to civil access is extremely upsetting. Dillingham Airfield is one of the only airfields in all of Hawaii that allows public access for a handful of activities, and considering that it is it the main point for my travel to the islands and bringing friends and family with me, it is truly heartbreaking to know our future travels to Oahu and Hawaii will no longer continue should the airfield be restricted or closed to the public. Please keep this airfield open to civil access!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:28:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sydney Spradley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I LOVE Dillingham Airfield!! I go here multiple times throughout the year! It is a place of great happiness for me! Please save it!! PLEASE SAVE DILLINGHAM AIRFIELD!!!!!!!
THANK YOU!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:30:44 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Graham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good morning,

I'm writing in support of SB1368.

Should this measure fail, it would be personally and financially devastating to those who live in our community. I'm lucky to call many of these individuals my friends and have become intimately aware of how hard this period of uncertainty has been on them - and how much harder life for them will become if they were to lose their livelihood. Many of these North Shore community members have families and keiki to support. The loss of the airfield would ripple through the community.

Dillingham Airfield is the only appropriate location for these businesses to exist on the island of O'ahu. Additionally, given the location, the airfield businesses draw tourists and local customers alike to explore Haleiwa, Waialua and Pupakea. This constant supply of consumers support restaurants and shops all along the North Shore.

Dillingham operations will be imperative to the revitalization to the area, which has been ravaged by the pandemic for nearly a year.

In addition to the airfield's economic concerns, the North Shore would also mourn the public access to one of her most beloved local trails, Kealia. Kealia has been a morning routine for many locals and their four legged friends. It has provided countless hikers with beautiful views, gorgeous vantage points for whale watching, and the mental health boost many have needed over this past year.

On a personal note; In early 2019, I was able to participate in a tandem skydive to commemorate a deep personal loss. It was freeing, gratifying, and a much needed milestone. I remember looking down over the island of O'ahu - my own personal mourning and heartache paled in the face of such gut wrenching beauty. In a time of personal turmoil, it was such a lovely reminder of how blessed we truly are.

It would be heartbreaking to take that opportunity away from future generations.

I would be greatly appreciative if you would take the above into consideration as this measure is deliberated. It is a subject that is near and dear to many on this island.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:31:06 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Savannah Carter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:33:34 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
martin shinew	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

PLEASE keep our precious airfield open!! This is the most unique location in the WORLD! The impact of closing Dilligham would be devastating to the many families and staff who live and work here. Thank you for your help! - Martin

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:34:03 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marie Mulligan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Marie Mulligan and I am writing to you in hopes that you will please help Dillingham airfield stay open to the public. Hawaii's economy has been shattered and closing the airfield will unnecessarily add to the problems that have been caused by Covid-19.

The effects of closing the airfield will cause hard working people to lose their jobs, their livelihoods, their ability to feed their families. It seems so ridiculous that during a time of such economic hardship, people are having to FIGHT to keep their jobs. As I am sure everyone here knows, there are multiple skydiving facilities on Dillingham, of which are some of the most beautiful places to skydive in the world. People come from all over the globe to visit these facilities, spending money on lodging, food, transportation. Why take such a valuable addition to Hawaii's tourism away?

Tourism is only one fraction of all of the reasons to keep the airfield open. I beg of you, please help us do the right thing by keeping this facility open to the public and by doing so, helping hundreds of people keep their jobs and aiding the re-growth of Hawaii's already damaged economy.

Thank you for reading my testimony,

Marie Mulligan

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:35:58 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gretlan Moody	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for taking time to review SB1368. I strongly support SB 1368 & do not believe that the tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should be evicted so long as they remain in good standing as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. Conducting an economic impact study would be beneficial and HDOT should support this study.

Thank you for your consideration!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:37:00 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep Dillingham open! My friends and I entire lives revolve around this airfield and can't see it go. Taking this airfield away from all the wonderful people that operate out of this amazing airfield would be horrible!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:39:38 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bartolo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Saving the airfield will keep hundreds of jobs and continue to generate millions of dollars in revenue to the state of Hawaii. Please keep our airfield.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:41:03 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Mumford	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Senators

Thank you for allowing me to add my testimony in favor of SB1368

I am a retired corporate pilot who began my career in aviation 50yrs ago flying Gliders and light aircraft with the Civil Air Patrol at the Kawaihapai (Dillingham) airport.

I currently continue to fly both Gliders as well as Powered general aviation aircraft there.

This airport is an invaluable asset to the residents of Oahu, The City and County of Honolulu as well as to the visitors to our island home.

As is noted in the bill

**Kawaihapai (Dillingham) is the ONLY
Gliderport in Hawai'i.**

A premier parachute drop zone.

**And the ONLY general aviation airport
on Oahu removed from the complex
airspace associated with Honolulu
International.**

**Community organizations such as the
Young Eagles and the Civil Air Patrol
provide valuable opportunities for Oahu
youth.**

**The business operators provide both
jobs and revenue for the city.**

**Additionally, Airports such as this, play
a vital roll in civil defense, supporting
our communities during times of natural
disasters.**

Please vote in favor of this bill to restrict evictions from the airport of tenants that remain in good standing, at least until the current lease expires with the hope that a long term solution for the continuing operation of the airfield can be reached.

I would also request that you endeavor to direct the Hawai'i DOT to continue the hard work needed in order to reach a long term agreement for the continued operation of the airport, whether with the Army or with any civilian entity that would step up to operate the airfield.

Thank You for your support.

Respectfully submitted

Ken Mumford

Kane'ohe

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:43:18 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephen Latham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love the unique ability for General Aviation, the public, and small businesses to utilize this amazing airstrip and hope that it stays available for future generations.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:43:48 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marissa Olberding	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:45:32 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Mathew	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am an independent contractor working at Pacific Skydiving at Dillingham Airfield as a videographer and instructor. I have spent most days of the last four years at that airfield and I know the beauty and joy that it brings people. If the airfield closes, not only will I and fifty of my other coworkers lose their jobs and have to relocate, but thousands of people won't get to experience the excitement and beauty of aviation on the North Shore. This is not the time to be taking jobs and popular tourist attractions away from our community. We need to come together to keep one of the most amazing airfields in the world open the the people of Hawaii.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:45:39 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dustin Mosher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep Dillingham Airport operating as a Public-Use General Aviation airport. The Islands of Hawaii offer a unique geographical environment unparalleled in the US. With that uniqueness, the immense utility of General Aviation is placed in an environment where it can thrive and thereby provide great benefit to the people of Hawaii as a means of effective transportation. Transportation that is available to all as part of the freedoms that aviation enjoys in the US.

From a tourism perspective, the businesses that offer both skydiving and sailplane flight are incredibly unique and significant to the tourist economy of the islands, bringing many tourists and their dollars to the north shore. The experience that those tourists can gain from those businesses offer a view of the island that is unparalleled in highlighting the beauty of the north shore.

Finally, the benefit that Dillingham provides aviation on the Island of Oahu can not be lost. As the only un-controlled airfield on the island, it is an important alternative to the International Airport and Kalaheo which both can be stifling to the fledgling General Aviation sector of aviation. The airfield has become a central historical element of aviation in Hawaii and carries with it significant lineage both in events and name to what has formed the Hawaii we know today; do not lose this great artifact and economic center.

I personally enjoyed the benefits of this airfield in the summer of 2020 as I visited it multiple times with my aircraft. I was on Oahu with my WWII aircraft as part of the 75th Commemoration of the End of WWII and to be able to visit such a historic site with an aircraft from that time period was very special. As well I had the opportunity to fly in a glider and see the terrain in a way that can not be replicated by any other means as we silently soared along the hills. By far the most common feedback I get regarding that trip is people saying what an amazing experience it was to fly in a glider and Dillingham, and those who have always wanted to do that; it is an internationally recognized place for such flying.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:46:55 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Allison	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Please Save Dillingham Airfield!!!

This airfield is a precious rarity in the world of aviation, supporting a wide variety of activities, from hiking, to providing private flight lessons, gliders, powered hang-glider, and skydiving, all of which fluidly operate out of one airport overlooking the gorgeous and breathtaking North Shore. People from all walks of life have the opportunity to experience the beauty of flight, which supports local businesses, and simultaneously attracts more people and profit to the whole of the North Shore. I have lived and worked at this airfield for over six years, I feel so lucky and honored to be apart of a business that not only witholds a high standard of safety and smooth operations, but to be apart of a community that carries a strong sense of pride and enthusiasm with their work. I myself cannot imagine giving up this treasure of Dillingham Airfield. A place where people can discover their own strengths and capabilities, where fear holds no ruling, showing people the truth of how anything is possible with commitment and passion. Please allow us to continue sharing our passion with the world. The sheer joy and empowerment that one feels after surrendering to the sky is one I believe everyone should experience. Realizing no horizon is too far, and that no challenge too great.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mahalo.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:47:22 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dinah West	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Dinah West and I am currently a first officer for Hawaiian Airlines and I support Senate Bill 1368 to keep Dillingham Airfield in operation. I was born and raised on Oahu and I did my flight training here as well as trained a number of students using the airfields on island, including Dillingham Airfield. General Aviation is not only a key component of the aviation industry, but it's so important for our residents to have something fun to do and access to the jobs the airfield provides. Dillingham in particular is one of the very few accessible airfields in Hawaii with no airline or cargo traffic, making it a safe space for general aviation (especially student pilots, gliders and skydivers) while decreasing excess traffic at the busier airports. Dillingham Airfield means a lot to a lot of people and it would be incredibly disheartening to have such a safe space taken away from us.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:49:27 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan joseph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I see this airfield as an extension of the skydiving community that I know and love. Its one of the things that gives our community so much joy and makes this country and state one of the best to live in. Our activities here bring so much meaning and joy to our lives.

Thabk you,

Ryan Joseph

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:54:12 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dallas bock	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Please save the airfield and keep it open for the public to go skydiving

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:57:22 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alec watkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I travelled to Hawaii for the first time ever for a week and half just so I could go skydiving here. The amount of economic value it brings to the island is unreal. I'm living proof of that

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:00:02 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
aaron ventura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Save the airfield!!!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:00:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Delia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Jeremy Delia, I have been a skydive instructor for pacific skydiving for 7 years now. Dillingham airfield is a place like no other, a place where thousands upon thousands of people's dreams come true. The dream of human flight! I have been fortunate to call Dillingham my home. From working at the drop zone everyday to learning how to fly airplanes there, Dillingham has been a huge part of my life and many others that can't just be taken away. Being able to access the beautiful skies over the north shore from Dillingham is so very important to not just the community but the world. People travel to the island from all over just to experience the thrill of skydiving in the most beautiful of places. Hundreds of people's jobs are at stake if this airfield is closed. It would be a huge hit to the aviation community, especially the gliders. There is no other location on the entire island chain as perfect for glider soaring as to where Dillingham sits. I ask that the state of Hawaii realizes the huge negative impact that closing this airfield will have on the community. Thank you for your time

Aloha,

Jeremy Delia

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:10:29 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin L Van Fleet	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is a staple of civilian aviation in Hawaii, please allow it to remain open for public access!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:11:52 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nelson Strauch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:12:51 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henry Bruckner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kawaihapai Airfield is an irreplaceable aviation asset to the State. There is no alternate location for the glider and sport parachuting anywhere on O'ahu, and people are drawn here from around the world to soar and sky dive. This airfield must be protected.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:18:10 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Isaacson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii depends on aviation for economic health, and the State has done a poor job over the years supporting aviation. Please support this effort to keep Dillingham operating.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:21:31 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt Lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the passing of SB1368 to support general aviation and specifically the sport recreation of soaring at Dillingham airport. Dillingham is a "one-of-a-kind" site in the entire world. It would be a terrible shame to lose.

Thank you,

Curt Lewis

Rockford, IL USA

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:22:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas A. Heffron Neuhold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

My name is Nicholas A. Heffron Neuhold and I am a concerned citizen testifying in support of SB1368. I believe that Dillingham Airfield is critical to our state and must not be closed preemptively.

Throughout my career as a pilot, much of my flying has taken place at Dillingham Airfield. I can confidently say that my career in aviation would not have been so successful without all of the opportunities, experiences, and networking I had there. Due to the unique geographic nature of our state, aviation plays a particularly important role to all of us. Throughout my aviation career here in Hawai'i, I have flown cargo and passengers interisland, performed aerial surveying, flown sight seeing tours in both airplanes and gliders, taught others to fly, and flown countless passengers between our state the rest of the world. There is already a pilot shortage looming, and by closing general aviation airports such as Dillingham where so many pilots grow their careers, we are catalyzing a problem that will negatively affect our state particularly hard.

When reviewing this bill, please consider not only the direct financial impact of the current operation, but the larger systemic impact of closing an airfield that is critical to our next generation of aviation professionals here in Hawai'i.

Very Respectfully,

Nicholas A. Heffron Neuhold

**Testimony of
Michael Ferreira**

Before the Senate Committee on

TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and videoconference

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 368,
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

Dillingham Airfield; Kawaihapai Airfield; Department of Transportation; Lease; U.S. Army; Economic Feasibility Study.

Description: Prohibits the eviction of any tenant of Kawaihapai Airfield from being evicted from the airfield until the expiration the department of transportation's and the U.S. Department of the Army's lease, so long as the tenant remains in good standing. Requires the department of transportation to cooperate with any private entity performing an economic study of Kawaihapai Airfield.

