
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a major deficiency
2 exists in the State's disaster planning and preparedness for
3 older and disabled individuals. The recent events of Hurricane
4 Katrina and September 11th forced our communities to recognize
5 the extreme vulnerability of these two populations.

6 A substantial portion of the older and disabled population
7 in Hawaii are socially or geographically isolated and not served
8 by community agencies. These people are particularly vulnerable
9 in disaster situations because they often require special
10 transportation services, have critical medical and
11 pharmaceutical needs, and have difficulty communicating due to
12 cultural differences and language barriers.

13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a disaster planning
14 and preparedness consumer advisory board to review existing and
15 develop new policies and plans that address the needs of the
16 elderly and disabled members of the community in the event of a
17 man-made or natural disaster.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a disaster planning
2 and preparedness consumer advisory board within the department
3 of health for the review of existing and the development of new
4 policies and plans that address the needs of elderly and
5 disabled members of the community in the event of a man-made or
6 natural disaster. The board shall provide guidance to the
7 Hawaii State Civil Defense Division and each county's civil
8 defense agency as to the disaster plans and procedures that are
9 to be implemented.

10 (b) Membership of the disaster planning and preparedness
11 consumer advisory board shall be as follows:

12 (1) One representative from the Hawaii State Civil Defense
13 Division, to be designated by the Hawaii State Civil
14 Defense Division director, who shall convene and
15 facilitate the work of the board and ensure that the
16 state and county civil defense plans are reviewed and
17 modified as needed; and

18 (2) Four representatives from the city and county of
19 Honolulu, two representatives from the county of Maui,
20 two representatives from the county of Hawaii, and two
21 representatives from the county of Kauai who are of
22 varying disability or over the age of sixty.



1 (c) The Hawaii State Civil Defense Division and each
2 county's civil defense agency shall work with the disability and
3 communication access board, the council on developmental
4 disabilities, the policy advisory board for elder affairs of the
5 executive office on aging, and each county's office on aging
6 board to designate the members under section (b) (2) who will
7 serve on the disaster planning and preparedness consumer
8 advisory board.

9 (d) The disaster planning and preparedness consumer
10 advisory board shall submit a report on its findings and
11 recommendations regarding the issues set forth in subsection
12 (a), including any recommendations for proposed legislation, to
13 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
14 of the regular session of 2009.

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
18 the disaster planning and preparedness consumer advisory board
19 to carry out its responsibilities, including interpreter
20 services and travel expenses.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
22 health for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008, and
2 shall be repealed on January 1, 2010.

3

INTRODUCED BY:

John M. Depina

Guthrie Thickett

Mark V. De

Debra A. Bellotti

Colleen Meyer

[Signature]

Tang Wen

JAN 15 2008



Report Title:

Disaster Planning and Preparedness; Elderly; Disabled

Description:

Establishes a disaster planning and preparedness consumer advisory board to review existing and develop new policies and plans that address the needs of the elderly and disabled members of the community in the event of a man-made or natural disaster. Makes an appropriation.

