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Big Island plans few replacements for called-up men

HILO — The County will hire temporary replacement for employes called to active duty with the National Guard and reserves only where absolutely necessary, County Chairman Shunichi Kimura said yesterday.

An initial count showed that 40 employes and officials would be affected, but Kimura said the ruling exempting those whose enlistments are nearly up would cut that list by a few.

He said the indefinite period of the callup would make recruitment of temporary help very difficult.

It may be possible to expand contractual services to keep the wheels turning smoothly in some departments, he said.

But one of the difficult areas is in police and fire protection. The callup hit both those departments hard.

Kimura has also directed the County Committee on Manpower and Full Employment to examine the impact of the callup on both government and private industry.

And he has told the Economic Development Committee to look into ways the County may assist affected families aside from provisions of the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act.

He said some sort of Send-off for the citizen-soldiers will be arranged.