

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR GOV. MSG. NO. 661

May 24, 2006

The Honorable Robert Bunda, President and Members of the Senate Twenty-Third State Legislature State Capitol, Room 003 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on May 24, 2006, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2879 SD1 HD1 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL. (ACT 127)

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

ACT 127

THE SENATE TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2006 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO. 5.D. 1

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE HAWAII CIVIL AIR PATROL.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii civil air
- 2 patrol provides necessary disaster relief, search and rescue,
- 3 homeland security, and medical emergency transport services to
- 4 local and national organizations.
- 5 Since the early 1950s, the civil air patrol has provided
- 6 tsunami warning services to the State. Once a tsunami alert has
- 7 been issued by the National Weather Service, the civil air
- 8 patrol mobilizes its aircraft, making repeated passes over
- 9 beaches and coastal communities using sirens and loud speakers
- 10 to warn residents.
- The legislature also finds that the civil air patrol flies
- 12 more than ninety-five per cent of the nation's inland search and
- 13 rescue missions. Approximately one hundred people are saved
- 14 every year by civil air patrol volunteers. In July 2002, the
- 15 civil air patrol was instrumental in locating a small plane that
- 16 went down on Maui.
- 17 The civil air patrol also plays a vital role in disaster
- 18 relief. Volunteer civil air patrol members fly disaster relief

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- 1 officials to remote locations and support local, state, and
- 2 national disaster relief organizations with experienced pilots
- 3 and personnel. The civil air patrol transports time-sensitive
- 4 medical materials, blood products, and body tissue.
- 5 Today, as a peacetime auxiliary of the Air Force, the civil
- 6 air patrol remains an active volunteer organization with
- 7 approximately five hundred fifty members, including two hundred
- 8 cadets. The Hawaii wing has three primary missions:
- 9 (1) Search and rescue;
- 10 (2) Aerospace education; and
- 11 (3) The cadet program.
- 12 It is also an active participant in counter-drug operations for
- 13 the Drug Enforcement Agency, flying over one hundred seventy-
- 14 nine missions in 2003.
- The legislature further finds that the civil air patrol
- 16 depends on state funding to defray its operational expenses, but
- 17 past budget restrictions have hampered its ability to carry out
- 18 necessary operations. A lack of funding could result in:
- 19 (1) Termination of weekly tsunami watch patrols;
- 20 (2) Difficulties in notifying emergency personnel; and
- 21 (3) Operations conducted at the expense of members.

- 1 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation to help
- 2 defray the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air patrol.
- 3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$60,000, or so much
- 5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to
- 6 complement the \$50,000 offered for support by the department of
- 7 defense, for the operational expenses of the Hawaii civil air
- 8 patrol.
- 9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 10 defense for the purposes of this Act.
- SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Approved this day: MAY 2 4 2006

## THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 2, 2006 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.

President of the Senate

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Clerk of the Senate

## THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 2, 2006 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006.

Speaker, House of Representatives

Clerk, House of Representatives