There should be no rush to close an airfield that currently has tenants that make their livelihood in air sports and tourist sky tours. One such glider ride provider has been in place 50 years. These are not businesses that can relocate to any other airfield currently in operation. Because of the imminence that the airport may be closing, a number of former tenants moved out, reducing the revenue for the department of transportation. Those General Aviation users should have priority to relocate back, and on revocable permits until a new manager / operator of the airfield is identified. In fact, there is space there to expand "G.A." activities by expanding the availability of "T" hangars. There is an obligation by the State to the general public to continue to provide services to the public.

A study and a subsequent opening of a lease to the field to the public under the department of transportation to find an airfield operator should be examined so that an operator would be liable to the State to pay rent then to provide t-hangars, tie down plane parking and space for current tenants while collecting revenue that the State may enjoy without the management responsibilities of being a direct landlord.

Limiting and eliminating commerce and cash flow of this enterprise hurts visitor options and revenue for the State of Hawaii. For now, the State needs to put the brakes on closing this airfield until more due process is performed

I , Michael Ferreira, in behalf of airfield tenants strongly supports this Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments / testimony.

Michael Ferreira

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:32:49 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
luca battles	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I both work and skydive at pacific skydiving. I love my job and I love skydiving in arguable one of the most beautiful places in the world. I would be so sad to see our dropzone taken from us and also to see a whole sport/ activity taken from this island.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:34:26 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Battles	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the sport of skydiving. Skydiving has emerged as a major sport and Hawaii is an ideal location for it due to good weather, great scenery and many active sports-enthusiasts. The Dillingham Airfield provides the only venue for skydiving on Oahu. I strongly support the continuation of the right for skydive companies to operate at Dillingham Airfield.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:43:09 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Curt Lewis III	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is a great asset to the State of Hawaii and the world. The field is known by skydivers and glider pilots worldwide as a premier site to visit for tourism and training in a beautiful location, with amazing weather, and rich aviation history dating back to World War II. As one of the busiest airports in Hawaii, HDH provides an oasis away from the congested airspace anywhere else on Oahu and is the perfect location for these activities to exist without burden to airline or other aviation traffic.

I have had the pleasure of visiting HDH from the mainland twice for recreational glider flying, and have been planning a return for a longer stay to combine vacation with more advanced glider training that is not available in very many places - but is currently thriving at Dillingham.

Thank you for reading this, and please do whatever possible to protect and preserve the history and unique opportunities that are so easily accessible at HDH.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:43:22 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Mallard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:43:30 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Blackley	Testifying for North Shore Aviation	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield has provided my livelihood for the past 30 years, as an aircraft mechanic and aviation service provider. I am also an aircraft owner and hope that I will be able to continue in aviation at HDH well into the future. Mahalo for your consideration,

Scott Blackley,

North Shore Aviation Services

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:48:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Naomi Welch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield means a lot to people all over the world, myself included. I did my first tandem skydive at this airfield in Hawaii and I will never forget the feeling of calm I experienced when I was flying in the canopy looking over the channels in the Pacific Ocean. I hope to come back to Hawaii and to jump there again in the future. I urge the state of Hawaii to keep this airfield open. Thanks!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:07 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Sanders	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Our company Paradise Air Hawaii, Inc is a flight school based at Kawapahai Airfield since 2003. We have conducted over 25,000 flights over this time. All with a perfect safety record. Trip Advisor has put us in their Hall of Fame and Awarded us their Traveler's Choice Award for being in the top 10% of all activities in the World.

There is NO location on Oahu that we can move to. We have two hangars at HDH Airfield to handle our customers and our maintenance of our 3 aircraft. Just like the skydiving operations and the glider businesses there is NO location we can move to because of geographic and meteorological requirements and the busy skydiving locations also need a very large customer base.

I have witnessed for nearly 20 years the complete mis-management of HDH Airfield by the DOTA. I have a file full of examples. Just because they do not realize the importance financially and recreationally of this very unique and special airfield does not mean it should be no longer available to the citizens of Hawaii and the World.

There are more than 150 people employed at HDH. There is more than 12 million dollars of revenue generated each year without ANY support by the DOTA or even the Hawaii Tourism entities. We have done this all on our own because we are among the best in the world at what we do and we have one of, if not the BEST location in the world for these aviation activities. All of the companies based at HDH have a terrific safety record. What we need is passionate informed management. What we have is management that has no respect for our important segment of aviation. Skydiving is a legitimate aviation activity as defined by the FAA. There is NO other skydiving operations in the entire State of Hawaii that offer what experienced skydivers need, to enjoy the sport we love. Closing HDH would be exactly like closing ALL the beaches in the state to surfing if you were a surfer. Closing HDH is a ludicrous decision based on ignorant economics alone. Just because the DOTA does not receive all the income generated at HDH does not take away the fact that the State of Hawaii makes a PROFIT at this airfield because it is the location of the two busiest skydiving companies in the world for first time jumpers. The State of Hawaii receives huge amounts of money in the form of GE taxes, landing fees, T-hangar rentals, tie down fees, building fees for the fuel operation and the skydiving buildings. The North Shore, the entire island of Oahu and the entire State of Hawaii benefit from this very valuable and unique resource. It is actually very telling about the current management that they

would even consider such a stupid plan as to give the daytime use of this airport back to the ARMY. Beyond the aviation activities this airfield serves many other useful purposes to the community. Access to the very popular Kealia Trail is inside the airport property. I see the Fire Department using the spacious areas to train personnel on driving the large fire trucks. Local neighbors use it for walks to avoid the dangerous Farrington Highway. The ONLY real bathrooms from Kaena Point to Haleiwa are on the field. These are used by the homeless, by beach goers, by city workers mowing the side of the road. I could write a book on how important HDH is to the community and visitors. Photos and videos from visitors enjoying their aerial adventures at HDH are posted worldwide creating amazing publicity for Oahu. I have seen major film projects for Hawaii Five-0, Lost, The TV show ER, feature film scenes shot on HDH with Adam Sandler etc. Lost stored aircraft and other props on HDH for over 7 years. That money went to the State as did all the location fees from filming projects. Just because the DOTA does not see all the money does not mean the airport is losing money. Every problem I have seen at HDH in nearly 20 years of being a tenant is because we have NEVER had an on-site manager. Why the DOTA thinks this is acceptable again shows how little they know about running an airport that is not full of Gucci stores. We have major successful aviation companies that want to take over the management of HDH. All we need is a little time to finalize the terms between the ARMY, the State of Hawaii and the selected company. We agree the DOTA should NOT be managing HDH. They have proven to be uninterested or unable. If HDH closes, all of the professional skydivers & their families will have to move to the mainland. We have spent our lives becoming the best in the world like a professional surfer. All of the homes we rent or own will be empty. All of the businesses we support will suffer financially when we leave. I have filmed high end skydiving projects for over 40 years. Projects like James Bond movies, Point Break with Patrick Swayze, TV shows like Hawaii Five-0. Without HDH airfield I will have to move to the mainland. It is important to emphasize that the DOTA is either completely clueless or being disingenuous in suggesting we move to another location. THERE IS NO location in the State of Hawaii, not just on Oahu that we can move these very unique businesses to. We need a large customer base, the right weather, airspace that permits skydiving, a ridge facing into the trade winds next to the runway for the glider businesses and in the case of our flight school we cannot even move to Kalealoa because the trade winds tumble over the Waianae mountain range and make the air too turbulent for our very unique light aircraft.

One of the most common ways for a young pilot to gain hours of flight time required for major airlines is flying skydiving planes. I know of 5 skydiving pilots that began at HDH that now fly for our inter-island flights as well as pilots from skydiving companies all over the mainland that have progressed to the major airlines because they got to fly modern skydiving aircraft available at successful skydiving operations like those found at HDH.

On the mainland the ARMY uses civilian skydiving operations to support their training since it is much more cost effective to take up 10 Special Forces members in a smaller civilian aircraft than a military C-17 designed for hundreds of jumpers. This is just ONE missed opportunity at HDH because of the mis-management of the airfield.

I have started two businesses in my lifetime. I am 67 years old, have over 8000 skydives and over 6000 hours as an FAA Certified Flight Instructor. Both of my businesses have been selected in the Hall of Fame of their respective industries. I know good management. We have had NO management at HDH. We need NEW management.

Sincerely,

Tom Sanders

www.tomsandersaerialfocus.com

www.paradiseairhawaii.com

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:12 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eva Knoche	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airfield at Dillingham is such a special an important part of Hawaii and in the world of aviation in general. It would be a tragedy to see the airfield become closed to the public and to see the closure of the businesses that it supports. I have been skydiving at Pacific Skydiving for about a year now. Having been to multiple other drop zones around the country, I can say that Pacific is very special. It is by far the most beautiful place I have ever jumped. To witness Hawaii from the sky is a true honor and privilege that if the airfield were to close, would be something that others would no longer be able to enjoy in the same way. I fully support keeping the airfield open!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding SB 1368, relating to airfields. I am one of many Hawaii pilots belonging to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA). **I am also a voter and constituent as well as a pilot, flight instructor, and volunteer Civil Air Patrol pilot supporting countless state and federal missions.** I share the views of AOPA, the world's largest aviation organization which not only represents myself but the general aviation interests of over 1,000 members in Hawai'i. I join AOPA and strongly support SB 1368, legislation that would prohibit the eviction of any tenant of Kawaihapai Airfield from being evicted from the airfield until the expiration of the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of the Army's lease, so long as the tenant remains in good standing. And would require the Department of Transportation to cooperate with any private entity performing an economic feasibility study of Kawaihapai Airfield.

Kawaihapai airfield provides countless positive community contributions and value to the North Shore and the State of Hawai'i. Kawaihapai Airfield brings over **50,000 visitors from around the world annually** to the airfield and the North Shore, which results in a **direct economic impact of 12.6 million dollars.** Additionally, the airfield is home to 47 based aircraft, **11 airport businesses**, including flight schools, soaring, and skydiving operations, who **employ more than 130 people.** As mentioned in SB 1368, there is a clear economic benefit to the community from keeping Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil use. Preventing the eviction of the tenants of the airfield, who are in good standing until 2024 is the right thing to do, and we commend Senator Riviere for the introduction of SB 1368. Preventing eviction would avoid a massive disruption to the families of the employees, both personally and financially at a time when Hawaiian families can least afford another strain. AOPA also supports section 3 of the bill, which talks about the department of transportation cooperating with an economic feasibility study of the airfield.

As one of only 3 general aviation accessible airports on the island of Oahu, and HNL becoming more limiting to general aviation all the time, we cannot and must not allow this valuable airport asset to go away. It not only provides a direct benefit to the economy of our state and local economy, it is an important airfield that can be and is used in various disaster missions in support of the State of Hawaii as well as an alternative landing strip that not only relieves traffic at HNL (Daniel K Inouye) and JRF (Kalaeloa/John Rodgers-Barbers Point) but can be used as an alternative landing strip and staging area for many search/relief operations.

I strongly urge the committee to pass SB 1368 and support keeping Kawaihapai Airfield (Dillingham Airport) open as a thriving community asset and home to many businesses important to our local and state economy overall.

And as a side note, remember we are on an island, our home is a group of islands. We cannot jump into our cars and drive to Maui or Kauai. We need to save this vital part of our infrastructure.

Robert J Becka
1511 Nuuanu Ave Unit 179
Honolulu HI 96817-3710
808-265-5832
bobbecka@gmail.com

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:31 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Geoghegan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield. It is so many things for so many different people. It's a home to some. An income for so many others. But not just that, it's a haven, a community, for locals and residents. It brings so many people together in these dark times, it's unfathomable to think about losing it. It does so much good for the community, financially and emotionally, and it's wrong to evict the tenants in this way. You're not just taking an airfield away by evicting them, you're taking a precious community away from hundreds of people who love this island and give back to it through Dillingham. Don't evict them!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:47 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ivy Kwon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:53:54 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marcus Auge	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha and Good Morning,

I'm submitting my testimony in support of SB 1368, I'm an avid recreational skydiver as well as a parachute rigger in the military stationed here on Oahu. I support SB 1368 for a number of reasons, the first being that Dillingham airfield supports well over one hundred jobs to people in the community. If it were to be shut down those people would lose their source of income and more than likely be forced to leave their homes and lives in Hawaii. There is also a wonderful civil aviation community based there which provides flight training for local youth who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford it, along with it being the only glider port in Hawaii from my understanding. It's also home to two of the most world renowned skydiving drop zones, which bring tourists from all over the globe to come experience this truly unique atmosphere. Which obviously brings tax dollars here to Hawaii and also helps support the local economy, which would be a deadly blow if lost during this terrible time of uncertainty. One aspect I haven't seen mentioned which is unique to military parachutists here is that it's a way for us to remain proficient and current in a safe environment. Often because of the unpredictable weather here in Hawaii many of our jump operations get cancelled. I not only skydive on my own time because I enjoy it, but also because it helps me maintain proficiency as a military parachutist. If we lost dillingham airfield I and other military parachutists I know wouldn't be able to do this, which could result in us not being as safe as possible during our regular duties. Please consider passing this bill, it would be a life line to many members of your community and would help support the economy of the North shore.

