

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2015

RE: H.B. No. 1344
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1344 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MITIGATION OF HAZARDOUS
SITUATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to hire a coordinator and a contracting specialist to oversee all aspects of the mitigation of hazardous situations program and ensure proper fiscal oversight; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the hiring of the coordinator and contracting specialist.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that in the absence of an emergency or disaster, the Governor is authorized to allow state employees, agents, contractors, or representatives to enter private property to mitigate situations deemed to be hazardous to the health and safety of the public. However, there is no funding available to the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to hire designated personnel to oversee the mitigation of hazardous situations.



Your Committee further finds that there are often significant events in the State that greatly affect the State's residents. Allowing the news media to cover the mitigation of hazardous situations and access areas that are closed, pursuant to emergency management powers, enables the news media to disseminate complete information to residents.

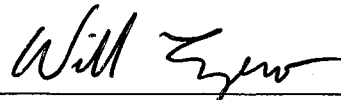
Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to allow the news media, under the supervision of emergency management agency personnel, to cover the mitigation of hazardous situations and access areas that are closed pursuant to emergency management powers of the Governor or Mayor; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that the implementation of this measure will provide better assurance that necessary action is taken to mitigate hazardous situations that threaten public safety while also safely providing the news media with access to closed areas.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1344, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1344, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs,

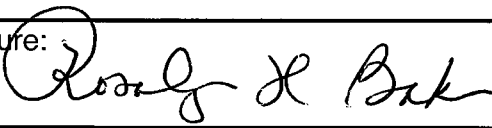


WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

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|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* | Committee Referral: | Date: | | |
| HB 1344 | PSM, WAM | 3-24-15 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____ | | | | |
| The Recommendation is: | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 | | | | |
| Members | Aye | Aye (WR) | Nay | Excused |
| ESPERO, Will (C) | ✓ | | | |
| BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| GALUTERIA, Brickwood | ✓ | | | |
| KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. | ✓ | | | |
| SLOM, Sam | | | | ✓ |
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| TOTAL | 4 | - | - | 1 |
| Recommendation: | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted | | | | |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature: | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| Distribution: | | | | |
| Original File with Committee Report | Yellow Clerk's Office | Pink Drafting Agency | Goldenrod Committee File Copy | |

*Only one measure per Record of Votes