JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA MAJOR GENERAL ADJUTANT GENERAL DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

JAMES DS. BARROS ADMINISTRATOR HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

STATE OF HAWAII KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY 4204 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAI[']I 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1163 RELATING TO CIVIL AIR PATROL

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON **PUBLIC SAFETY AND INETRGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

ΒY

JAMES DS. BARROS ADMINISTRATOR HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and members of the committee:

I am James Barros, Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA).

HI-EMA provides written testimony to SUPPORT SB1163.

This measure would appropriate funds for operational expenses of the Hawai'i 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. They assist in the field with everything from spreading warnings in remote areas before an incident, providing pre-assessment aerial reconnaissance, to assessing the damages and impacts afterward.

CAP recently provided vital support and assistance during the Mauna Loa eruption on the Big Island, providing overflights that allowed for aerial photography to monitor the status of the lava flows and document damage to support a request for a federal disaster declaration.

SB1163 would reinstate funding which CAP previously received from the State. We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities in the Governor's budget proposals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

James Barros: james.barros@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

<u>SB-1163</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2023 10:14:36 PM Testimony for PSM on 2/3/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB1163.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Lt Col, USAF(Ret)



SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair; Sen. Brandon Elefante Vice Chair; and Committee Members Public Hearing, February 3, 2023 at 3:00 pm, Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY of WILLIAM F. ANONSEN MANAGING PARTNER/PRINCIPAL of THE MARITIME GROUP In SUPPORT of the SB 1163

My name is William Anonsen, and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of THE MARITIME GROUP, former chair of the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management (HACEM), and a member of the Civil Air Patrol – Hawaii Wing Advisory Committee. I strongly support this measure which would secure the critical funding needed to help defray some of the operational expenses of the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol necessary to continue its vital mission and operations of search and rescue and assisting emergency management agencies with critical response, disaster relief and recovery efforts during and after a disaster.

The Civil Air Patrol depends on state funding appropriations to defray its operational expenses and to ensure the Hawaii Wing's operational readiness. Any imposed budgetary restrictions would adversely affect these essential public safety services. The Hawaii Wing has three primary missions: search and rescue, aeronauticsaerospace education and its cadet program. It continues to provide tsunami warning services to the state, the only organization providing these capabilities. Once a tsunami alert has been issued by the National Weather Service, the volunteer members mobilize and get the Hawaii Wing's aircraft in the air, making repeated passes over beaches, and coastal communities using sirens and loudspeaker to warn residents and visitors. Civil Air Patrol aircraft also provide aerial photograph of any destruction and damage, along with serving as an active participant in counter-drug operations for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The passage of this bill will ensure that the Civil Air Patrol -Hawaii Wing is able to keep its aircraft manned by a cadre of passionate and qualified volunteer pilots and support staff, that ensure these assets are operational and available to provide our multi-island state with public safety and lifesaving warnings, and to provide training for its personal. We understand there are many worthy organizations seeking and needing financial assistance during these challenging times, and we hope you will consider the Civil Air Patrol -Hawaii Wing as an organization meriting that level of investment and support.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment in support of this measure

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen

William F. Anonsen Managing Partner/Principal





3 February 2023

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1163 RELATING TO THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

TESTIMONY TO: SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR SENATOR BRANDON J.C. ELEFANTE, VICE CHAIR MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY: COLONEL STACY HARUGUCHI, CAP WING COMMANDER HAWAII WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in <u>SUPPORT</u> of SB 1163, Relating to the Civil Air Patrol. This bill proposes to appropriate funds for operational expenses of the Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary of the United States Air Force comprised of volunteers across the country. Its mission includes emergency service, aerospace education and cadet programs.

For over 80 years, the Hawaii Wing has provided critical services to the State of Hawaii in times of emergencies. The Hawaii Wing has worked closely with emergency management agencies in all four counties and with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and has conducted missions including, but not limited to: Search and rescue, damage assessments, aerial photographs of impacted areas, alerts and notifications, and transportation of supplies.

Most recently, CAP was called upon by the State of Hawaii to conduct aerial reconnaissance after the eruption of Mauna Loa in December of 2022. The photographs provided critical information to State and County leaders which was instrumental in their planning efforts and decision making. Recent similar missions were conducted on Hawai`i Island during the Kilauea volcanic eruptions, statewide for Hurricanes Lane and Olivia, on Kauai during the recent flood events and on Maui County during flash flooding incidents. 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.

Testimony of Col. Haruguchi Page 2

The Hawaii Wing of the Civil Air Patrol has in its inventory 9 aircraft used for instruction, orientation and for emergency response. The maintenance of these aircrafts is very costly and for many years, the State of Hawaii has assisted the Hawaii Wing with funding. In 2019, the State decided to not fund this critical service to the State and redirected these monies towards COVID response. As such, the Hawaii Wing continued to carry out its missions through alternate funding sources ranging from donations collected from its members to fundraisers. However, this alternate revenue stream was found to not be sustainable and unreliable to ensure the operational readiness of the Hawaii Wing to respond in times of natural disasters and other emergencies. 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.