
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAII'S NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING
CENTER TO WORK WITH THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
FAMILY CARE GIVING, KUPUNA CAUCUS, AND OTHER INTERESTED
ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS EMPHASIZING
AT-RISK COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature has acknowledged the importance of
2 Hawaii's kupuna and through Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii
3 2006, has established the Joint Legislative Committee on Family
4 Caregiving; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Legislature further acknowledged the need to
7 assist frail and vulnerable elders by enacting legislation:

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9 (1) To provide for adult protective services;
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11 (2) To protect the structural integrity of nursing homes
12 and other institutions;
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14 (3) To maintain the safety of elderly residents in
15 condominiums; and
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17 (4) Other measures that will assist elders who are "aging
18 in place" when a natural disaster occurs";

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20 and

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22 WHEREAS, in the event of a natural disaster, there exists
23 the potential for great harm and injury to the elderly and
24 persons with disabilities, absent adequate natural disaster
25 preparation and training; and

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27 WHEREAS, during Hurricane Rita, a number of nursing home
28 residents died in New Orleans due to a lack of preparedness, and
29 similar incidents in Hawaii should be avoided by preparing for
30 hurricanes, tsunamis, and other natural disasters; and



1 WHEREAS, large numbers of elders live alone and may be in
2 need of assistance in the event of a natural disaster,
3 especially if separated from family, friends, and caregivers;
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, the elderly who live in condominiums and other
7 multi-unit buildings are at greater risk because many buildings
8 do not have emergency plans or procedures to meet the immediate
9 and short-term needs of their residents who are aged or who may
10 have disabilities; and
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12 WHEREAS, recent federal legislation established the Natural
13 Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of
14 Hawaii to develop and provide training in all aspects of
15 disaster management within the Pacific region and to develop
16 tools and models for evaluating risks to urban areas, while
17 planning for the response, recovery, and reconstruction of the
18 community in the aftermath of natural disasters; now, therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
22 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the University of
23 Hawaii Natural Disaster Preparedness Training Center is
24 requested to work with the Joint Legislative Committee on Family
25 Care Giving, Kupuna Caucus, and other interested organizations
26 and persons to develop disaster preparedness programs
27 emphasizing at-risk communities; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
31 University of Hawaii Natural Disaster Preparedness Training
32 Center, Director of Human Services, Director of Health, Director
33 of the Executive Office on Aging, Chairperson of the Policy
34 Advisory Board on Elderly Affairs, Executive Director of the
35 Disability and Communication Access Board, and the Executive
36 Director of the Statewide Independent Living Council of Hawaii.

