



Stuart R. Davis, President  
National States Geographic Information Council  
2105 Laurel Bush Rd., Ste. 200  
Bel Air, MD 21015

Dear President Davis:

The Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council (HIGICC) strongly endorses the Imagery for the Nation initiative being led by the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC).

Partially due to the fact that Hawaii has not been included in other nationwide aerial photography efforts, the State of Hawaii lacks high quality, consistent and cyclical aerial imagery coverage. As a result, aerial imagery for Hawaii has been a patchwork of various projects that have been collected for specific purposes and often at different specifications. The Imagery for the Nation initiative offers Hawaii an opportunity to improve our inventory of remote sensing products by obtaining contiguous statewide aerial imagery that meets the minimum standards necessary to help build and maintain the National Spatial Data Infrastructure and The National Map. The HIGICC also appreciates the flexibility afforded in allowing imagery collected under this program to be upgraded to higher resolutions.

In addition to building the State's inventory of imagery, this initiative would also provide a basis for updating many of our existing geospatial databases. Due to the lack of current and consistent imagery, updates to our existing geospatial data coverages have for the most part been non-existent. New aerial imagery would also allow for new land use/land cover analysis at a higher resolution. Subsequent collections would in turn allow for the conduct of change detection analysis, which has never been carried out on a statewide basis. I would also like to add that the same issues apply to the Pacific Basin Territories.

In summary, the successful deployment of the Imagery for the Nation initiative would greatly enhance the coverage, quality and consistency of imagery in Hawaii. As such, HIGICC is fully committed to assisting NSGIC in moving this effort forward.

Sincerely,

Henry B. Wolter  
President, HIGICC

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