



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
BY

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

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

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

Senate Bill 3335 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. Their 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, providing pre-assessment aerial reconnaissance, and 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 application for a federal disaster declaration.

Senate Bill 3335 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.

Luke P. Meyers: Luke.P.Meyers@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
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EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
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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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3335

February 8, 2022
1:00 p.m.
Via 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.B. No. 3335 appropriates \$150,000 in 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.

Commander Darryl Barret Ng
Maui County Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol
94 Kahului Airport Road, Suite B
Kahului, HI 96732
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February 7, 2022

Honorable Chairs Senator Clarence K Nishihara, Senator Lynn De Coite, and members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs,

Dear Honorable Chair Senators Nishihara, De Coite, and members of the committee,

I wanted to present my written testimony in support of funding the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol under SB3335 in the amount of \$150,000.

Although I have only been a member of the Civil Air Patrol for three years, and commander of the Maui County Composite Squadron for the last two years, in this brief time I have seen the great good that the Civil Air Patrol does for our County, State, Federal Governments, and for the Air Force.

In the time that I have served as commander of the Maui Squadron, we have undertaken such tasks as transporting vital PPEs for Maui medical staff at the beginning of the pandemic, to providing aerial photography for the Maui Emergency Management Agency during the Spring 2021 floods and the Fall 2021 heavy rains that not only impacted local residents but put vital State-owned infrastructure at risk.

Considering that the Civil Air Patrol is a volunteer organization, with thousands of hours in skilled and well-trained labor supplied free of charge, I believe that the funds will work to multiply the resources of the State through the low cost of using our assets. We have 10 squadrons, over 600 volunteers, and 11 General Aviation Aircraft in Hawaii that can be used at moment's notice for everything from transporting material, to aerial photography and Tsunami and Hurricane Warnings at a fraction of what it would cost to place commercial, military, and other government assets in its place. It is the reason that the Air Force uses us for training purposes as we cost only a fraction of what even an unmanned system costs per hour.

This multiplier effect can be used to allow us to increase our training, of which Civil Air Patrol holds the highest of standards. Due to our association with the Air Force as an auxiliary, we have similar standards of training and intense requirements for even the most basic of qualifications. **But to keep that going, we need this added funding.** In the past two years, due to a cut in State funding, we have had difficulty supplying the added training necessary to setup ground teams, air teams, run drills, and keep our

volunteers to the highest level of readiness expected of the nation's premier emergency services volunteer organization. Our ranks not only include former military, police, fire, and other first responders, but also includes everyday citizens that would like to increase their emergency services skills. They do it not for career goals, but to genuinely aid their communities in preparing, evaluating, and assessing the many emergency situations we find unique here in Hawaii. If we have the possibility of saving the lives and property of our neighbors, it is enough reward for those of us who join this organization.

Due to the stoppage of funding from the State of Hawaii, we have not been able to field all the trainings we need to keep us at 100% readiness.

I urge you to please help us in our mission to help our communities. Don't think of it as a \$150,000 expenditure for training and mission for the Civil Air Patrol – think of it as \$150,000 for what would be millions of dollars in expenditures for things that the Civil Air Patrol can do that cannot be done as economically by any other organization in the State. We already receive the best equipment in the world from the generous allocations of congress to our national organization, but it is here at the local level that the training and honing of skills becomes necessary to make us a top asset for the needs of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Darryl Barret Ng', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

1st Lt Darryl Barret Ng
Commander
Maui County Composite Squadron
Civil Air Patrol

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 2:28:04 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chantal Lonergan	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol	Support	No

Comments:

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, 8% of Air Force Academy Cadets got their start in CAP. 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. CAPs missions include emergency service, aerospace education and cadet programs. Last year alone, Hawaii Wing delivered \$2,324,621 hours of volunteer service to the state during 7 Search and Rescue Missions, 3 Disaster Relief Missions, and many defense intercept, evaluation, 12 training, and state support missions besides providing 369 cadet orientation flights.

The Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol has over 600 volunteers, 70 aircrew, 360 emergency responders, 7 repeaters, 81 VHF/FM stations, 20 HF stations, 10 aircraft and 14 corporate vehicles used for instruction, orientation and emergency response. The maintenance is significantly costly and for many years, the State of Hawaii has assisted the Hawaii Wing with funding. In 2019, the State redirected CAP funding to support COVID 19 activities. As this emergency has become manageable, CAP seeks to reestablish funding for our mission.

