

MAR 11 2022

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO CONVEY DILLINGHAM  
AIRFIELD TO THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield, formerly known as Dillingham  
2 Airfield, is a general aviation airfield owned by the United  
3 States Army and managed by the state Department of  
4 Transportation, Airports Division under a revocable lease on two  
5 hundred seventy-eight acres of the six hundred fifty acre  
6 Dillingham Military Reservation; and

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8           WHEREAS, the site has been operated as a military  
9 installation since 1927, was expanded during World War II, and  
10 has been managed by Airports Division for general aviation since  
11 1962; and

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13           WHEREAS, the topography and weather provide ideal  
14 conditions found nowhere else in the State for recreational  
15 skydiving, glider planes, flight instruction, and other general  
16 aviation businesses that generate more than \$12,000,000 in  
17 revenue for the local and state economy; and

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19           WHEREAS, Kawaihapai Airfield is recognized around the world  
20 as a premier location for skydiving and gliding, and is the most  
21 heavily used drop zone in the United States; and

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23           WHEREAS, the number of daily flight operations at  
24 Kawaihapai Airfield exceed operations at Kapaua, Lanai, and  
25 Kalaupapa airports combined; and

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27           WHEREAS, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
28 Year 1991, Section 2831, Public Law 101-510, required the  
29 Secretary of the Army to convey eighty-seven acres of land to  
30 the State of Hawaii, which included a portion of the western end  
31 of the Kawaihapai Airfield and adjacent shoreline, locally known  
32 as Army Beach; and

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34           WHEREAS, in contemplation of the transfer, the Legislature  
35 enacted Act 276, Session Laws of 2001, to change the official



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1 name of Dillingham Airfield to Kawaihapai Airfield upon  
2 completion of the land transfer; and

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4 WHEREAS, the land transfer has not yet been completed, but  
5 remains authorized and is pending disposition; and

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7 WHEREAS, the eighty-seven acres of airfield and beach  
8 property are valuable assets that rightfully belong to the State  
9 of Hawaii; now, therefore,

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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 2022, that  
13 the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources is  
14 requested to work with United States officials to enter into the  
15 necessary agreements to effectuate the conveyance of the  
16 relevant lands; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
19 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
20 Secretary of the Army, Governor, Chairperson of the Board of  
21 Land and Natural Resources, and the Director of Transportation.

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OFFERED BY:

