

JAN 22 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATURAL DISASTERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. In 2007, the legislature passed H.B. No. 1345,
2 enacted as Act 78, to provide \$24,900,000 in emergency funds for
3 fiscal year 2006-2007 to cover various operational expenses and
4 project costs associated with disaster recovery and mitigation
5 efforts in the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and the city
6 and county of Honolulu, in the wake of the Kiholo Bay earthquake
7 on October 15, 2006.

8 The legislature finds that thus far, only approximately
9 \$7,500,000 of the total authorized funds has been expended for
10 earthquake disaster recovery operations. Continuing adverse
11 weather conditions and a lack of qualified contractors have
12 delayed projects.

13 Typical to most major earthquake disasters, hidden damages
14 are not discovered until much later due to the inability to
15 immediately access disaster locations and the need to conduct
16 detailed engineering evaluations. Most difficult to assess have
17 been the damages on the intakes to the Kohala Ditch and Hamakua



1 Ditch systems: at this time, the intakes located in the
2 Honokane Nui and Waipio valleys are only accessible by
3 helicopter or by extremely dangerous damaged foot trails.
4 Expert observers have strongly indicated that costs to repair
5 the intakes will increase significantly from original estimates.

6 Engineering experts also agree that it would be prudent to
7 strengthen the intakes rather than simply returning them to pre-
8 disaster conditions. This approach would be more cost-effective
9 in the long run, ensuring survivability in future disasters and
10 reducing frequent maintenance trips into the valleys. The
11 legislature believes this approach should apply to all
12 structural and nonstructural disaster recovery and mitigation
13 projects and a multi-hazard approach as much as is feasible
14 should be employed.

15 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
16 structural and nonstructural earthquake recovery and mitigation
17 projects, provided that the projects include measures with a
18 multi-hazard approach to ensure survivability in future
19 disasters.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for



1 structural and nonstructural earthquake recovery and mitigation
2 projects; provided that the projects include measures with a
3 multi-hazard approach to ensure survivability in future
4 disasters.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
6 defense for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY: Brunees. Kohli

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Report Title:

Earthquake Recovery and Mitigation Projects; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriate funds for structural and non-structural earthquake recovery and mitigation projects, provided that the projects include measures to ensure survivability in future disasters with a multi-hazard approach.

