HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AIRPORTS DIVISION, TO CONTINUE ITS SUPPORT OF THE KONA COMPOSITE SQUADRON OF THE CIVIL AIR PATROL BY RESTORING ITS ORIGINAL LAND AREA, ENLARGING THE PRESENT BUILDING FACILITY TO ITS ORIGINAL DESIGN SIZE, AND ASSISTING WITH THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol has been active in West Hawai'i for more than thirty years, with a continuous membership of more than fifty cadet and adult members; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i approved a building facility and land that was originally meant to accommodate classes, meetings, search and rescue equipment, internet equipment, and storage area for the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, but only a portion of the planned facility and land have come to fruition; and

WHEREAS, the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, with adult assistance, has been able to acquire and utilize airplanes for training and for emergencies; and

WHEREAS, during the devastating earthquake of 2006, the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol demonstrated that it was able to be a "first responder" and saved numerous lives by taking to the air and reporting damaged roads, damaged bridges, and impassable cracks in highways and providing the information to the Hawai'i County Civil Defense which, in turn, alerted the public to the dangers; and

WHEREAS, during the past thirty years, numerous Kona and Kohala high school cadets have been accepted to the United States Air Force Academy and have completed their required five years of active duty, while others have excelled at other

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schools of higher education, demonstrating superior conduct, aptitude, attitude, drill skills, and self-discipline; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Transportation, Airports Division, is requested to continue its support of the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol by restoring its original land area and enlarging the present building facility to its original design size, as approved by prior legislation, including a paved parking area and a paved area for the cadets to practice their drill and color guard activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation, Airports Division, is requested to assist the Kona Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol in acquiring upto-date equipment that can be utilized especially in emergencies and that does not require direct electricity, such as a solar back-up system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Mayor of Hawaii County; the Director of Transportation; the Department of Defense; the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency; the Senate President; and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY:

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