Mahalo for your time.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:54:46 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rami Kayali	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield. Support general aviation. Please keep Dillingham open to civil access!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:55:17 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ross Clements	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield has historical value, as well as value to the local, and international population. Tourists often take glider rides out of the airfield, which means they also contribute to the local economy. Since it is the only public airfield on the northern half of Oahu, it sees use from various organizations and private citizens, both for recreation and learning, and important work (such as search and rescue) through the Civil Air Patrol.

Dillingham deserves to remain open to the public to promote the many facets of aviation, as well as to help contribute to the local economy and the enjoyment of its citizens.

Respectfully,

Ross Clements

rosstheboss1@gmail.com

717-420-0497

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:56:17 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Morgen Jackson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB1368. Kawaihapai Airfield is an important asset to the island of Oahu. I have personally flown over 500 hours above this airfield and have over 1500 landings as a skydive pilot. This airfield was crucial in the early part of my aviation career as I built the time necessary to qualify for my current position as a professional medevac pilot in Hawaii. I now run a flight school and our students regularly fly and train at Kawaihapai Airfield. There are too many jobs and too much economic support provided by the airfield to allow it to close. They simply aren't making new airports anymore and to allow one to close on an island is unthinkable. Thank you for your support of the Kawaihapai Airfield!

Morgen Jackson

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:57:06 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Dugan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To say that this airfield is one of a kind would be a drastic understatement.

Most of us have worked for many years just to gain the experience required to be part of this place. In doing so, we have memories and stories of other places that do not compare. Like so many in the past, Dillingham has given me a place to call home. It would be an absolute tragedy if others were not able to do the same in the future.

I believe that people should know the beauty and wonder of this particular spot on our planet. Isolated and far from the nonsense of day to day life, Dillingham is special. And it should be treated as such. Letting it fall would change many lives and stop many lives from being changed.

-Aaron Nickolas Dugan

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 10:57:11 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a lifelong Hawaii resident and professional pilot, I strongly support this bill.

I've been flying at Dillingham Airfield ever since I was a child. As a graduate of Mililani High School, I spent many long afternoons after school learning how to fly gliders.

I later became a pilot for Hawaiian Airlines, and I have Dillingham to thank for my professional development.

Dillingham is one of the last airports in the United States – and certainly the only in Hawaii – where a true local aviation community exists. This airfield was a cornerstone in the development of many young aviators in Hawaii, and I hope to see that tradition continue.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:01:15 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jasmine Garcia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep it open!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:03:26 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Pahia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Skydiving has given me so many good friends and family in the sport. The sport is filled with a community of fun and caring people that depend on the airfield to support their families. Furthermore the visitors that the airfield attracts make a economic contribution to the Nort Shore businesses.

Please keep Dillingham open!

Thank you,

David Pahia

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:06:03 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Thomas Townley-Wren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Hawai'i based pilot who makes over \$300,000 a year and pays large amounts of taxes to the state of Hawaii. I learned to fly at Dillingham Airfield and it is a MAJOR part of my life and the lives of hundreds like me. Even though Hawai'i has been my home for 24 years, the closing of HDH as a civil airport will force me to move to the mainland. I am not alone. The damage caused by this expensive and wreckless closure by DOTAH will devastate the economy of the North Shore of Oahu and the state as a whole. I beg you to immediately take any and all measures to STOP DOTAH from perusing this action. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:07:05 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dilnoza bobokaonova	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am wholeheartedly supporting this airfield and it staying opened! Becoming a skydiver and jumping here has changed my life and my friends and I are moving to Hawaii just to be able to progress ourselves as skydivers at this airfield. It getting shut down would shatter not only my dreams, but also many of the people I know. Jumping over the island inspires all of us to get better at what we do as skydivers and flyers, especially for females in this sport. Please keep it opened. Save not just the field, but the dreams of the people whose love for life and experiences depends on it.

Warm regards,

Dilnoza

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:07:50 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shana Gerald	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep the airfield open!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:09:58 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Beauvais	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please help keep this airfield open. Many people make their living there (myself included). It is the most beautiful place in America to go or learn to fly, skydive, power hang glide etc... Much business is brought to the north shore of Oahu because of the operations at Dillingham. It would be a tragedy to the economy of the north shore businesses. I urge you to keep it open!

sincerely,

Richard A Beauvais

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:15:20 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elaine Girardi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of closing the airfield. It is a place that brings value to our community. We should keep this open for all uses, especially recreational.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:20:58 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Edgerton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airport is a valued resource to pilot training. It allows students to learn procedures related to operations at uncontrolled airports. Without Dillingham, Lanai is the closest such airport.

the skydiving operations are an important source of entertainment for both residents and tourists. Such operations are not allowed at DK1 or Karelia Airports. Those operations provide direct employment to 30 to 40 people and indirectly to many more.

The DOT Airports claims it loses money. Such losses if they exist are not related to airport operations but unrelated factors.

Please enact legislation to prevent closure of the airport for the duration of the Army lease and seek ways to improve the airport's potential.

thank you.

Donald Edgerton

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:21:01 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Bacastow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I've been coming to Oahu from California for the last few years to skydive in Oahu.

This small airport brings a lot of people to the island. I'm hoping those in charge will protect this airport and all the small businesses that operate at the airport. It is a very unique and beautiful airport. I really love Dillingham airport and hope to be able to continue visiting.

Sincerely,

Robert Bacastow

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:21:40 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
W. Richard Abelman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a resident of Oahu and have been pursuing flight instruction for about 9 months. I fly around our islands 3-5 days per week, and often fly near or around Dillingham Airfield. I support SB 1368 because it provides an essential service to those learning to fly due to the operations available at the airfield. In addition, I have heard from a number of people who are drawn by the skydiving and glider operations out of Dillingham, which are known to be among the most unique and beautiful in the world. I understand the difficulty of financial supporting something that requires funding from our limited resources. However, I feel that there may be other ways to save that don't eliminate this unique resource from our islands.

Thank you for your consideration.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:25:30 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Save Dilligham Air Field! It is vital for general aviation and the aviation community.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:33:48 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacob Malach	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham airfield, please keep it opne to civilian access. It is home of the most beautiful places in the world to skydive and fly. Would be an aboslute shame to the aviation community globally if it was taken away.

Thank you

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:35:54 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Willems	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern

Please keep Dillingham open to civil access. Visitors from all over the world travel to Oahu for the primary purpose of flying at Dillingham Airport. I am one of those visitors. It is clear that closing Dillingham Airport would have major economic consequences, reaching much beyond the companies based at the airport.

Kind regards,
WILLEMS Tom, PhD

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:37:02 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joe Head	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

We need to save the airfield. If we get rid of it, it will do unreverseable damage to the North Shore and all of Oahu!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:40:24 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heath Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support for the skydiving community!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:41:24 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nash Witten	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly SUPPORT allowing tenants in good standing at the Kawaihapai Airfield to remain in place until the end of the Department of Transportation's lease on July 5, 2024. The airfield provides an excellent venue for diversifying the workforce of the North Shore and allowing for additional time to perform an economic feasibility study is needed.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:41:28 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gabrielle Quatse	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please allow civil access for recreation on Dillingham Airfield. I first visited during a tandem skydive in [May 18](#). It inspired me to immediately begin skydiving for sport which I still down now at Dillingham. As an Army Veteran Blackhawk Pilot, I seek adventure. Skydiving has led me to adventure, fun, and family. I also fly fixed wing planes and often fly out of or land at Dillingham. I still have dreams to go for a glider flight, something I haven't done since I was 13 and honestly inspired my flying career. Please support Resolution 21-7 for people like me and everyone who has a home at Dillingham.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:41:43 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jacob Hanna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jacob Hanna. I am a captain at a local airline, a skydive pilot, and an aviation activist. On behalf of my self and the many other aviators, skydivers, business owners, tourists, and family members that use this airfield, I humbly ask that you reconsider the closure of Dillingham Airfield. This small peice of concrete and grass holds so many special memories and once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for millions of people on this island, as well as our visitors.

If not for the emotional appeal, think about the revenue generated by this airfield. Millions of dollars a year are created by Dillingham's tenants, either directly through use of the airfield, or indirectly through tourists visiting the airfield and surrounding business who otherwise may not have come up to the North Shore otherwise.

Dillingham is the only place in the entire state of Hawai'i where large scale commercial skydiving and glider operations can take place, and it is a perfect environment for flight instruction; especially when compared to HNL or Kalealoa airports.

Aviation careers and life long passions are born at airports like Dillingham, and when they close... they are gone for good. Please help us to keep that dream alive for our posterity. It is my firm belief that the closure of Dillingham Airfield would not only put 130+ people out of work in an already difficult time, it would cause their families to struggle, it would deprive future generations affordable access to the wonderful gift that is aviation, and would cause irreparable damage the relationship of North Shore residents with the state's leadership. I see no upside to closing this airfield.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Jacob Hanna

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:44:25 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darian Gill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is absolutely vital that public access be maintained to Kawaihapai, not only because of it's unique businesses oportunities and pilot education programs, but also because of the myriad hiking and biking trails which start on its grounds. Kawaihapai is a rare opening in a chain of "No Trespassing, Private Property" signs which border most of the mauka side of Farrington Highway, and without it access to cultural and environmental resources of incalculable value would be lost.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:45:41 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Gullaude	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

I have relocated my business from California in 2018. Being able to skydive at Pacific Skydiving is essential to my operation as it allows me to test equipment and create promotional material for clients to be used in world wide social media influencing strategies. This also promotes the state of Hawaii as a whole as a unique tourism destination.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:47:56 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Ozbolt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a general aviation pilot living in Hawaii and a Civil Air Patrol pilot, I am in support of Senate Bill 1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Dillingham Field provide services that are crucial to general aviation and as such, they should not be evicted. Furthermore, the field should be preserved and protected so as to continue to be available for these important services and those who provide them so that it can continue to thrive. Thank you for hearing SB1368 and my testimony. Please pass SB1368. Sincerely,

Jason Ozbolt

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:54:40 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield makes memories for a lifetime for residents and tourists. It inspires Hawaii's keki and introduces aviation in a safe atmosphere and in a fun and unique location. It also provides a perfect avenue for aspiring aviators to learn and further their aviation careers or for retirees to gather and pass on priceless hard earned knowledge to the next generation of budding aviators.

There is no place else like Dillingham Airfield in the world and Hawaii owes it to the community and to the world to keep it alive.

Mahalo,

Robert C. Johnson

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:56:51 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Pateman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am nurse that uses this airfield for flight training, as well as skydiving. This is such a vital part of my life as well as my community. Please keep this airfield open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:57:29 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nate leclair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please consider upholding the terms of the original contract. Access to Kawaihapai Airfield is a necessary to keep North Shore community members thriving in their careers. It's the only airfield we can continue to operate at, and we're willing to do whatever it takes to keep commerical tenants operational at Kawaihapai. DOT Airports Division owes us the oportunity to end the contract under the terms written. I'm confident we can find a solution for alternative ownership if we have access to the airfield through 2024. Terminating the contract early would be a nail in the coffin for access to private airports on Oahu.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:01:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George McPheeters	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I was born in Honolulu and have been here for virtually my entire life. I have owned aircraft housed at HDH for most of my life, and still do. Kawaihapai is an irreplaceable resource for instruction, recreation and safety. I strongly support this bill for many reasons, not the least of which is that the original declaration of cancellation and now the pandemic have made alternative solutions very difficult. Countless disadvantaged youth and others have learned to fly at HDH. Many people support themselves and their families through the airfield. If closed, a remarkable asset will be lost. Abiding by the terms of the contract will allow aviation to continue while a permanent solution is crafted. Thank you.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:05:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
RJ Ritter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is one of the premier locations for glider operations and jumping operations.

I have been involved with AcroFlight International Glider school both as a student and a facilitator/sponsor since 2010. Acroflight provides excellent pilot training for kids and adults as well as glider rides for tourists and are an integral part of the community. In past years they sponsored Young Eagles programs in association with the Boy Scouts of America and on the first Saturday of the month would have 10-15 kids on site to get ground school training and then participate in flights with local pilot instructors, in their own planes. This is invaluable life skills training with many of these kids moving on to aviation careers.

In addition to the gliding experience, I have two jumps with Pacific Sky Diving Hawaii. It is a thrilling experience and literally the best place on the planet for jumping with the most sky dives per year of any individual jumping location in America.

Dillingham Airfield generates about \$12M per year for the local community and employs about 130 people.

I feel strongly that the airfield is an integral part of the community, provides locals and visitors one of the best experiences in the world for gliding and jumping and needs to remain accessible and functional.

RJ Ritter

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:06:08 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Malpass	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is critical to general aviation and tourism. It is essential that the current tenants in good standing are allowed to remain to utilize the airfield. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Chris Malpass

Pilot

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:07:27 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lore Pateman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please don't close Dillingham Airport. It is the only airport in Hawaii for skydiving.

Skydiving in Hawaii is beyond compare!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:08:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
eric welton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am an amputee who started skydiving in 2008 shortly after moving here. Skydiving gave me a reason to live. I was severely depressed and it was only when I began skydiving, and being involved in that community that I was able to have mental stability. It gave me an outlet for my negative feelings thru physical stimulation. The skydiving community is also very accepting of people who are physically disfigured like me, and supportive of my desire to return to a normal life style, even if I look different than all others.

i also have started the process of getting my private pilot's license at dillingham. If dillingham is closed, the convenience of being able to learn there will be a huge barrier to completion of my license.