In the last 2 years, the Hawaii Wing continues to carry out its missions through alternative funding sources, donations collected from its members, and local unit fundraisers. These sources are not sustainable to cover the high cost of maintenance of our aircraft, vehicles, and equipment and not reliable enough to ensure the operational readiness accross the state. It is for this reason that we ask that our funding be restored so we may focus on carrying out our mission and serving our community.

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 has provided critical services to the

State of Hawaii in times of emergencies and has worked closely with local emergency management agencies in all four counties and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. We have conducted missions that included, but not limited to: Search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial photographs of impacted areas, alerts and notifications, and transportation of supplies to remote locations.

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 was included in the State's application for a Federal Disaster Declaration. Recent similar missions were conducted on the 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.



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Department of Hawaii

438 Hobron Lane, Suite 407

Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Testimony in Support of SB 3335

**Senate Committee On Public Safety, Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs Hearing
on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 1:00 P.M. via Videoconference**

Senator Nishihara, Chair, Senator DeCoite, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

The Department of Hawaii, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW Hawaii) represents 4,300+ members in 20 Posts located throughout the State of Hawaii. VFW is a federally chartered national association of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who have served the United States of America in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign soil or in hostile waters.

SB 3335 appropriates \$150,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to fund the operational expenses of the Hawaii wing of the civil air patrol. The State had previously provided funding to the Hawaii wing of the civil air patrol for the operational expenses of its activities including emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet programs. That State funding ceased in 2019, but should now be reinstated.

“The Civil Air Patrol Hawaii Wing is represented by squadrons, pilots, aircraft, and cadets on the four major Islands (Kaua‘i, O‘ahu, Maui, Hawai‘i). Working in harmony with local civil defense and emergency management agencies, CAP flies tsunami, hurricane, and tropical storm warning missions over the coastal areas and rain forests in addition to aerial damage and disaster assessment flights, search and rescue, and USGS Volcanoes National Observatory overflight of lava flow zones.” [Source: <https://hiwg.cap.gov/about>]

As a retired U.S. Air Force officer, I am very familiar with the Civil Air Patrol mission and activities in various states where I was assigned. I understand that some VFW Hawaii comrades serve as volunteer senior members in the Hawaii Wing. All VFW Hawaii members join me in supporting this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 3335.

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

Lawrence M.G. Enomoto

VFW Hawaii State Legislative Liaison

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 2:17:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Denton Alvarado	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Honolulu, former Cadet and now Deputy Commander at Maryknoll Cadet Squadron, and current USAF service member, I want you to know how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

Civil Air Patrol has been a vital part in our readiness for any disaster or support mission. This organization allows us to support our state at a moments notice for situations likes Tsunami, Hurricanes, and after damage reports in areas that local authorites may have difficulty accessing. We have exceeded in honing our skills in communications via radio contact, incident command, and contol. With our new SUAS program expanding we can provide surveillance at little risk of human injury. During all of these emergency services, we also inspire the next growing generation of keiki. CAP is a vital part in my life growing up and is a indispensible to our community.

There are no military service requirements for CAP members and all the adult members are volunteers. As a cadet, I learned the importance of self excellence and attention to detail, while sharpening moral reasoning for ethical leadership in a fun and challenging way, preparing to serve as a volunteer to our community, state, and nation.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 5:54:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Edgar Lopez	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol, Hawaii Wing	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Ewa Beach, Hawai'i, senior member at West Oahu Composite Squadron, and retired USAF officer, please accept this statement of service regarding how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

As a new member I have personally seen how our cadets continue to learn, help and contribute to this great state. They are the future of Hawai'i.

There are no military service requirements for CAP members and all the members are volunteers. Cadets learn alongside volunteer adults the importance of self-excellence and attention to detail, while sharpening moral reasoning for ethical leadership in a fun and challenging way, preparing to serve as a volunteer to our community, state, and nation.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 7:05:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Amy Nicanor	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol	Support	No

Comments:

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

As a resident of Schofield Barracks, HI and parent of two current cadets at West Oahu Composite Squadron, and wife of an active duty soldier, please accept this statement of service regarding how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

While we were stationed in Missouri at the beginning of the pandemic, the cadets and senior members provided numerous volunteers to distribute supplies to first responders in St. Louis. The initial roll out of the vaccine was facilitated by CAP pilots and volunteers.

