
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PREPARED EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION TO STUDY
EXPEDITED LICENSING OR LICENSING EXEMPTIONS FOR CONTRACTORS
AND TRADESMEN IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER.

1 WHEREAS, the devastating effects of Hurricanes Katrina and
2 Rita have elevated the State of Hawaii's concerns over disaster
3 preparedness; and
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5 WHEREAS, the efforts to reconstruct and repair damaged
6 homes and businesses following a natural disaster are critical
7 to the re-establishment of normalcy in our community; and
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9 WHEREAS, the gulf hurricanes have shown that there may not
10 be sufficient numbers of licensed contractors and tradesmen
11 following a natural disaster; and
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13 WHEREAS, it is important that the State address the
14 possibility that there may not be enough licensed tradesmen and
15 contractors to meet the needs of Hawaii's residents in the event
16 of a natural disaster; and
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18 WHEREAS, it is important that the problems which occurred
19 after Hurricanes Iwa and Iniki must not recur; and
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21 WHEREAS, the State should have in place specific criteria
22 for expedited licensing and licensing exemptions for contractors
23 and tradesmen; and
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25 WHEREAS, the State does not currently have such criteria
26 established by statute or rule; and
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28 WHEREAS, statutory amendments to implement such criteria
29 are necessary; and
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31 WHEREAS, the emergency licensing of such professionals
32 requires discussion; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2006, that the Prepared Emergency Response Commission
4 (Response Commission), or in the absence of the Response
5 Commission, a task force established by the Director of Commerce
6 and Consumer Affairs, is requested to study the supply of
7 contractors and tradesmen available in times of natural
8 disaster, and to study the advisability and feasibility in the
9 event of a natural disaster in Hawaii of:

- 10
11 (1) Expedited licensure, temporary licensure, or special
12 circumstances licensure of contractors and tradesmen;
13 and
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15 (2) Exemption from licensure of contractors and tradesmen;
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17 and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in the absence of the Response
20 Commission, the Director's task force be composed of 12 members,
21 as follows:

- 22
23 (1) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or
24 designee, to serve as chair; and
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26 (2) The Executive Officer of the State Contractors License
27 Board;
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29 (3) The Executive Officer of the Board of Electricians and
30 Plumbers;
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32 (4) The Executive Officer of the Elevator Mechanics
33 Licensing Board;
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35 (5) One representative of an insurer that writes at least
36 20 percent of the Hawaii homeowners insurance market,
37 to be selected by the Insurance Commissioner;
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39 (6) The Complaints and Enforcement Officer of the
40 Regulated Industries Complaints Office, or designee;
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42 (7) The Division Administrator of the Professional and
43 Vocational Licensing Division of the Department of
44 Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or designee;



- 1 (8) One representative of the Subcontractors Association
- 2 of Hawaii;
- 3
- 4 (9) One representative of the Building Industry
- 5 Association of Hawaii;
- 6
- 7 (10) One representative of the General Contractors
- 8 Association of Hawaii;
- 9
- 10 (11) One representative of the Associated Builders and
- 11 Contractors; and
- 12
- 13 (12) One representative of the Hawaii Association of
- 14 REALTORS®;

15
16 and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force members serve
19 without compensation and without reimbursement for expenses; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Response Commission, or in
22 the absence of the Response Commission, the Director of Commerce
23 and Consumer Affairs, is requested to submit a report of
24 findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to
25 the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of
26 the Regular Session of 2007; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chair of the Prepared
30 Emergency Response Commission, Director of Commerce and Consumer
31 Affairs, Executive Officer of the State Contractors License
32 Board, Executive Officer of the Board of Electricians and
33 Plumbers, Insurance Commissioner, Executive Officer of the
34 Elevator Mechanics Licensing Board, Complaints and Enforcement
35 Officer of the Regulated Industries Complaints Office, Division
36 Administrator of the Professional and Vocational Licensing
37 Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
38 Subcontractors Association of Hawaii, Building Industry
39 Association of Hawaii, General Contractors Association of
40 Hawaii, Associated Builder and Contractors, and Hawaii
41 Association of REALTORS®.

