
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY SHELTERS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a number of public
2 schools throughout the State of Hawaii have been designated as
3 emergency shelters in the event of a natural disaster. The
4 legislature also finds that these public shelters may not
5 necessarily meet the design criteria standards that were
6 recently developed by the state department of defense pursuant
7 to Act 5, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005.

8 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
9 education to identify deficient disaster shelters and to work
10 with other state agencies to retrofit these shelters.

11 SECTION 2. (a) The department of education, in
12 conjunction with the department of defense and department of
13 accounting and general services, as necessary, shall identify
14 which emergency shelters that are located on public school
15 grounds do not meet the department of defense's design standards
16 established pursuant to Act 5, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005. The
17 department of education shall prioritize the evaluation of



1 emergency shelters under its control according to the following
2 criteria:

- 3 (1) Emergency shelters in rural areas;
- 4 (2) Emergency shelters in inundation zones and hurricane-
5 prone disaster areas;
- 6 (3) Emergency shelters that would be most heavily utilized
7 in the event of a catastrophic, natural disaster; and
- 8 (4) Other emergency shelters under its control.

9 (b) The department of education, in conjunction with the
10 department of defense and the department of accounting and
11 general services, shall prioritize the order in which the public
12 facility emergency shelters will be retrofitted to meet the
13 design criteria standards established by the department of
14 defense, based upon the criteria provided in subsection (a);
15 provided that the shelters to be retrofitted by 2008 shall
16 include at least one on each inhabited Hawaiian island.

17 SECTION 3. The department of education shall submit a
18 report to the legislature, no later than twenty days prior to
19 the convening of the regular session of 2007, that shall
20 include, but not be limited to, a priority list of emergency
21 shelters under its control in need of retrofitting and the
22 estimated total cost of each retrofitting project.



H.B. NO. 2597

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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HB 2597

Report Title:

Schools; Civil Defense; Emergency Shelters

Description:

Requires the department of education, in conjunction with the department of defense and the department of accounting and general services, to plan for the retrofitting of specific schools used as emergency shelters.