There are no military service requirements for CAP members and all the members are volunteers. Cadets learn alongside volunteer adults the importance of self-excellence and attention to detail, while sharpening moral reasoning for ethical leadership in a fun and challenging way, preparing to serve as a volunteer to our community, state, and nation.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 7:39:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Grace Schonhardt	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol, Hawaii Wing	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Honolulu, a member of the United States Navy, Nurse Corps, and parent of a Maryknoll School cadet, I want to share how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

CAP supports Hawaii's communities with emergency response, aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space and cyber power. CAP partners with the U.S. Air Force, in search and rescue missions, in times of disaster and work to keep the homeland safe. Its volunteers selflessly devote time, energy and expertise toward the well-being of their communities, while also promoting aviation and related fields through aerospace/STEM education and helping shape future leaders through CAP's cadet program.

My son joined CAP this school year and is excited about learning from members of the military who come to the campus to share their knowledge and passion. He also learns from the older and more experienced cadets and the adult leaders on how to be respectful and honor the traditions of the USAF.

I commend 2nd LT Denton and the adult members who are volunteers. They provide great examples of excellence and leadership in a fun and challenging way to prepare our cadets to serve their communities and nation.

I politely urge the members of this committee to support this very important legislation.

Very respectfully,

Grace Schonhardt

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/8/2022 5:36:42 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Andrea Fujita	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol Hawaii Wing	Support	No

Comments:

As a proud parent of a Civil Air Patrol cadet, I fully support this bill that will help tremendously the Civil Air Patrol Hawaii Wing in their endeavors to support the community. My son has benefited from all the knowledge that has been passed to him by other cadets and leaders.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 9:10:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Matthew Vrechek	Testifying for Civil Air Patrol, Hawaii Wing	Support	No

Comments:

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

As a resident of Ewa Beach, as a current cadet of West Oahu Composite Squadron, and please accept this statement of service regarding how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

CAP is helping me prepare for a career in aviation. As Hawaii is a state that depends greatly on tourism, there is a constant need for aviation professionals to provide transportation to the state. CAP is providing me a foundation to pursue this career. CAP is also ever ready to provide emergency services needed. CAP is also a valuable tool in recruiting for the United States Airforce.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 5:49:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Darcie Kawamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is the first year that my child has signed up as a cadet enrolled in Maryknoll School's Civil Air Patrol Squadron. Through participation in this program even during the last few months, I have seen him grow in his leadership abilities and self-confidence. The cadet program and the learning opportunities that are provided to my child have already had a postivite impact on him.

Re-instating funding for emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs would continue to support the Hawaii's Wing CAP mission of instilling the core values of integrity, volunteer service, excellence and respect in all those who are involved with this program.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 5:57:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Danny Coldivar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of an organization "Civil Air Patrol, Hawaii Wing" I support this bill.

LATE

SB-3335

Submitted on: 2/7/2022 8:53:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Katherine Balatico	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Members of the Hearing Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of SB 3335 relating to Civil Air Patrol. This bill proposes to appropriate funds for operational expenses for Hawaii Wing of Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for which my daughter is a C/Amn cadet. As a resident of Waipahu, Hawaii, my daughter is currently a C/Amn cadet in the West Oahu Composite Squadron. Please accept this statement regarding how much CAP volunteers do for our community and state.

My daughter is studying to be a pilot, and the CAP program teaches her and her fellow cadets the skills in aerospace, piloting, and leadership she will need for both college and/or entry into the military. In the Hawaii Wing of Civil Air Patrol, cadets learn how to respond in real world Emergency Service Response Missions, apply for scholarships to advance their training, and prepare them for auxiliary missions when the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard request assistance.

There are no military service requirements for CAP members and all the members are volunteers. Cadets learn alongside volunteer adults the importance of self-excellence and attention to detail, while sharpening moral reasoning for ethical leadership in a fun and challenging way, preparing to serve as a volunteer to our community, state, and nation.

Thank you for your interest in the Hawaii Wing of Civil Air Patrol.

Sincerely,

Katherine Balatico