

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2912
A BILL RELATING TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

**MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE**

February 4, 2008

Chair Inouye and Committee Members:

I am Major General Bob Lee, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am testifying on Senate Bill 2912.

Senate Bill 2912 appropriates moneys to Maui county for fiscal year 2008-2009 for damage repair and mitigation projects necessary as a result of the December 2007 High Wind and Flood Disaster. The budget submitted by the State Department of Defense did not include additional funding to specifically aid Maui in the recovery process. Maui County suffered the majority of damage caused by the December winter storm and financial assistance would help to speed up the recovery process.

A Governor's Emergency Proclamation was signed on December 7, 2007 and was followed by a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration on January 5, 2008. If approved, a Presidential Declaration will allow the State and County to receive partial reimbursements for emergency response and recovery costs.

The department therefore supports the intent of this measure as long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Are there any questions?

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TO: Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

FROM: G. Riki Hokama *G. Riki Hokama*
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SB 2912, RELATING TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the County of Maui for the costs of recovery and damage mitigation necessary as a result of the winter storms of December 2007.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Maui has rarely been exposed to a winter storm of this intensity, and the island sustained a tremendous amount of damage.
2. The appropriation will greatly expedite damage repair and mitigation efforts by the County.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

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