
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE CIVIL DEFENSE TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING WHAT ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN PEOPLE REFUSE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES OR CLOSE THEIR BUSINESSES LOCATED IN EVACUATION ZONES DURING NATURAL DISASTERS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is vulnerable to natural disasters and
2 weather extremes ranging from floods, hurricanes, tidal waves,
3 tsunamis, high surf, earthquakes, mudslides, and volcanic
4 activity; and

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6 WHEREAS, responses to natural disasters require sound
7 decision-making and planning to ensure public safety and save
8 lives; and

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10 WHEREAS, in any major natural disaster, it may take as long
11 as seventy-two hours for emergency personnel to get to
12 evacuation zones to offer assistance or perform rescues from
13 buildings; and

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15 WHEREAS, during natural disaster warnings, such as the 2012
16 tsunami threat, some people refused to evacuate their homes and
17 businesses refused to close, which created traffic hazards and
18 threats to public safety; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
22 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State
23 Civil Defense is requested to conduct a study regarding:

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25 (1) What actions, if any, should be taken by the State in
26 the interest of public safety when people refuse to
27 leave their homes and businesses refuse to close in
28 evacuation zones during natural disasters; and

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30 (2) What situations, if any, would remaining in evacuation
31 zones during natural disasters be appropriate due to
32 the possibility of "vertical evacuation"; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Civil Defense
2 is requested to provide the Legislature with a progress report
3 on the study no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
4 the Regular Session of 2014 and provide a final report,
5 including its findings and recommendations, to the Legislature
6 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
7 Session of 2015; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Civil
11 Defense.

