
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DESIGNATE A STATE AGENCY TO DEVELOP A
STATEWIDE LAND USE STRATEGY TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL HAZARDS
CAUSED BY CATASTROPHIC DISASTERS.

1 WHEREAS, every state is susceptible to a variety of natural
2 and man-made hazards that can potentially produce catastrophic
3 disasters; and

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5 WHEREAS, science and recent experience suggest that the
6 frequency and severity of natural and man-made disasters may be
7 increasing; and

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9 WHEREAS, shifting social, cultural, and economic factors
10 have resulted in increased concentrations of individuals and
11 property being exposed to potentially catastrophic disasters;
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, adequate planning is essential to protect public
15 safety, avert economic loss, and accelerate recovery following a
16 catastrophic disaster; and

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18 WHEREAS, hazard mitigation concerns should be balanced with
19 other social goals, such as economic development, environmental
20 interest, infrastructure needs, sustainability, and aesthetics;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, the consideration of hazard mitigation when
24 developing land use policies can help advance the quality of
25 life in communities; and

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27 WHEREAS, certain land use policies can help diminish the
28 likelihood and severity of losses caused by catastrophic
29 disasters; and
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1 WHEREAS, these land use policies can also help minimize the
2 cost of insurance that is otherwise affected by the risk of loss
3 from catastrophic disasters; and

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5 WHEREAS, relevant federal, state, and local government
6 agencies should coordinate the development and implementation of
7 land use policies that can help mitigate hazards caused by
8 catastrophic disasters; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is
13 requested to designate an executive agency, including any and as
14 many personnel from that agency or any other executive agency as
15 the Governor deems necessary or appropriate to:

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- 17 (1) Research state land use laws and county zoning and
18 subdivision ordinances to determine the extent to
19 which they help to mitigate potential hazards caused
20 by catastrophic disasters, including fires, flood,
21 tidal wave, volcanic eruption, and earthquake;
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 - 23 (2) Review the National Conference of Insurance
24 Legislators' State Uniform Building Code Model Act and
25 any other land use policies that are generally
26 recommended for mitigating potential hazards caused by
27 catastrophic disasters;
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 - 29 (3) Research whether state or local agencies may be
30 eligible for disaster mitigation grants, related to
31 coordinated land use planning strategies, that are
32 administered by the Federal Emergency Management
33 Agency or other federal agencies;
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 - 35 (4) Develop a statewide land use strategy to mitigate
36 potential hazards caused by catastrophic disasters.
37 The statewide land use strategy should include:
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 - 39 (A) Measureable objectives;
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 - 41 (B) Implementation timelines;
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 - 43 (C) Methods for state and local agency collaboration;
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H.C.R. NO. 12

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(D) Consideration of the rights and responsibilities of property owners;

(E) A provision regarding consumer education; and

(F) A provision for periodic review and amendment, as necessary; and

(5) Recommend amendments to state land use laws and county zoning and subdivision ordinances that will further the proposed statewide land use strategy;

(6) In developing a statewide land use strategy, consult with the Department of Defense, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Insurance Commissioner, Land Use Commission, State Fire Council, county planning departments, county civil defense agencies, and other interested stakeholders; and

(7) Submit a report of its findings and any proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2010 Regular Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Adjutant General; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Insurance Commissioner; Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Chair of the Land Use Commission; Chair of the State Fire Council; Director of the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting; Director of the Kauai Department of Planning; Director of the Maui Department of Planning; Director of the Hawaii County Planning Department; Acting Administrator of the Oahu Civil Defense Agency; Acting Administrator of the Hawaii Civil Defense Agency; Administrator of the Kauai Civil Defense Agency; and Administrator of the Maui Civil Defense Agency.

OFFERED BY:

FEB 1 1 2008

