

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2388

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2006

FEB 17

RE: S.B. No. 2955

S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Transportation and Government Operations and Education and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2955 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY SHELTERS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund retrofitting of public school buildings to enable them to be used as emergency shelters.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Civil Defense, the Department of Education, and one individual.

Your Committees find that the supply of emergency shelters is woefully and dangerously inadequate. Emergency shelters can make the difference between life or death in a disaster, as was demonstrated in New Orleans with Hurricane Katrina. This measure is an outgrowth of that disaster-turned-catastrophe, which could have been ameliorated with better planning for emergency shelters.

The State Civil Defense estimates that the cost would be \$35,000,000 to retrofit public schools, but the agency is asking for an initial appropriation of \$4,000,000.

Your Committees have amended this measure by adding the provisions of S.B. No. 2181, relating to temporary emergency shelter for the homeless; S.B. No. 2889, relating to emergency

2006-1646 SSCR SMA.doc




shelters for health care facilities; and part of S.B. No. 3055, relating to utilizing public schools as emergency shelters, which is an expanded version of this measure.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Government Operations and Education and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2955, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2955, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Transportation
and Government Operations and
Education and Military Affairs,



NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair



LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