I also have been able to get back into hiking using the trails behind the airport. If the airport is closed, there are no other hikes near my house and my physical fitness will begin to slip.

Dillingham generates probably close to 50 million dollars in tax revenue each year, and there is no way losing that income will be good for the state of hawaii. The state, and securitas have been mis-managing the airport for decades. Get them out of there, but don't deny the poeple of Hawaii access to the only general aviation airfield on the north shore. Don't make the people of hawaii suffer because of poor execution of management.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:12:29 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Johnson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield makes memories for a lifetime for residents and tourists. It inspires Hawaii's keki and introduces aviation in a safe atmosphere and in a fun and unique location. It also provides a perfect avenue for aspiring aviators to learn and further their aviation careers or for retirees to gather and pass on priceless hard earned knowledge to the next generation of budding aviators.

There is no place else like Dillingham Airfield in the world and Hawaii owes it to the community and to the world to keep it alive.

Mahalo,

Robert C. Johnson

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:16:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Lewis Thompson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding SB 1368, relating to airfields. I am one of many Hawaii pilots belonging to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA). I am also a voter and constituent as well as a pilot, flight instructor, and volunteer Civil Air Patrol pilot supporting countless state and federal missions. I share the views of AOPA, the world's largest aviation organization which not only represents myself but the general aviation interests of over 1,000 members in Hawai'i. I join AOPA and strongly support SB 1368, legislation that would prohibit the eviction of any tenant of Kawaihapai Airfield from being evicted from the airfield until the expiration of the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of the Army's lease, so long as the tenant remains in good standing. And would require the Department of Transportation to cooperate with any private entity performing an economic feasibility study of Kawaihapai Airfield.

Kawaihapai airfield provides countless positive community contributions and value to the North Shore and the State of Hawai'i. Kawaihapai Airfield brings over 50,000 visitors from around the world annually to the airfield and the North Shore, which results in a direct economic impact of 12.6 million dollars. Additionally, the airfield is home to 47 based aircraft, 11 airport businesses, including flight schools, soaring, and skydiving operations, who employ more than 130 people. As mentioned in SB 1368, there is a clear economic benefit to the community from keeping Kawaihapai Airfield open to civil use. Preventing the eviction of the tenants of the airfield, who are in good standing until 2024 is the right thing to do, and we commend Senator Riviere for the introduction of SB 1368. Preventing eviction would avoid a massive disruption to the families of the employees, both personally and financially at a time when Hawaiian families can least afford another strain. AOPA also supports section 3 of the bill, which talks about the department of transportation cooperating with an economic feasibility study of the airfield.

As one of only 3 general aviation accessible airports on the island of Oahu, and HNL becoming more limiting to general aviation all the time, we cannot and must not allow this valuable airport asset to go away. It not only provides a direct benefit to the economy of our state and local economy, it is an important airfield that can be and is used in various disaster missions in support of the State of Hawaii as well as an alternative landing strip that not only relieves traffic at HNL (Daniel K Inouye) and JRF (Kalaeloa/John Rodgers-Barbers Point) but can be used as an alternative landing strip and staging area for many search/relief operations.

I strongly urge the committee to pass SB 1368 and support keeping Kawaihapai Airfield (Dillingham Airport) open as a thriving community asset and home to many businesses important to our local and state economy overall.

And as a side note, remember we are on an island, our home is a group of islands. We cannot jump into our cars and drive to Maui or Kauai. We need to save this vital part of our infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Robert Lewis Thompson

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:18:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hugh Tillman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of allowing Dillingham Airfield to continue its lease through 2024.

The stated mission of the Airports Division Administrator (from their website) says in part: "**Encourages, fosters and assists in the development of aeronautics in the State of Hawaii.**"

As a former Marine, local Hawaii Flight Instructor, and tax payer in the State of Hawaii, I respectfully ask you to give the Administrator time to do his job. My understanding is the property isn't owned by the DOT like other airports in the State, but the DOT signed a lease, made a written promise and from that, people made decisions, they made promises to their families, to their lenders, and to the community. It's how our country works, and works well when people keep their promises. My understanding is there may be others willing to take over the lease. This should be explored. I also understand there may be fines to be paid if the DOT backs out of their promise. This is a further waste of taxpayers' support and money, especially when there are other solutions.

I understand there are challenges to solve. They may be difficult, require thought, and compromise. But that's why the DOT is paid by the taxpayer. If it were easy, we'd let anyone do the job. The Administrator signed up for the position, he voluntarily accepted the terms of employment, now I ask you hold him accountable and hold up his end of the bargain and develop a solution to the issues surrounding Dillingham. The good news is he's not alone in this endeavor. The Dillingham Community, AOPA, and others will help him. I personally offer my services free of charge to assist him in anyway I can to solve these issues. I'm a former Marine who has spent a life time completing missions and quite frankly, this one seems easy. It will involve dedication, time, effort, and "stubby pencil work", but I'm here to help.

Why? It's important. I've read that the airport generates well beyond what it costs to operate. It provides for families, it provides income from tourism, it "**Encourages, fosters and assists in the development of aeronautics in the State of Hawaii**".

As a pilot, I personally have spent time and money training myself and training others at Dillingham since 1991. In part the training I've received and given there has allowed me to remain in Hawaii as a tax paying citizen. All be it a small part but a critical part. As a

single individual I estimate I have given back to the State of Hawaii in excess of \$100,000 in various taxes, in part due to what Dillingham provided me. There must be others with similar situations.

I respectfully ask this bill pass in order to allow the DOT time to do their job.

Semper Fidelis,

Hugh V. Tillman

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:19:09 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Pateman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield. Please keep it open to civil access.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:19:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Aquino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield is very important to me and my friends. I can't imagine this place not being available anymore and would be a devastating loss to the area. Please keep the airfield open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:20:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane VanSlyke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Oahu, I have spent a lot of time at Dillingham Airfield. I have lived at 68-615 Farrington Highway in Mokuleia for 30years. Although I am not a pilot, I have been able to witness and partake in many activities there such as hiking, biking, star gazing and glider rides. It is truly a treasure of the North Shore and provides much needed income to many who are employed there. During this time of economic hardship, closing these businesses would surely add undo stress and hardship.

The North Shore community needs Dillingham Airfield to remain OPEN! Thank you

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:21:23 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Payden Mendenhall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This airfield is amazing. I had the opportunity to skydive here and wish to do it again and take my children when they are old enough! PLEASE KEEP IT!!!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:28:09 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Carey	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Dillingham field is an absolute treasure not only to the community, but the nation. It is in everyone's best interest to keep airfields like Dillingham open. It's easy to look at dollar signs and developers with tempting deals, but when an airfield closes - as so many do increasingly more each day - they never open back up. There's no alternative. General aviation airports are public access points, paid by the public's tax dollars, small aircraft and helicopters can come in and out without interfering with a main transportation hub like Honolulu. General aviation airports do what main hubs cannot: 1) Community. Our aviation world is a small one. We have a unique model from the rest of the entire world, and it allows for anyone, rich or poor to get into aviation and use our skies that are publically supported through our tax dollars on aviation fuel. Large airports have more costs associated with running them, so for small aircraft to use that airport it comes in the forms of fees that most pilots can't afford. General aviation isn't only full of rich people, I came from a lower-middle class family and worked many jobs to get my license to fly. I'm a stay-at-home mom and I love to fly as a hobby. But when I fly, I bring my husband and two kids, and that's revenue for the airport when I fill up the gas tank, when I tie down the plane overnight, when I book a local room to stay in and when we eat in the restaurants and go to shows. 2) Skydiving and recreation, including tours without having to squeeze them between airliners that have specific, approved routes. The kind of serenity there is when you're skydiving at a small airport - which you cannot do at a busy commercial airport. 3) In the case of an emergency, general aviation airports like Dillingham can become hubs of extraction, and goods delivery. We never want emergencies to happen, but in the case they do - you're going to want options. You only need to look at other emergencies to see what kind of essential support local airports are able to offer. 4) Our future lies in small general aviation airports. To inspire the next generation, we need to introduce them to the thrill of flying. There's a certain magic about going to your local, calm airport and getting into a plane, taking off without jetliner delay, and soaring into the sky like you're the only one alive. We don't get much busy-ness sanctuaries. Parks are often overrun with increasingly obnoxious people, playing loud music on the bluetooth speakers or having dogs off-leash, which disturb flora and fauna alike. In a plane, you're truly alone, and free. Skydiving, you're alone and taking up some much-needed soul decompression. Tours, it's you and your family or friends going to see something spectacular. Please, for the love of anything you hold dear, keep our airports open. Keep Dillingham open. Thank you.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:28:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsea Ecat	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Senators

Thank you for allowing me to add my testimony in favor of SB1368.

I am an enlisted member of Hawaii Air National Guard as an aircraft maintainer. Being a young female aviation enthusiast, I believe this airport to be an asset to future aviators, the residents and visitors of Oahu, and The City and County of Honolulu.

The Kawaihapai (Dillingham) airport stands unique from other airports because it is the only Gliderport in Hawai'i and a destination parachute drop zone. It provides education opportunities for our youth involved in the Civil Air Patrol and Young Eagles.

Please vote in favor of this bill to restrict evictions from the airport of tenants that remain in good standings until the current lease expires July 5, 2024 or until a long term solution for the continuing operation of the airfield can be reached.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chelsea Ecat

Honolulu

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:29:13 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kendyl Mendenhall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep the airfield. I have multiple friends who work there and have skydived there. It is an amazing place and will go there to skydive soon!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:34:10 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley Van Horn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB1368. I have worked and lived across the street from Dillingham (Kawaihapai) Airfield for the past 9 years and my entire household's income is dependent upon working at the airfield. This past year has been challenging for everyone but having the imminent airfield closure over our heads has been especially disparaging in tough times. Our jobs are highly specialized and there is not another place in the state where we would be able to find work.

I appreciate that we have state legislators who work to support the rights and liberties of their constituents. I am grateful that they have been working diligently to find a solution that will potentially help so many of us and I hope that their work is not in vain.

Please pass this bill and help to give us a glimmer of hope in an otherwise chaotic and uncertain world.

Thank you for your time.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:45:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vera Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please do not shut down Dillingham Airfield.

it is a valuable addition to our exciting north shore. Tourists and locals alike take advantage of the exciting opportunity to skydive and ride in gliders and biplanes.

it is also an excellent place to learn to fly.

My children and I have personally enjoyed the facilities, skydiving, and rides in glider planes and biplanes.

I also was grateful for the chance to take portraits of WASPs (Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII) beside an AT-6 at Dillingham Airfield. The photographs are in my book about these women.

Please save Dillingham Airfield.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:48:23 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ken Rasti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I, Ken Rasti, a University Professor in Hawaii, would like to submit my testimony to request to keep the Dillingham Airfield ope. Mahalo for your time and consideration,

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:54:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
brian cork	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB1368. I have earned my living to support my family by means of working at Dillingham (Kawaihapai) Airfield for the past 9 years. To lose the opportunity to use my highly specialized and specific skill set to earn my living at this airfield would be devastating, as there are no other options within the state. The reality of the imminent airfield closure compounds an already incredibly difficult pandemic year for many of us.

Please pass this bill and help us work toward a viable solution that supports the local community as well as civil aviation as a whole.

Thank you for your time.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:56:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Dowis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is the reason I moved to Hawaii in February 2015. It changed my life for the better. It even allowed me to get my sister a job there for her to move to Hawaii. Please keep Dillingham open to the public!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:01:30 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Spicer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support maintaining public access to Dillingham for general aviation. My wife and I vacation in Hawaii an average of once per year. I could not image our trips without skydives on the north shore of Oahu. Even if we are visiting another island, we usually bring our skydiving gear and make a stop at Dillingham. Usually we stay on Oahu, often on the north shore. Please keep Dillingham open for everyone that uses and relies on that airport.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:04:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
charlotte scherer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I really love dillingham airfield! Please keep it open to civil access. ðŸ•

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:06:30 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Wolfers	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of the North Shore in Waialua and because I work at the airfield, I see first hand the positive economic impact of the airfield remaining open to the public. We need to ensure continued access for the future.

Please save our airfield!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:08:15 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan J Fumia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep Dillingham Airfield open to the public! Maintain the livelihoods of many who work and operate here.

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

I am an Air Traffic Controller at Daniel K Inouye International Airport (HNL) and a private pilot.

I currently fly general aviation aircraft and participate in skydive operations at Dillingham (Kawaihapai) (HDH) Airfield.

This airport is an invaluable asset to the residents of Oahu, The City and County of Honolulu as well as to the visitors to our island home. As is noted in the bill HDH is the only Gliderport in Hawai'i. A premier parachute drop zone. The only general aviation airport on Oahu removed from the complex airspace associated with HNL and JRF. As such a perfect place for student pilots to gain their initial experience. Community organizations such as the Young Eagles and the Civil Air Patrol provide valuable opportunities for Oahu youth.

The business operators provide both jobs and revenue for the city. Additionally, Airports such as this, play a vital roll in civil defense, supporting our communities during times of natural disasters.

Please vote in favor of this bill to restrict evictions from the airport of tenants that remain in good standing, at least until the current lease expires with the hope that a long term solution for the continuing operation of the airfield can be reached.

