



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3335, SD1
RELATING TO THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
PANDEMIC & DISASTER RESPONSE
BY

Luke P. Meyers
Administrator, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

March 15, 2022

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Eli, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB 3335, SD1.

Senate Bill 3335, SD1 appropriates funds for operational expenses of the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

The CAP is a key partner in state emergency management. Its personnel regularly serve in the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) Emergency Operations Center during emergency and disaster incident responses, and they assist in the field with everything from spreading warnings in remote areas before an incident, to providing pre-assessment aerial reconnaissance, to assessing the damages and impacts afterward.

The CAP was recently employed on Maui following the December 2021 severe storms and provided valuable aerial photography that assisted the state in its successful application for a federal disaster declaration.

Senate Bill 3335, SD1 would reinstate funding from the state for the CAP to continue its vital missions.

The HI-EMA is in support of this bill provided it does not interfere with the Governor's budget priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 3335, SD1.

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3335, S.D. 1

March 15, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 309 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 3335, S.D. 1.

S.B. No. 3335, S.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds to the Department of Defense for FY 23 to fund the operational expenses of the Hawai'i wing of the Civil Air Patrol. This bill is intended to assist with response and recovery efforts during and after a disaster to include search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial photography of impacted areas, alerts and notifications, and transportation of supplies.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



HEADQUARTERS HAWAII WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
419 Lele Street
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14 March 2022

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair; Rep. Stacelynn K.M. Eli, Vice Chair; and
Committee Members

Public Hearing, March 15, 2022 at 10:00a.m., Conference Room 309 &
Videoconference

Testimony of Chantal Lonergan, Commander, Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 3335**, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol. This bill proposes to appropriate funds for operational expenses of the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

As the current Hawaii Wing Commander and retired Hawaii Air National Guard aircraft maintainer, I value the way CAP provides professionally structured education and training to local citizens, ages 12 to retired adults, emphasizing volunteer emergency service. While there is no military service requirement, volunteers acquire greater leadership skills, delve into the ethics of leadership, learn more about the inner workings of organizations, their place within that structure, development challenges and opportunities, and their own potential to effect lasting change within our community, state, and nation through professional volunteer service. CAP's missions include emergency service, aerospace education and cadet programs.

For many years, the State of Hawaii has assisted the Hawaii Wing with funding to defray training and operational costs. Starting in 2020 and continuing through 2021, the State redirected CAP funding to support COVID 19 activities. As the pandemic has become manageable, CAP seeks to reestablish funding for our mission readiness activities. Our volunteers provide a great return on investment - last year alone, Hawaii Wing delivered \$2,324,621 worth of volunteer service to the state during 7 Search and Rescue Missions, 3 Disaster Relief Missions, many defense intercept, evaluation, 12 training, and state support missions, in addition to providing 369 cadet orientation flights to Hawaii youth.

The Hawaii Wing of Civil Air Patrol has over 600 volunteers, to include 70 aircrew members, 360 emergency responders, 7 repeaters, 81 VHF/FM stations, 20 HF stations, 10 aircraft and 14 corporate vehicles our professionally trained members use for instruction and emergency response. While we receive federal funding for main equipment purchasing, there are many costs to maintaining operational readiness and safe execution of our missions that - without state funding - members self-fund.

In the last 2 years, the Hawaii Wing has continued to carry out its missions through alternative funding sources, donations collected from its members, and local unit fundraisers. These sources

are not sustainable or reliable to cover operational costs to effectively maintain equipment and crew training to ensure the operational readiness across the state. We respectfully request you support restoring our funding so we may focus on serving our State.

Over 80 years ago, Civil Air Patrol was created to prepare private citizens for homeland defense. Over the years, this role has evolved to include providing support to our emergency management agencies during natural disasters. Hawaii Wing provides critical services to the State of Hawaii in times of emergencies and works closely with local emergency management agencies in all four counties and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. We have conducted missions that include, but are not limited to: Search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial photographs of impacted areas, alerts and notifications, transportation of supplies to remote locations, and support training events with other emergency response agencies.

Most recently, CAP conducted aerial reconnaissance for the State of Hawaii after the severe weather incident in December of 2021. The photographs were instrumental in documenting the damage to roadways and bridges on the Island of Maui and were included in the State's application for a Federal Disaster Declaration. Recent similar missions were conducted on Hawaii Island during the Kilauea volcanic eruptions, statewide for Hurricanes Lane and Olivia, and on Kauai during the recent flood events as well as Search and Rescue. In situations where the State is threatened by a tsunami, CAP pilots, scanners and ground crews are called upon to use aircraft mounted speakers to alert remote areas not otherwise serviced by the state's emergency alert system.

For over 50 years, Hawaii Wing has been an integral part of the State of Hawaii Tsunami Warning System and historically provided aerial warnings along the shorelines, potentially saving the lives of thousands of residents and visitors. Hawaii Wing provides a critical service to the State covering areas where there are no ground emergency broadcast system sirens, or where sirens are inoperative. There is no governmental agency that does this and there is no back up for the Hawaii Wing Volunteers. Volunteers are on alert 24/7 for Tsunami Warning Response and aircrew keep go bags in their personally owned vehicles to support rapid response to the staging area when Tsunami Warnings are issued. Consequently, it is essential to maintain equipment, aircrew and ground support personnel to competent currency levels required to perform this life saving Tsunami Warning Mission.

Your support is key to our long-term ability to provide quality and reliable Volunteer emergency support services to the State of Hawaii. Thank you for your **SUPPORT of SB 3335**.



CHANTAL LONERGAN, Colonel, CAP
Commander, Hawaii Wing

SB-3335-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 6:42:25 AM

Testimony for PDP on 3/15/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stuart Butts	Kauai Composite Squadron, Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Stuart Butts and I am the Standardization/Evaluation Officer of the Kauai Composite Squadron of the Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol.

I request that you please SUPPORT SB 3335, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol. The purpose of this bill is to restore State funding to the Hawai`i Wing of the Civil Air Patrol so we may continue emergency services that are critical to the State. These services include, but are not limited to, alerts and notifications during disasters, search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial reconnaissance and transportation of supplies. We work closely with the emergency management agencies of the respective counties and the State of Hawaii to assist in emergency response and recovery and to ensure the public safety of our communities.

Please vote to pass SB 3335, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-3335-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 9:19:49 AM

Testimony for PDP on 3/15/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kim Adams	HI-073 (Kauai Squadron), Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kim Adams and I am a parent on the HI-073 (Kauai Squadron) of the Hawaii Wing, Civil Air Patrol. I request that you please SUPPORT SB 3335, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol. The purpose of this bill is to restore State funding to the Hawai`i Wing of the Civil Air Patrol so we may continue emergency services that are critical to the State. These services include, but not limited to, alerts and notifications during disasters, search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial reconnaissance and transportation of supplies. We work closely with the emergency management agencies of the respective counties and the State of Hawaii to assist in emergency response and recovery and to ensure the public safety of our communities. Please vote to pass SB 3335, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol, out of the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.