

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
2:00 PM
State Capitol, 308

SB3156, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports S.B.3156, SD1, HD1, which authorizes the Department of Transportation to enter into agreements with the United States Department of Defense to provide department services—such as road maintenance, improvement, relocation, or extension services—at federal military installations in Hawai'i.

This legislation strengthens the long-standing partnership between the State of Hawai'i and the U.S. military by allowing the State to assist with timely infrastructure work that supports military readiness and operational effectiveness. Given Hawai'i's central role in the Indo-Pacific region—an area that has been prioritized for national defense—ensuring that military installations are functional, resilient, and well-maintained is critically important to both state and national interests.

Federal military facilities play a vital role in disaster response and recovery efforts, particularly in a geographically isolated state like Hawai'i that is vulnerable to hurricanes, tsunamis, and other natural disasters. As noted in the bill, these installations serve as essential lifelines for logistics, transportation, communications, and emergency shelter during emergencies, directly supporting the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

In addition to enhancing readiness and resilience, this measure provides clear economic benefits. By allowing the Department to procure work on behalf of the Department of Defense using state procurement rules—while relying exclusively on federal funds—this bill creates opportunities for local contractors to compete for and perform federally funded work. This approach keeps more federal dollars circulating within Hawai'i's economy, builds local capacity, and supports job creation, while also enabling the military to complete needed infrastructure projects more efficiently and effectively.

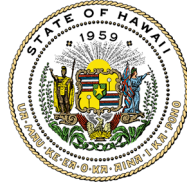
The bill also ensures strong fiscal safeguards. It explicitly requires that only federal

funds be used for services provided under these agreements and prohibits the use of Title 23 federal highway funds or state resources. Additionally, the Department is authorized to recover its administrative costs by charging the Department of Defense a fee for the time and resources required to procure the work, ensuring that the State is fully reimbursed for its efforts.

By improving coordination, leveraging state expertise, and facilitating timely infrastructure improvements at military installations, S.B. 3156, SD1, HD1, enhances military-state collaboration, strengthens Hawai'i's role in national defense, improves economic outcomes for local businesses, and bolsters the State's overall emergency preparedness and resilience.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
KAHU HO'OMALU PŌULIA

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
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HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4420

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

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3156 SD1 HD1,
RELATING TO
FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

April 7, 2026

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice-Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA) respectfully supports Senate Bill 3156 SD1 HD1, which authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to enter into agreements with the U.S. Department of Defense to provide construction, maintenance, and other services for federal military installations throughout the state.

Federal military facilities are essential components of Hawai'i's disaster response and recovery network. They provide vital logistics, transportation, communication, and emergency shelter resources that safeguard public health and safety during emergencies such as hurricanes and tsunamis.

This bill fosters a stronger partnership between the state and federal government by enabling DOT to assist with timely maintenance and improvements on military installations. Such cooperation will improve operational readiness and ensure these facilities remain reliable lifelines during crises.

By assisting with the upkeep of critical infrastructure, Hawai'i's overall emergency management capacity is strengthened, supporting HIEMA's mission to protect the welfare of our communities.

We respectfully urge the Committee to pass Senate Bill 3156 SD1 HD1 to enhance Hawai'i's disaster resilience through effective collaboration and resource sharing with the federal government.

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

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 2:00PM
Conference Room 308 & Videoconference**

RE: SB3156 SD1 HD1 Relating to Federal Military Installations

Aloha e Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

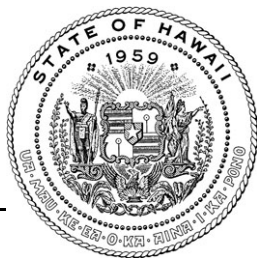
My name is Sherry Menor, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber"). The Chamber supports Senate Bill 3156 Senate Draft 1 House Draft 1 (SB3156 SD1 HD1), which authorizes the Department of Transportation to enter into agreements with the United States Department of Defense for the provision of services at federal military installations, under certain conditions, and authorizes charging an administrative fee.

