



Senate Committee on Transportation
March 23, 2023

Re: Support for SCR73/SR65

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT REPORT TO EVALUATE THE FEASIBILITY AND PRACTICALITY OF IMPLEMENTING HIGHER LEVELS OF COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR THE GENERAL AVIATION INDUSTRY AND HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AT AIRPORTS IN THE STATE.

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the committee!

We are writing to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 73 and Senate Resolution 65. These measures request the Department of Transportation to assess implementation of higher levels of commercial general liability insurance for the general aviation industry and helicopter operations at airports in the state.

Blue Hawaiian has the highest commitment to safety. Our aircraft are equipped with technologies and equipment like Helicopter Terrain Awareness and Warning Systems (HTAWS), automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B), aircraft floats and upgraded with the newest GARMIN glass-cockpit avionics to exceed the federal regulatory requirements for helicopter air tour safety. To further our safety commitment, Blue Hawaiian Helicopters is the only air tour operator in Hawaii to be a member of the Tour Operators Program of Safety, as well as to also have a Voluntary FAA Safety Management System (SMS) implementation program and an accepted and approved Voluntary FAA Aviation Safety Action Program (ASAP).

We have consistently urged the legislature to increase the aviation insurance coverage minimums as a mechanism to promote the adoption of safety measures by the aviation industry. Hawaii airports require commercial general liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$1 million combined single limit and \$2 million in the aggregate, whereas preliminary research indicates that airports like McCarran Airport in Las Vegas and Phoenix have minimum requirements of \$10 million.

We seek to serve as a resource to policymakers, including the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SR-65

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 1:34:29 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doug Downey	Testifying for Air Methods	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I support SR65

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Submitted on: 3/22/2023 1:38:02 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Curt Castagna	Testifying for Aeroplex	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I support SR65

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Submitted on: 3/22/2023 1:29:46 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Hamp	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SCR73 SR65.