Thank You for your support.

Michael Charlston

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:13:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Catherine Smith	Testifying for Skydiver	Support	No

Comments:

I want to be able to skydive in Hawaii!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:17:02 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iain Jensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of saving Dillingham Airfield

I am a citizen of Hawaii and believe the DOT has not completely performed its research in assessing the role of the airfield in the local north shore community and economy

Thousands of tourists are attracted every year to jump at the drop zones there which benefits the local businesses on the North Shore. Many people who live locally learned to fly at this airport, both gliders and regular airplanes. Many people have enjoyed their first skydiving experience. The thousands of pictures which are taken of people in the air are shared around the world. The drop zones which operate from the airfield have been there for 30 years

To me I was an instructor at Skydive Pacific before the COVID restrictions, Skydiving in Hawaii has always represented a pinnacle of the sport and a great privilege to be able to work there. Between the operations they have employed thousands of people over the years who also contribute to the local economy

I hope the airport is allowed to continue operating

Mahalo

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:18:41 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Cherteiny	Testifying for save dillingham	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Ian cherteiny,

I support SB1368. Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:19:19 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor Suvorov	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a citizen of Hawaii, and I think the DOT has not done sufficient research to understand the full detrimental effect to the the North Shore economy. Delingham air field is a vital part of the North Shore economy. I have been working at the airfield field for almost 8 years providing income for myself, my family, and the Department of Taxation of the State of Hawaii. The field closure will mean not having a job anymore, which brings a lot of hardship in my life. I am SUPPORTING the measure SB1368.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:19:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
samir esposito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a citizen of Hawaii, I believe the DOT has not done its research regarding this matter. Dillingham is a vital part of the North Shore economy and its closure would be detrimental to the community. I work at Pacific Skydiving and the closure would effect my job and the community that I am a part of.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:22:42 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristi Halcomb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love that Dillingham is open to the public and believe it should stay open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:25:25 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Hanson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is incredibly important to the community and should remain open. This also continues to give Active Duty Service Members the opportunity to continue practicing and enhancing their Free Fall skills, a very important step in safety for the military as we continue to stay on Jump Status.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:28:28 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jenna chiaradio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is a sacred place for skydivers around the world to visit and call home. It brings community, tourism, and passion to the north shore. I was lucky enough to call this place home and join a community of people that love and respect the land, sea, air, and others around them. We need this place to survive, because if it survives.. we survive, our community survives, and North Shore thrives. Please consider the pure joy of the people who make a living and those that visit when they come to Dillingham airfield to enjoy a skydive. It may not mean anything for you, but to us it is everything.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:29:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Gesch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Kawaihapai Airport/Dillingham Airfield is a tremendous resource for the state of Hawaii, offering a wide variety of activities for both residents of and visitors to the island. It is a unique and valuable place, offering a home for activities like skydiving, gliding, and flight training plus being an emergency response access point. The skydiving and gliding at Kawaihapai Airport is known around the world and is a destination for Hawaiians, other US citizens, and international visitors. The airfield supports over 130 jobs and gives back to the community with public space for hiking and biking, plus events and taxes paid. Airports with such unique features can grow their positive impact on the community with the support of the government and residents and can be truly symbiotic entities. However, airports, like other public infrastructure, need long-term vision and support to succeed. Investment by residents and businesses cannot and will not occur if there is not stability in leases and planning, and if individuals and businesses cannot count on the ability to operate from the airfield for the foreseeable future. These actions discourage investment by both individuals and businesses alike and threaten the jobs and economic impact the airport provides. Please invest in the future of this Hawaiian jewel by supporting its long-term health and growth.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:40:48 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Richards	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a skydiver and skydived at Dillingham in 2019. I came to Hawaii just to jump at this airport. I plan on coming back and spending more tourism dollars if this dropzone and airport is kept open.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:42:37 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Willson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony for SB1368

Supporting general aviation and public use of Dillingham Airport.

The State DoT intends to terminate its long-term lease to operate a portion of Dillingham Airfield (HDH) for general aviation purposes.

This is really short sighted, and NOT in the best interest of the state or its citizens. The lease expires in 2024, and that remaining period should be used to negotiate a better lease / sharing agreement.

(1.) Dillingham Airfield (HDH) is a vital and irreplaceable community resource. Failure to maintain an agreement to operate HDH as a general aviation Airport will cause permanent and irreparable harm to general aviation, pilot training, glider operations, skydiving, and other Air Sports on Oahu. Most existing tenants (150 businesses I am told) and operations will NOT be able to relocate to another location, and will NOT survive.

(2.) HDH is the closest thing in the state to a real Air Sports Park, a phenomenally valuable asset to the state and a major tourism enhancer.

(3.) The cost to create a similar facility at Barbers Point or other area would be cost-prohibitive, but Dillingham Airfield is already built, operational, and operating efficiently and cost-effectively (but suffering due to covid-19 restrictions).

(4.) A wide spectrum of various businesses operating out of Dillingham Airfield are significant contributors to the Island economy with a huge multiplier effect for Island tourism. These activities provide jobs, and a spectacular destination for adventure-seeking tourists.

(5.) These air sports activities provide an extremely valuable alternative to water sports, nature, and hiking destinations. Tourists commonly extend their stays in order to participate in these activities.

(6.) Dillingham Airport has a 9,000-foot long runway, and is a superb place for pilot training, allowing repetitive touch-and-go landings while avoiding dangerous airspace and runway conflicts with major passenger airline operations at HNL International Airport. (Large and heavy commuter aircraft produce massive wake turbulence, which is extremely dangerous for small aircraft, while slow-moving small aircraft present a significant hazard interfering with efficient operations of large passenger aircraft and the air traffic control operations of this major international hub airport.)

(7.) The US will also soon face a critical shortage of airline pilots (a forecast shortage of 27,000 professional pilots by late 2021, and 260,000 new pilots over the next decade to accommodate civil aviation requirements*), this airport is an extremely important pilot training site for anyone desiring pilot education within the State of Hawaii. As a state where almost all Interstate travel takes place by air, this should be of significant concern to the State. [*â€• see <http://www.flyingmag.com/story/careers/2020-2029-cae-pilot-demand-outlook/>]

(8.) Dillingham Airport is (by FAR) the best place on Oahu for glider operations, which require a nearby ridge to create wind lift. This is also a fantastic experience for tourists, providing them the chance to enjoy the Kaena Point scenery without harm to the Shoreline area or disrupting nesting birds or seals, while enjoying a thrilling non-powered flight. For many people, this is the absolute highlight of their vacation on Oahu.

Closure of Dillingham airport for general aviation means glider operations on Oahu will likely cease, probably on a permanent basis.

(8.) Dillingham Airport is a world-class skydiving destination of breathtaking beauty, and absolutely the best spot on the island for skydiving operations, since it is safely removed from potential airspace conflicts with commercial passenger operations, which are SIGNIFICANTLY more complex because of the vertical airspace clearance required for skydiving, and lateral movement of high performance parafoil-type (i.e. - flying) parachutes. While this is a real peak experience for adventurous tourists and residents alike, these operations are unlikely to find a safe alternative location on Oahu.

I (and many of my friends) have brought visitors to the state and taken them to Dillingham airport for glider rides, skydives, and/or powered aircraft flight or instruction. In most instances (on or after departure), they've told us that that aspect of their Hawaii vacation was the highlight of their trip. In numerous instances, that is what brought them back for a second vacation on Oahu.

Dillingham Airport is one of the jewels in the State Crown. PLEASE DO WHATEVER IS REQUIRED to keep it in general aviation use under State HDOTA supervision.

Do not let this thriving tourist & local air sports destination t recreation site become unavailable to the public. This would squander a spectacularly valuable community resource that has taken 50 years to develop and mature. This would be tragic for the community, for Oahu tourism, for the state economy, and for tax receipts.

C. E. Willson
FAA Airman Cert. 2109668

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:43:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
daniela devitt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Public access to Dillingham Airfield should be maintained at least until the end of the lease.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:46:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Andy Stroble	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a board member of the Hawaiian Astronomical Society, an non-profit educational organization of amateur astronomers, that utilizes Kawaihapai/Dillingham Airfield as a "dark site" for the conducting of observing sessions, which we share with the public.

The loss of access to the Airfield would be very deletrious to our educational mission, as most of Oahu is subject to large amount of light-pollution, and it would be difficult to locate an alternative site.

For this reason, I support SB1368.

Sincerely,

James Andy Stroble, PhD

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:47:14 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joseph williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Filling ham is home to the best skydiving in the world as well as hundreds of jobs that support families all over the island. To shut down this airport would be detrimental to the economy as well as hundreds of individuals on the island and would destroy any future of skydiving in Hawaii. I have lived here two years now and have never gained so much joy as I do on the north shore at dillingham skydiving over the beautiful north shore. Please help us find a solution to save the airport and a huge part of aviation in Hawaii especially during these hard times.

My testimony is submitted in support of Senate Bill 1368, and the continuation of Dillingham Airfield as a public use airport. I was born and raised on Oahu, and I am fortunate to be a Hawaii-based pilot for a local airline for over 35 years.

The availability of Dillingham Airfield was critical to my ability to learn to fly. Without Dillingham Airfield, I would not have been able to afford the training and early flight experience that were necessary in my beginning years as a pilot. The good weather and simplicity of operations also helped me focus on the important basic skills needed for a strong foundation as a professional pilot. The existence of Dillingham was even critical in making available my first paid flying job. All of this was critical in my launch a successful career as an airline pilot.

All those factors are still in effect today. Despite the short-term setback for airlines caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will need more and more good pilots in the future. We must continue to provide good opportunities for local young men and women to pursue a career as a pilot, and key to this is maintaining Dillingham Airfield as an available, affordable, high-quality training ground.

Respectfully Submitted

James Giddings

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:55:52 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Sherwood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this. This airfield has been my entire life for the past four years. I have found my partner here, and have been embraced by a community of like

inded, big hearted individuals whom all rely on this airfield for their livelihoods. Not only is it important for everyone who has been relying on it for income, but it also allows money to circulate through local businesses here on the north shore to stimulate the local economy.

Skydiving here is the most breathtaking out of any dropzone in the world. It is truly a magical place that my friends and family cherish. It has SAVED my life. If it weren't for the community I found through skydiving and the focus and attention skydiving took away from bad habits I had, I would likely be dead by now.

please please please consider passing this. Aloha

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:57:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Gibb	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

My first time skydiving was at Dilliamham and it opened my eyes to the excitement which is Hawaii.

I have been an aircraft mechanic for almost 10 years on Kauai & Oahu. With my experience in hawaii aviation I know that Dillingham is the only safe place to skydive & fly glider planes on the island of Oahu island!

Closing Dillingham down would hinder jobs and recreation for locals and tourism.

Please keep Dillingham open for business! And support our ohana!

Mahalo!

- **Aarron Gibb**

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 1:57:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I literally chose to live in Oahu, HI than all the other military posts available in the world to skydive in the most beautiful drop zone of the world. This place, the people, the community of skydivers makes me feel like I'm at home. This is my family outside the military and it would be a shame to strip that away from this Ohana.

thank you.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:01:32 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Faainuinu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is a special place filled with amazing people who love & respect the sport of skydiving. Do not have evict businesses that are a main source of income & solace for people.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:03:35 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Oakley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for keeping Dillingham Airfield open. I am a current resident of Oahu and hope to be able to stay permanently. I have been skydiving for 15 years and have worked so hard to prepare myself for working in Skydiving in Hawaii. Now that I am here living my dream I am under threat of losing my livelihood and the sport of skydiving is under threat of losing it's premier location. I will also lose all the friendships I have made since I came here almost 2 years ago.

In these crazy times of covid it seems like a true misfortune to lose a successful business that has been here for over 20 years. It would be a great wrong and seems truly un-American to shut the airfield down and destroy the lives of the aviation community.

It is a daily occurrence that one of my tandem skydive passengers describes their first jump as, "The best experience of my life." and ending the potential for others to share this experience would be a genuine shame.

Please thoroughly consider the actions you take regarding Dillingham airfield. This is the most important decision that will significantly impact the lives of everyone I know and love on the island of Oahu.

Thank you for taking the time to hear us out and I hope to be able jump with any of you in the future.

Sincerely,

George Oakley

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:05:26 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Pescaia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of keeping Dillingham/Kawaihapai Airfield open. In addition to providing jobs and bringing in tourist dollars to the North Shore and State, Dillingham/Kawaihapai Airfield offers our youth an opportunity to fly for free and explore becoming future pilots.

North Shore youth miss out on so many opportunities afforded to their "Town" counterparts due to distance/time constraints, such as workplace internships and even participating in Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua's tri-school drama program, this is one place where they have the advantage. As a teacher at Waialua High and Intermediate School, I have had many students take advantage of the opportunity to explore avionics and aviation, with multiple students continuing to earn their pilot's license after high school.

I don't understand why our regulation compliant businesses and organizations are suffering and being threatened with eviction because of DOT's negligence. If DOT is unable to or is unwilling to do its job, then maybe someone else should be given the opportunity to oversee the management of the airfield. Meanwhile, at least keep the airfield open and allow businesses to remain operating at the airfield through their lease.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:05:45 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evan Santangelo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please please please keep this dropzone open. So many iconic photos and videos taken here that make such a huge impact in the skydiving community!