SB3156 SD1 HD1 aligns with our 2030 Blueprint for Hawaii: An Economic Action Plan, specifically under the policy pillar for Military & Defense. The recent floods from the Kona Lows continue to demonstrate the State's vulnerability to natural disaster and the need to maintain disaster preparedness and readiness for adverse weather events. Federal military facilities play a pivotal role in maintaining community health and safety during these weather events. The presence of military installations across the state positions them well as a stakeholder the state can continue to rely upon for disaster support. Ensuring these installations are functional and current are vital in maintaining the military's capacity to be relied upon as a partner of the State during adverse weather events.

This measure attracts federal funds to Hawaii's economy, creating opportunities for local contractors without burdening local taxpayers. This bill allows the state to respond to natural disaster with preparedness and productivity: improving mission readiness and disaster preparedness, creating jobs, and attracting economic stimulus. By authorizing the Department of Transportation to engage in these agreements, Hawaii is better equipped to manage the circumstances that accompany our unique positioning in the Pacific.

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii is the state's leading business advocacy organization, dedicated to improving Hawaii's economy and securing Hawaii's future for growth and opportunity. Our mission is to foster a vibrant economic climate. As such, we support initiatives and policies that align with the 2030 Blueprint for Hawaii that create opportunities to strengthen overall competitiveness, improve the quantity and skills of available workforce, diversify the economy, and build greater local wealth.

We respectfully ask to pass Senate Bill 3156 Senate Draft 1 House Draft 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

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Statement of
LAURIE MCALLISTER MOORE
Executive Director
Military and Community Relations Office
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 308
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB3156 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO) of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** this measure which provides practical authority for the Hawaii Department of Transportation to enter into limited, federally funded agreements to assist with construction, maintenance, and improvement projects on federal military installations.

SB3156 SD1 HD1 allows the state to receive critical support through a partnership with the Department of Transportation and the military, improving infrastructure and further protecting Hawai'i from natural disasters. This bill will allow the Department of Transportation to directly invest in Hawai'i's protection with no additional cost to taxpayers.

In Hawai'i's isolated geography, military airfields, harbors, roadways, and logistics hubs are not only national defense assets, they are essential components of the State's disaster response network. During hurricanes, wildfires, floods, or other emergencies, these facilities serve as staging areas and transportation lifelines that directly protect our residents. Ensuring these remain fully operational is therefore a matter of public safety and statewide resilience.

This measure reflects a fiscally responsible partnership model, and by enabling coordinated, efficient project delivery and strengthening day-to-day collaboration between state and federal partners, it reinforces our shared kuleana to safeguard Hawai'i's people and infrastructure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3156 SD1 HD1
RELATING TO FEDERAL MILITARY INSTALLATIONS**

House Committee on Finance
Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 2:00 PM
Conference Room 308 or via Videoconference

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Military Affairs Council ("MAC") supports SB 3156 SD1 HD1.

The MAC was established in 1985 when the Chamber was appointed by the State to serve as the liaison to the military. The MAC advocates on behalf of Hawaii's military, and is comprised of business leaders, academic institutions, State and County officials, members of the CODEL, community leaders, labor unions and organizations and retired U.S. flag and general officers. The MAC works to support Hawaii's location as a strategic U.S. headquarters in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region which is crucial for U.S. national and homeland security.

Federal military installations across Hawai'i serve as critical lifelines during natural disasters, providing logistics, transportation, communications, and emergency shelter. Their operational readiness is essential not only for national defense but also for the safety and resilience of Hawai'i's communities.

These support functions rely on Department of Defense infrastructure such as airfields, roads, harbors, and access routes that must remain fully functional and ready to support emergency response operations.

However, some military facilities require timely infrastructure improvements that the federal government has been unable to complete due to procurement constraints or capacity limitations. SB 3156 SD1 HD1 establishes a practical, government-to-government mechanism for the Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) to assist with this work, without using state funds or drawing from federal highway funds, while also creating additional contracting opportunities for local companies and keeping economic benefits in the state.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.