

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2446  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs, to which  
was referred H.B. No. 2446 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR INCREASING  
POWER GENERATING CAPACITY FOR THE QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide financial support to  
The Queen's Medical Center to ensure that it remains ready to  
serve the entire community in time of disaster.

Specifically, the bill appropriates \$11,000,000 out of the  
hurricane reserve trust fund for the purpose of providing a grant  
to The Queen's Medical Center so that it may purchase emergency  
power generating equipment to achieve its maximum power use  
capacity of six thousand kilowatts.

The Queen's Medical Center testified in support of this bill.  
The state Department of Defense fully supports the intent of the  
bill, with amendments. The Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund opposed  
this bill.

Your Committee finds that the recent tragic events in New  
Orleans and the surrounding Gulf Coast caused by Hurricanes  
Katrina and Rita reinforce the urgency of ensuring that the  
emergency medical caregivers of this State are provided with  
sufficient facilities and energy capacity to withstand a massive  
medical emergency.



Your Committee further finds that The Queen's Medical Center is the only medical facility in the State with a trauma center that is certified by the American College of Surgeons. However, The Queen's Medical Center currently lacks sufficient energy generators and structural capability to withstand the wind force of a category five hurricane.

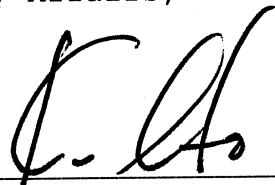
Your Committee also notes the concern that all hospitals in the State should be equipped to some degree with emergency generators.

Your Committee has amended the measure by:

- (1) Adding a statement declaring that the Legislature finds that the appropriation serves a public purpose;
- (2) Changing the sum appropriated from \$11,000,000 to \$1 to promote further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2446, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2446, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety &  
Military Affairs,

  
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KEN ITO, Chair