It is without a doubt one of the most beautiful dropzones in the world!

I tried to visit at the very beginngin of covid and lockdowns started the second day i was on the island. This airfield is the number one reason i'm comign back to Oahu and i plan to bring abotu 6 other friends. please dont close it!

Respectfully,

Evan

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:05:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason M Virskus	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kawaihapai airfield is an historic and unique center for general aviation and supports hundreds of jobs and millions in tourism dollars annually. Don't let Dillingham suffer the same fate as the Haleiwa airfield!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:08:58 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tuscany Lemons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the continued civilian use of Dillingham Airfield. This is a place many call home, not only as a place of work but to support their passions and in turn to support their livelihoods. This is a unique place, the only public airport that creates a space for individuals to journey into the sky and enjoy activities provided no where else on island, and statewide. I urge you to keep Dillingham Airfield open, to support the community that has been created here. Please do not close Dillingham on June 30th, 2021. This would be a grave mistake and one that would compromise the lives of countless people.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:12:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlotte Webster	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is a sanctuary and form of respite for countless Hawaii residents, as well as the source of livelihood for countless others. We go there to spend time with people we love doing things we love. As a Naval Officer stationed here, one of thousands of military personnel who have no choice in where we are stationed, the potential closure of Dillingham hits rather hard, particularly during an international pandemic. I am not authorized to travel, so Dillingham is the only place (in the world) I can skydive.

I also can't help but think that such an international travel destination without skydiving doesn't make logical sense. It's such a draw of both tourists and traveling skydivers, coming here to experience Hawaii for all of its perspectives, below the surface of its crystal blue waters to above its beautiful landscapes, falling through the sky, seeing the beauty of Oahu in its entirety. Hawaii is too beautiful for us to lose this priceless experience.

We love Oahu, and for some of us, it would never be the same without Dillingham. They say home is where the heart is. Well, Dillingham has a piece of all of our hearts.

Please help us save our home.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:14:51 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karson Peach	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield has to stay, I can't stay in hawaii without it! As a regular skydiver and air pilot student, I desperately need this airfield to stay open! What is the point of giving it to the military when airfield is a vital staple in the north Shore economy. Bring between 200-300 tandem skydives a day brings 300 people to north shore, going into local and small businesses! I pray you all see the strength this airfield has for the community!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:17:55 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
connor kribel	Testifying for pacific skydiving	Comments	No

Comments:

The tenants of Dillingham airfield should not be removed. This would be tragic for the community of the north shore and will have effects on the economy and many people that live there.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:18:05 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Reid Emminger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I grew up in Waialula. When I was 13 years old I had the opportunity to get a part time job at Dillingham airfield. I loved planes and Honolulu Soaring Company let me work for flying lessons in their gliders. I received instruction for my first solo, private license, commercial license, and soon after my flight instructor certificate. I was able to use my experience towards qualifying for an airline position on the mainland. I am now a Captain for Hawaiian Airlines. The skills and the enthusiasm for aviation all started at Dillingham airfield. Giving our young people the opportunity to experience what flying would be like is on display every day at dillingham. Removing that would further remove opportunities for our children that we would like to see stay in our islands and work and raise a family. Please allow Dillingham airfield to continue to create jobs, enthusiasm and community on the North Shore.

Mahalo,

Reid Emminger

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:18:26 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Conrad Newfield	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield is very important to me for recreational purposes (hiking and such). It supports many jobs and allow for hiking access to Kuoakala Game Management area. Please keep the airfield open

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:22:57 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlos Omphroy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB1368, to save Dillingham Airfield. This is where I first learned to fly over 30 years ago, and is the main reason I moved to Mokuleia 35 years ago. Dillingham Airfield is the best place in the world for soaring, or flying gliders. Please let me re-emphasize that statement: it is the finest glider port in the world! It is also one of finest places on earth for skydivers, and is a fabulous place for training young aviators. To shut it down would be a horrific, unconscionable act. The loss of jobs, of people's very livelihood, the loss of a significant amount of tax revenue, and the complete elimination of an incredible tourist destination would be heartbreaking. The COVID pandemic has already caused an unbelievable amount of economic hardship for the people of Hawai'i. To close Dillingham at this time would make everything that much worse. And the Department of Transportation's problems are all things that can be fixed relatively easily and in a fairly short period of time. These are by no means insurmountable or unsolvable problems, these are all things that can be solved by a few dedicated, driven people and organizations that care. This area has always been a sacred place, and is where most of the kahuna lapa'au were in the old days. It was a place of healing. Do not destroy it now with misguided government overreach. I humbly ask for those in power to please do the right thing, please save Dillingham Airfield for us, and for our future generations. Thank you. Respectfully, Carlos Omphroy, MD

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:23:53 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerome Stanislaus	Testifying for Pacific Skydiving Center	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Jerome Stanislaus and I live on the east coast. I travel frequently to Hawaii specifically to jump at Dillingham airfield. It is by far the most beautiful place that I have ever jumped. To take away Dillingham from its current occupants would do prove that the government does not care about the local community. In this already difficult economic time where people are struggling to find work, taking away the airfield would only further damage the economy of the North Shore as Dillingham is the the only place on the Hawaiian Islands the one can skydive. It's down right immoral to take that away. Do the right thing, and allow the current occupants to keep their lease.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:28:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nichole amaya	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love filling ham airfield and the skydiving sport that takes place there. This place was the reason I found a community when I moved to the island. SAVE DILLINGHAM!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:29:19 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sabrina Zander	Testifying for Save Dillingham Airfield	Support	No

Comments:

The Airfield must remain open because it holds enormous value to the aviation community in pilot training and skydiving on Oahu. It is a viable source of income for the community, and state in order to recover and sustain a healthy economy during this time of Covid and into the future.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:29:58 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Szajko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please save Dillingham Airfield! The DOT must be held accountable for the lease they signed in its entirety.

I have been a resident of Waialua for six years and this Airfield has provided me the opportunity to live my dream here on Oahu. There are countless peers from all walks of life that get to share and provide incredible experiences for local residents and tourists alike. This is the only place on Oahu where you can skydive, fly in a glider, ride in a trike, or attain affordable flight lessons.

Dillingham is a vital part of the North Shore economy and its closure will directly impact surrounding businesses that continue to struggle from the ongoing pandemic. Many businesses on Oahu that have thrived for decades are now closed or on the brink of closure. We could not prevent this pandemic from its negative impact on so many lives. Keeping this Airfield from closing is something we can prevent.

As a veteran of the US Air Force, I was able to take the skills I learned skydiving and pursue a new career at this Airfield. I am fortunate enough to share my passion with others and see the positive effect it has when people take the leap. There are a number of reasons why people decide to jump, but the profound impact it makes on their lives remains constant. The beauty of this island paired with the thrill and exhilaration of a skydive makes this one of the most unique places to jump in the world. It's a truly life changing experience for the countless people that have visited. In a few short months, that opportunity will no longer exist if this bill doesn't pass and action isn't taken.

There are hundreds of people counting on our lawmakers to do the right thing and allow Dillingham Airfield remain open for civil access. Please deeply consider the number of lives that will be affected if we don't have your support.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this ongoing matter.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:38:06 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shanda Vaught	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airport must be protected. Dillingham is really the only small general aviation airport on the island. It plays a vital role in the aviation community. There is no where else that would be suitable for glider operations or jumping. Can you imagine trying to cram these types of operations into the already overused Daniel K Inouye International? It would be chaos. Or out of Kalaeloa, less busy, but still right in the flight path of the arriving jets? The conversation here shouldn't be about closing Dillingham, but about improving it. This is really an opportunity for the state to dedicate itself to providing the support to make Dillingham a world class general aviation destination. A good GA airport won't need very much financial support from the state. There are myriad ways to use federal grants to improve the airport and bring out of state money here with various construction projects that would improve the airport and provide a boost to the local economy. The commercial operations already in place, like skydiving and soaring are already bringing money into the area. Improving and expanding hangar space could be another revenue stream to support the airport operation. In short, Dillingham airport fills a need for the people of Oahu that cannot be met anywhere else on the island. It brings in tourist money and allows locals a safe place to fly and learn that isn't available at any other Oahu airport. With proper management, this airport, which is already such a cool spot, could really become a self sustaining asset to the state. I support this bill because not kicking current people and businesses out seems like a good first step in saving the airport.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:39:35 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tim Kennedy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Honorable Chris Lee
Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room # 216
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Lee and members of the committee:

As a Hawai'i citizen and a private pilot, I want to express my support of SB 1368.

The Kawaihapai Airfield is not only an irreplaceable aviation asset, but a vital community asset as well. The loss of jobs and the resulting impact on the economics of the area would be hard to sustain, especially during the times we are currently in.

I urge the committee to pass SB 1368 and to keep Kawaihapai Airfield open for civil use.

Respectfully

Tim Kennedy

98-1738 Kaahumanu St #A

Pearl City, HI 96782

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:40:51 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steven snellback	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

Dillingham field is one of the worlds best soaring locations period. Anywhere. To end access to this resource is criminal. I learned to fly as a civil air patrol cadet in the 1970s and have watched hundreds of pilots learn to fly at Dillingham. It is unique in many ways and is underutilized because of the States Transportation Departments complete indifference. This is a resource that could make hawaii a student pilot mecca for the country bringing business, tax revenue and happy pilots in from all over. Lets not waste it, as i said its no ka oi.

Lets not kid around here, this is about future development of hotels and related nonsense of which Oahu is already more than well populated with. Dillingham is a flying resource, a beach resource and it's current state of non development is a blessing for the public. Please leave Dillingham as a pilots heaven and allow the continued use for future generations.

Thank you,

Steven Snellback

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P.O. Box 1719
Keaau, Hawaii 96749-1719
Direct: 808-365-5715
Fax: 808-982-5283
m.singer@heartwoodpacific.com

From the Desk of: **F. Michael Singer**

February 15, 2021

The Honorable Chris Lee
Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation
Hawai`i State Capitol, Room # 216
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Lee and members of the committee:

Thank you for allowing me to provide my comments in support of SB 1368 as it relates to Kawaihapai Airfield. I am a member of AOPA, EAA, GACH, Civil Air Patrol and USCG Auxiliary all in good standing. I am an active private pilot and have a deep appreciation for piloting the skies in the State of Hawaii. I offer volunteer services to our organizations and willing to take anyone up for an introductory flight.

The best part of Kawaihapai Airfield is it's one of the best places in the State of Hawaii where you can experience general aviation at its finest. If it weren't for the glider training my daughter received through the Hilo Civil Air Patrol in early 2000, before receiving her driver's license, she would not have gotten the flying bug at such an early age. Like so many teenagers struggling to find identity and uniqueness, my daughter was no different. An average student needed something more than sports and extracurricular activities. Being up in the air and having a certain freedom allowed her to experience what flight was all about. Allowing her to control an aircraft, rolling from left to right and pitching up and down gave her a sense of new meaning in a new profound way. It is impossible to appreciate what flight is about until you sit in the left seat and fly the airplane. Not only did my daughter graduate with honors but started flying Embraer jets for Continental (now United) as a first officer at an early of twenty-one. Today she is a captain for Delta Airlines, quite an accomplishment for a young teenager that was exposed to glider camp at Kawaihapai Airfield.

Secondly, flying is such an important part of staying connected among our islands. Kawaihapai offers so much more than just an airfield. It provides jobs, recreation, training, and supports tourism. There are a minimum number of airports as it is and when emergencies arise there is an airfield available on the North Shore. Flying between Kauai and Oahu, Kawaihapai offers a place to land for smaller aircraft. It is an opportunity to grow and educate the public in what flying is about. It will create future professional pilots for aircraft not just flying interisland by around the world. Please see the benefits this airfield offers. There is so much more!

Very respectfully,

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SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:41:40 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
arman kremer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

DO NOT CLOSE PACIFIC SKYDIVING!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:42:59 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Giddings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Regarding SB 1368

Honorable Senators,

I'm writing to submit my testimony and ask you to support the passage of SB1368 and help to keep Dillingham field open and fully operational.

My name is Mike Giddings, I'm a recently retired Hawaiian Airlines Captain. My aviation flight training began nearly 45 years ago at a flight school on the North ramp of Honolulu Airport, that first flight included an introduction to Dillingham airfield from the air, I'd visited it many times from the ground many times growing up.

As I continued my flight training, during the initial years, the runway at Ford Island was still available but soon closed, Dillingham was now the only location available to train. It would've been far to expensive to seek training on the mainland.

Dillingham was essential then in providing opportunities to advance my flight skills and train for advanced qualifications. It is still essential now for the preparation of the next generation of pilots for all our airlines that serve us well in Hawaii and beyond. Many other pilots who have had training that included Dillingham have gone on to serve proudly in our military and other government agencies.

Our tourism dependent economy also is greatly benefitted by continued operations, visitors come to Hawaii specifically to either skydive or enjoy the glider rides available there. Others hear about the activities once arriving here, both contribute greatly to our economy and are needed in our future recovery from current situation.

Mahalo for your considerations and support

Sincerely, Mike Giddings

Proud Member of AOPA

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:44:38 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joshua	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This would hurt so many family and friends lives you wouldn't understand. These organizations on dillingham have saved people's lives in hard times. This isn't a hobby for most people this is a lifestyle and away to get away. This will change a lot for the people of away and people that come to feel something they have dreamt there whole entire lives. Please consider a different solution to save dillingham please!

