

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2692
A BILL RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

PRESENTATION TO THE

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

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

February 19, 2010

Chair Oshiro and Committee members:

I am Major General Bob Lee, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony in opposition to House Bill 2692 because we believe that the proposed bill is not necessary and above all, omits the critical role and responsibilities of the City and County of Honolulu, specifically those of the Mayor and Director, Department of Emergency Management, in emergency preparedness planning.

We recognize that disaster preparedness planning for communities along the Leeward Oahu coast is a very important task. While these communities face many challenges when incidents and emergencies occur, there are other communities throughout the State that face similar challenges and conditions. Developing specific disaster preparedness plans for these communities is a long-term process that requires master planning and funding.

The proposed bill, if passed, will require State funding at \$194,000 to support two additional staff planners and administrative support staff in State Civil Defense that must be dedicated to developing a specific disaster preparedness plan for House Districts 44 and 45. On the other hand, the City and County of Honolulu will receive Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 funds in the amount of \$1.6 million to perform regional catastrophic disaster planning which may be used toward the development of specific plans for the these districts and other districts on Oahu.

The city received \$2 million in FFY 2008 and \$1.4 million in FFY 2009 for catastrophic disaster planning which were used to develop non-medical pandemic influenza plans for all counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony that opposes this bill.

Resident of District 44
February 18, 2010

Committee on Finance

CHAIR MARCUS OSHIRO
VICE CHAIR MARILYN LEE

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The reality is many of our residents are not properly equipped with an emergency kit for natural disasters. Coordination needs to take place before another disaster occurs. And it will occur. Don't wait till it's too late. We need to act on this issue now.

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Mark Sanches

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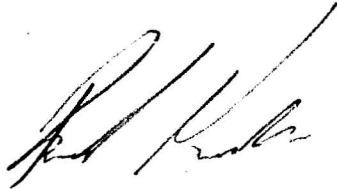
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russell trachtman

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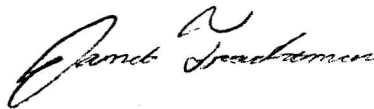
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Janet Trachtman

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Barry Cost

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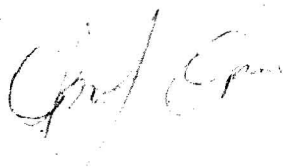
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Chanel Oupnui

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Teresa Opunui

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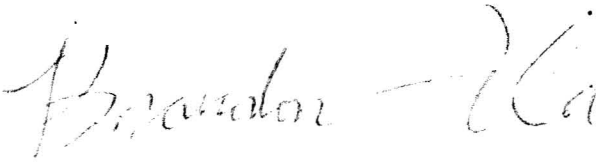
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Brandon Ala

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Houston Ala

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Dennis Souza

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Edward Ho'ohuli

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Destimie Gee

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doraleen Gomes". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Doraleen Gomes

Resident of District 44
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Gaykeen Naval

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Cami Brandt

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james baker

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Daile Kojiro