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:45:44 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Holland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Save Dillingham!

Aloha.

As a local Aviator, born and raised on Oahu, I passionately support saving Dillingham Airfield. It is a valuable resource to Oahu's aviation infrastructure.

Growing up I flew gliders at Dillingham, and when I became a pilot I regularly landed at Dillingham. This airport has been so neglected. The potential to make it a busy, financially independent airport is there.

With better management I see the opportunity for more business. Flight schools, restaurants, gift shops, a small FBO. More hangars. Explore options to privatize. Sell hangars, have a private company manage the airport.

The next generation of pilots deserve to have the same experiences I had.

I ask the state to save Dillingham Airfield. I see all these state projects happening that have very little, to no community support. Breaking ground on new projects. Why not spend some of these resources saving some of the unique historical places we already have!

It's time to change this conversation from not whether or not to save Dillingham, to obviously we are protecting this unique old Hawaii, historic place. How will we accomplish this. Explore all options.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

Aloha,

--Mark

**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 1386
RELATING TO AIRFIELDS**

SENATOR CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
SENATOR LORRAINE R. INOYUE, VICE CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Hearing Date and Time: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Room: 224

Aloha, my name is Taylor Schultz, and I am a concerned citizen, testifying in **strong support** of S.B.1368. Dillingham Airfield is home to well over 100 employees, including myself, who have built their livelihoods around the sporting and aviation operations performed at this location. Ceasing the operations at this airfield would be detrimental, not only to the employees, but of the thousands of tourists who contribute to the vibrant North Shore economy annually, the North Shore community as a whole, and the future aviation and related sporting generations to come. Closing this airfield would effectively cease any opportunity for related aviation sporting activities to be performed on the island of Oahu, as this specific location provides a unique airspace attributed to the surrounding land formations that is not replicated anywhere else on the island. Furthermore, it would remove one of the few places in the world where aviation related sporting activities can operate year-round.

I have personally called this airfield “home” for four years, and the people I work with are considered family. The Department of Transportation’s plan to prematurely terminate the contract would mean that the majority of us would be forced to uproot, and abandon the work that, for so many of us, is all we know. I have seen first-hand the fulfillment this line of work has brought to the Dillingham staff, along with the life-long experiences we have been able to safely provide for hundreds of thousands of tourists from all over the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.

Taylor Schultz
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
(307)5754077

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:47:58 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Venegas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Save the airfields! This is a huge attraction for locals and tourists. Being able to enjoy the views of this beautiful island from that experience is VERY unique and special. Not to mention the financial loss this state would recieve from the eviction of such businesses.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:49:23 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROXANNE STANLEY	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield provides 6 of my immediate family members employment for nearly 12 years which has lead to purchasing homes, growing our family and becoming active members of the community. With 4 grandkids now all being born here, this is our forever home. Without Kawaihapai our dreams of raising our families, staying so close, in such a small unique town that has been very good to us will not come true. My husband and I dream of growing old and watching our grandchildren grow to also be part of such a unique wonderful community here on the North Shore. Please help allow us to continue to work, raise our families and remain active members of this amazing family oriented community, and grow old together here.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:53:41 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryan Stanley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield provides 6 of my immediate family members employment for nearly 12 years which has lead to purchasing homes, growing our family and becoming active members of the community. With 4 grandkids now all being born here, this is our forever home. Without Kawaihapai our dreams of raising our families, staying so close, in such a small unique town that has been very good to us will not come true. My wife and I dream of growing old and watching our grandchildren grow to also be part of such a unique wonderful community here on the North Shore. Please help allow us to continue to work, raise our families and remain active members of this amazing family oriented community, and grow old together here.

To: Chair of Committee on Transportation – Senator Chris Lee

Subject: Senate Bill 1368 - Relating to Airfields

Respondent: William L. Star

Message: I support SB 1368. Kawaihapai Airfield (aka Dillingham Airfield) should not be allowed to close any sooner than the expiration of the HDOT and U.S. Dept. of the Army's lease which ends in 2024, and further, that the DOT Airports Division shall be prohibited from evicting any tenant of Dillingham Airfield that remains in good standing. And I also support an economic impact/feasibility study be done; and that HDOT/DOTA should cooperate with any private entity performing such study of this Airfield.

William L. Star
P.O. Box 626
Waialua, HI 96791
(808) 677-3404

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:58:18 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jakob Chapman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello my name is Jakob Chapman and I have been living on the North Shore of Oahu for about two and a half years now. From the moment I arrived on the island, the majority of my time has been spent at Kawaihapi Airfield. Most days I spend more time at this airfield than I do sleeping. Since I arrived on this island, I have been able to start my first job as a licensed aircraft mechanic, earn and use my parachute rigging license, earn and use my skydiving instructor ratings, earn my private pilots license, and start my pilot instrument rating. This airfield has provided me with more opportunities and experiences in aviation than I ever could have asked for. Allowing the DOT to cease general aviation operations at Kawaihapi Airfield would not only disrupt the way of life of the current tenants, but it would remove valuable opportunities and experinces like the ones I have received from the grasp of local North Shore residents. Shutting down operations at Kawaihapi Airfield would be destructive to the general aviation community in Hawaii and prevent young men and women of the North Shore from discovering their passion for aviation and building careers.

Allowing the DOT to cease operations at Kawaihapi Airfield would also be harmful to the local economy. The airfield plays a role in drawing tourists to the North Shore and spending money at restaurants, shops, and other attractions. This decreased volume of tourists would decrease the revenue of businesses on the North Shore. This airport is not only important to myself but to the residence of the North Shore and I hope that you make the decision to support this bill.

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:58:21 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wilma Oernberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SAVE DILLINGHAM AIRFIELDS!

Many peoples lives have been changed and fulfilled by the open access of this airfield, many of my friends included. A native hawaiian friend of mine was going to start flight school there but will be foreced to leave her 'Ā• ina and 'ohana to go to a mainland flight school.

Please keep it open to civil access!

I am in support of this bill. I ask the senate to support this bill too.
Vote for the people, and keep country country!

Mahalo nui loa for reading,
Wilma Oernberg

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 2:59:05 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth A Martyn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support for SB 1368

To the Chair and members of the transportation committee:

As a long-term resident of Waialua, I have seen first hand the economic and recreational importance of Dillingham Airfield to our local community. It also has great value statewide, as a general aviation airport that is well-separated from HNL Airport, but still on the Island of Oahu.

SB 1368 is a logical and reasonable step toward maintaining it as a working airfield, while negotiations between the State of Hawaii and the Federal government continue as to how best to utilize this important facility, and find a way to keep it operational on a long-term basis, with the possibility of new financial support from the private sector.

Thank you,

Kenneth A. Martyn

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:00:49 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tomoyuki Serada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please keep here forever.

This place is one and only in Hawaii and one of the best place for Japanese to get skydiving experience.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:00:52 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Albi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please please keep Diligham Airfield open for skydiving, flying and civil people! Save our business and favorite place ðŸ’œ

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:09:44 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Redfield	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My duties at Dillingham airfield saved my life and changed me for the better. Being a skydiving instructor on the north shore of Oahu inspired me to be better at every aspect of my life. My girlfriend and I both went back to school to become a nurse and a school teacher. Closing the airfield doesn't just eliminate aviation. You lose tax payers, community members, and future members of the community as a whole. Be on the right side of history and keep the airfield open and dreams alive. Thank you.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:09:47 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
AO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We are begging dY™• You please keep Diligham Airfield Open. We have no where to go! Please help

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:09:57 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik Aguirre	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield. Please keep it open to civil access!

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:10:35 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stepan Gurba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORTING SB1368 I love Dillingham Airfield. Please keep it open to civil access!

Please ðŸ™• Please

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:15:15 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Chaikin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SB1368. I am a privot pilot and do not want Dillingham airfield closed. It would be a big mistake as there are only 3 general aviation airports searving Oahu. If you close dillingham gernal aviation will have to move to Honolulu International HNL or Kalaeloa. Kalaloea is in the final approach flight path of HNL so that is not a good idea either. It would be a mistake to move all the general aviation to those airports for safety reasons. More student pilots operating at HNL is not a good idea. We should be moving student pilots to dillingham not HNL.

Thank you for your understanding and vote.

Aloha,

Steve Chaikin

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:16:41 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Giguere	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As both a pilot and amateur astronomer the importance of Dillingham airfield can not be overemphasized. I encourage the State of Hawaii, Dept of Transportation to find a way to keep this airport open.

Thank you, Thomas Giguere

92-1161 Hoike Way

Kapolei, HI 96707

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:29:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Toby Rushforth	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This testimony is to support Dillingham Airfield as a valuable community resource that will be irreplaceable once initial support (and funding) for the airport disappears.

It represents private aviation at its best, on the island of Oahu in ways that establish community support for those interested in civil aviation and flying careers - to imagine the possible. It creates an entry level aviation awareness and pathway for young people and adults alike. We talk about trying to help our families prepare for gainful employment that will open opportunities for them right here in Hawaii.

There is nothing like that initial "thrill of Flying" that results from early flying opportunities. Mine is one of countless stories that started in a small country skyport and blossomed into a full aviation career. I'm sure you can imagine the difference between having a local boy flying in the Air National Guard, versus just anybody from anywhere else. Then imagine an airline pilot career that was born right here on Oahu, such as that experienced by my daughter!

Imagine just being able to touch, sit in, or even simply polish airplanes and how that broadens a youngsters perspective of the possible, what they can do with their life. It is a place for our youth aviation organizations to flourish as well.

I'm not just talking about powered flight either. The exhilaration of soaring like a bird in a glider is hard to describe as an entree to aviation opportunities..

Some non-aviation basics? Specifically, what are you going to "blow the money" on that is to be "saved" by getting rid of the community aviation experience offered at Dillingham?

Would it make a difference in your support for the airfield if this bill was amended to restrict the airport land use to be reserved forever for agricultural purposes, to grow coffee, lettuce, tomatoes, pineapples, etc.. That is -- to restrict use of the land to zero future development? Is there an investor (\$\$) lurking in the shadows?

For these reasons and so many more, I humbly request that this historic aviation facility be maintained as a Hawaiian community, civil aviation resource.

Thank you, Toby Rishforth

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:30:19 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erik VanDenburgh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am the youth director for the Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventist. I have seen first hand how general aviation can make a positive impact on a young persons life. Many youth choose destructive paths because they don't have access to things that are wholesome and challenging. Aviation is both. It used to be that airports were open spaces without fencing. Youth could ride up to the edge of the field on their bikes and watch the airplanes take off and land. This type of access inspired the youth and gave them dreams of being able to fly some day. Dillingham airfield is the only airfield on Oahu which provides easy access for aircraft observation. Every time we drive by this airfield I stop with my young boys to watch the airplanes, skydivers, and gliders. It would be a terrible loss to our communities if we closed this valuable airport that inspires our young people. If there is no access to see aviation up close our keiki will not even know there is a dream to be had. Please keep Dillingham open and honor the tenants who have lease agreements. Please keep Dillingham open and support the economy. Please keep Dillingham open and support GA. Please keep Dillingham open and let our keiki dream!

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:42:07 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christopher garcia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As Hawaii resident, aviation enthusiast and professional skydiver working out of Dillingham, I support SB1368! Tenants of Kawaihapai Airfield should not be evicted as long as they remain in good standing for as long as the HDOT has a lease with the U.S. Army. I believe conducting an economic impact study would be a great idea and HDOT should support that study!

It would be an absolute waste and tragedy to lose the sport of skydiving, gliders and general aviation on the island of Oahu! Dillingham Airfield is the ONLY location on island for these activities to exist! Not to mention the loss of hundreds of jobs including my own and the effect this would have on the North Shore economy!

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 3:47:32 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Franz Ravelo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham airfield is my home away from home. I skydive there, fly gliders and ultralights there. It is THE most beautiful airfield in the world. It's important to me and to my friends that work there. It is their livelihood that concerns me most. These are people that have invested their life to offer a unique experience to those of us lucky enough to link each here and the millions of visitors that participate in these activities every year. Dillingham is a world class facility that would be lost. We must work together to find a way to keep it open and preserve this resource that exists no where else in the world.

Mahalo.

franz

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:00:11 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Echeverria	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airfield access for skydiving operates is critical to this community. Having a skydiving operation enhances recreation for locals and tourists alike. The skydiving operations also bring more people to the area which helps stimulate the local economy and creates job opportunities running the business itself. These businesses need to be preserved.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:14:12 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nico	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello as a citizen Oahu, I often visit the dillingham airfield. I can not imagine Hawaii with out the liberation, freedom, and sense of euphoric present moment feeling that Pacific Skydiving offers. Aloha lifestyle is inclusive of honoring all outdoor elements- this being the element of air and flying into your heart connecting to yourself embracing and loving life to its fullest for all its unlimited beauty. Please vote to keep the airfield open.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 4:52:45 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edwin Kumar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Im a home owner in Haliewa and highly support this bill. Public c access to Dillingham icrucial to the livelihood of many working folks on the north shore. PLEASE SAVE DILLINGHAM!!!

Mahalo,

Edwin Kumar

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 5:45:50 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Willkie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair of the House Transportation Committee

Subj: Senate Bill 1368 relating to potential Dillingham Airfield closure

Hearing date February 16, 2021

My name is Benjamin Willkie, I am a concerned citizen, veteran, pilot and parent testifying in support of Senate Bill 1368.

This bill will prevent the untimely and easliy preventable loss of jobs and educational opportunities in our community by allowing time for other potential custodians of Dillingham Airfied to present plans to United States Army Pacific for reasonabale consideration. The State Department of Transportation is requesting in short order to abandon its present custodial position which will have irreversable consequences on employing businesses and close the valuable educational and recreational faciliity that is Dillingham Airfield which has for decades been a leading example of civil-military cooperation on Oahu.

Thank you for the oppportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Willkie

1339 Kainui Drive

Kailua, HI 96734

cell:808-779-44475

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:03:23 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael G holmberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I worked for years at Dillingham Airfield as a glider pilot. The Airfield is a valuable asset to the North Shore tourist industry. It must be kept available for all operator.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:04:46 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warrick Leigh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airport is part of the national aviation infrastructure and should continue to be maintained and operated.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:30:43 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Skylar Minden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The airfield has become a home for so many as well as a destination for others who have shared experiences that they will keep with them forever. The airfield should remain open for use as the site encourages tourism and generates profit for the state of Hawaii. The people who work so hard to keep the airfield safe and maintained put so many others before themselves. Please keep Dillingham airfield open for use for those who give so much back to Hawaii.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 6:54:00 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucy Morris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

General aviation is the lifeblood of Hawaii. The State is trying its best to slowly suffocate an industry that gives so much back to this state both financially and logistically. To support their path of destruction is devastating to every little boy or girl who will miss out on discovering the joy of flight through their first glider ride. Every mechanic who put years of training in only to have to leave their home to find work on the mainland . Every pilot already facing unimaginable job cuts. Please save Dillingham Airfield and allow businesses to stay and contribute to providing jobs to local pilots and support staff, and amazing unique experiences for visiting guests.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 8:44:54 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James W Bergstrom Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a former USAF Pilot. I have been a commercial pilot for a major US airline. I am currently a member of Hawaii Wing Civil Air Patrol. I have operated aircraft in Hawaii since 1995. The value in Dillingham remaining open for the education and training of this great country's future aviators, as well as, preserving the unprecedented aviation business engine that Dillingham Airfield is, CANNOT be overstated!!!!

The activities that take place at this airfield, that myself and several hundreds of my fellow hawaii citizens have been involved with, are endless: Astronomy viewing activities , soaring operations. skydiving opportunities, visiting with young people and CAP cadets who wish to become future aviation professionals, critical flight training, Experimental Aircraft Association activities, hiking activities, and aircraft maintenance and fueling operations,

In the airline industry alone. There are presently severe shortages in pilot ranks, maintenance, and operations personnel of many major airlines. Keeping Dillingham Airfield open guarantees that we can close the gap on these severe shortages. The closing of Dillingham airfield and forcing all the operators and leasees from the field, is an incredible opportunity for the legislative leadership of the great state of hawaii to exercise vision and courage. Please do the right thing today and pass this legislation, as well as future legislation to KEEP DILLINGHAM OPEN.

Thank you for your diligence in governing our state. Please pass this legislation!

I am available for any questions in regard to this matter. (bergstroms@aol.com, 808-372-9094)

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:31:01 PM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laulani Teale	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this measure. These are important lands that should be protected and not militarized.

The Kawaihapai 'Ohana is an especially important part of this land, and should be consulted in all things. Their guidance is of utmost importance in maintaining pono.

Mahalo nui Loa for this opportunity to testify.
Me ke Aloha,

Laulani Teale

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 6:30:29 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Patrick Bolohan	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I love Dillingham Airfield. I support general aviation. Please keep it open to civil access.

Skydiving over this amazing place, is the reason I travel from the East Coast of the US every year. The airfield offers views and memories I will cherish for a lifetime. I spend at least 7-10 days there every visit. I hope this encourages you, to think of the future generations that can experience the same incredible memories and moments.

Very Respectfully,

Ryan Bolohan

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 6:39:14 AM
Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terrance M. Sullivan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and efforts of the aviation community, including skydiving operations, in finding and/or forming a new entity to assume the lease and operations at Dillingham Airfield. I have visited Oahu many times specifically to visit and skydive there. Each time spending up to a week touring the island before traveling to some of the other Hawaiian islands.

When at Dillingham I have witnessed the active and vibrant aviation businesses and activities the Airfield supports. Not the least of which were the many shuttles bringing foreign visitors for a first time tandem skydive.

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 8:16:19 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aracely Bianca Vasquez-Abarca	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator J. Kalani English and those involved,

My name is Aracely Bianca Vasquez-Abarca, and I'm writing to advocate for a precious landmark that holds a significant meaning to not only my life but to hundreds of aviation loving keiki (children) residing in the state of Hawai'i. Kawaihapai (formally Dillingham) airfield is more than just soiled tarmac and old hangars. It's home to discovery flights- to fountains of inspiration. It's a place of new beginnings and of hope.

At the age of 15 I decided to join the Civil Air Patrol squadron on Maui. At that age I had little to no self esteem and daunting thoughts of the future. Until I took my first glider discovery flight at a small but remarkable airfield on the island of Oahu. That flight 4 years ago lit a spark in me that to this day has not dulled. Because of that flight I worked hard to become an FAA certified Private Pilot at the age of 17 and I am now pursuing a college degree, my next ratings, and I'm an aspiring Mokulele Airlines pilot. Not to mention how I took that discovery flight on the same day with two of my closest friends and as of today 2 of us are Private Pilots and the other one is an aspiring pilot. We went from 3 hopeless teens to 3 community contributors in the aviation field, all because of Dillingham.

As a Hawai'i CAP cadet one of our biggest prides is being able to fly to Oahu on a C-17 with the Air National Guard every month- no other state has that privilege. If Dillingham airfield ceases to be of public use it would not only be selfish, but it would destroy the chances of all Hawaii cadets from getting the opportunity I was given since glider flights are only offered at Dillingham.

I must add that there's expected to be a pilot shortage in the years to come- years when your generation might not be around. Who will be flying our crucial military missions overseas? Who will be flying life saving cargo to keep our islands running? The answer used to be simple, but with obstacle (COVID-19) after obstacle (this potential closure) it's becoming even harder.

I urge you not to be the reason that our keiki miss out on life changing opportunities. This is greater than you, and greater than me. We must protect their fountain of inspiration. The keiki are our FUTURE, and our future is Dillingham.

With high hopes and best regards,

Bianca Vasquez-Abarca

(c) 808-866-9646

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 9:32:53 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Udd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it might concern:

I support keeping Dillingham Airfield (Kawaihapai) open for aviation related business. First of all it is a benefit to Hawaii's tourist industry. My father (Elmer Udd) ran a successful soaring business (Soar Hawaii) there for nearly 30 years. He gave thousands of tourists and residents rides in sailplanes as well as training to hundreds. I myself received training there to fly sailplanes and I still to this day enjoy this great sport.

I do not know all of the challenges within the politics of Hawaii's government, but I do know it would be a very large missing piece of industry for many folks who would take advantage of this segment of activity. For all of the people who enjoy flight, skydiving, and soaring please pass this bill.

With much Aloha,

Tom Udd

LATE

Regarding SB 1368 as it pertains to airfields:

I belong to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and am a rated commercial pilot. I have years of flying experience in Hawaiian airspace as a private pilot and volunteer for the Civil Air Patrol supporting state and federal missions. The AOPA is an aviation organization that speaks for the general aviation (GA) interests of its members in Hawai'i and I support the AOPA's effort to keep Kawaihapai Airfield (Dillingham) in the GA community. Please do not allow the businesses in good standing to be being evicted from the airfield until the expiration of the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of the Army's lease.

Kawaihapai airfield brings in thousands of visitors worldwide and their contribution to the economy of the North Shore area (and State) is significant. The airfield has 47 aircraft based there including 11 airport businesses that include skydiving, glider operations, and flight schools that employ over 100 people.

I agree with Senator Riviere's introduction of SB 1368 as evictions now would only contribute to the already dire state of job loss and other economic stressors affecting the Hawaiian economy. I also support section 3 of the bill regarding the department of transportation cooperating with an economic feasibility study of the airfield.

General aviation is part of the Hawaiian economy and we only have three airports to use on the island of Oahu with Honolulu Airport under stress to deal with the GA community safely. Kawaihapai airfield provides an obvious benefit to the economy of our state economy, and is currently used in emergency missions that support the State. As a GA pilot it is reassuring to have this airfield available as an alternative landing strip due to the busy nature of Honolulu Airport traffic.

Please pass SB 1368 and support keeping Kawaihapai Airfield open to the GA community and to the many businesses that support the state economy.

Larry Hinds

Hauula, Hawaii

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 9:42:34 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jordan sayler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing as a member of the worldwide skydiving community to ask you to support legislation to Save Dillingham Airfield and keep a vibrant part of the Hawaiian economy alive.

I WILL DO ANYTHING TO SAVE DILLINGHAM.

I used to volunteer for Skydive Hawaii, Pacific International Skydiving Center, and Oahu Parachute Center.

Among other things, I would cut down the invasive Iron Woods at the East end of the Airport so skydivers had less turbulent air and safer landings. I also was the security guard for Camp Mokuleia. I am now on the mainland, but if I could play a role in saving Dillingham Airfield, I will book a flight tomorrow.

Since I was close with many aviators at Dillingham, I do feel qualified to say that these tenants are the most respectful and humane people I have ever had the pleasure of befriending. These tenants respect the aina more than anyone I know. If they are kicked off of this land, it will be tragic. Oahu does not need another Disney retreat or Morman Temple. Dillingham could be run by people who respect Hawaiian culture, not money grubbing bastards who only care about their own selfish desires.

Let us take the reigns.

The DOT employees who patrolled the grounds like roaming Guestapo must go!
Let the aviators run the airport. Sounds like common sence ya?

Thanks for your time.

-Jordo

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 11:33:48 AM

Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hugh Tillman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of allowing Dillingham Airfield to continue its lease through 2024.

The stated mission of the Airports Division Administrator (from their website) says in part: "**Encourages, fosters and assists in the development of aeronautics in the State of Hawaii.**"

As a former Marine, local Hawaii Flight Instructor, and tax payer in the State of Hawaii, I respectfully ask you to give the Administrator time to do his job. My understanding is the property isn't owned by the DOT like other airports in the State, but the DOT signed a lease, made a written promise and from that, people made decisions, they made promises to their families, to their lenders, and to the community. It's how our country works, and works well when people keep their promises. My understanding is there may be others willing to take over the lease. This should be explored. I also understand there may be fines to be paid if the DOT backs out of their promise. This is a further waste of taxpayers' support and money, especially when there are other solutions.

I understand there are challenges to solve. They may be difficult, require thought, and compromise. But that's why the DOT is paid by the taxpayer. If it were easy, we'd let anyone do the job. The Administrator signed up for the position, he voluntarily accepted the terms of employment, now I ask you hold him accountable and hold up his end of the bargain and develop a solution to the issues surrounding Dillingham. The good news is he's not alone in this endeavor. The Dillingham Community, AOPA, and others will help him. I personally offer my services free of charge to assist him in anyway I can to solve these issues. I'm a former Marine who has spent a life time completing missions and quite frankly, this one seems easy. It will involve dedication, time, effort, and "stubby pencil work", but I'm here to help.

Why? It's important. I've read that the airport generates well beyond what it costs to operate. It provides for families, it provides income from tourism, it "**Encourages, fosters and assists in the development of aeronautics in the State of Hawaii**".

As a pilot, I personally have spent time and money training myself and training others at Dillingham since 1991. In part the training I've received and given there has allowed me to remain in Hawaii as a tax paying citizen. All be it a small part but a critical part. As a

single individual I estimate I have given back to the State of Hawaii in excess of \$100,000 in various taxes, in part due to what Dillingham provided me. There must be others with similar situations.

I respectfully ask this bill pass in order to allow the DOT time to do their job.

Semper Fidelis,

Hugh V. Tillman

LATE

SB-1368

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 1:48:19 PM
Testimony for TRS on 2/16/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonah Pascual	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dillingham Airfield has played a huge role in my childhood and my career in aviation. When I was twelve, Civil Air Patrol's Hawaii Wing gave me the chance to ride in a glider at Dillingham. Little did I know that the years I would spend at this Airfield would kickstart my career and shape me into the pilot that I am today. At the age of fifteen I flew my first solo flight in a glider at Dillingham. At the age of seventeen I passed my first checkride and got my Private Pilot's License at Dillingham. At the age of eighteen I became a commercial glider pilot and scored my first pilot job at Dillingham. At the age of nineteen I became a certified flight instructor at Dillingham. Most importantly, Dillingham Airfield is more than a slab of asphalt where I and others like me become pilots; Dillingham is an Ohana filled with life and people. Each day I go to Dillingham, I notice the joy and the smiles that my coworkers, my students, and every other person at this Airfield shares with each other. Even a couple weeks ago, my seventeen-year-old student (now private pilot) brought his family out to Dillingham to fly with him. Observing my student safely enjoying quality time with his family has further proven to me that Dillingham is a place of joy, laughter and learning. Please keep Dillingham Airfield open.