

**HB 485**

**HD 1**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov](mailto:amel.s.chun@hawaii.gov)  
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**HB485**

Submitted on: 3/13/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 16, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carty S. Chang	DLNR	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: DLNR feels this measure is not necessary.

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
CARTY S. CHANG  
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, March 16, 2015  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 485, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO SMALL BOAT HARBORS**

House Bill 485, House Draft 1 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to develop individual emergency response plans for natural and non-natural emergencies that threaten small boat harbors under Department jurisdiction. **The Department does not feel this measure is necessary as there is already the Hawaii Boater's Hurricane and Tsunami Safety Manual which breaks down what a boater should expect and how to prepare for a natural disaster such as hurricanes and tsunamis.**

The original Hawaii Boaters Hurricane Safety Manual was published in 1998 for the Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) by the University of Hawaii Sea Grant program. Subsequently, in 2013, it was updated and produced under contract with Hawaii State Civil Defense and funded in part by a grant/cooperative agreement from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It is now titled Hawaii Boater's Hurricane and Tsunami Safety Manual (Manual).

As mentioned previously, the Manual breaks down what a boater should expect and how to prepare for a natural disaster such as hurricanes and tsunamis. The Manual also breaks down the emergency response plan for each of the small boat harbors under the Department's jurisdiction by the hour. The response plan can be adapted to fit non-natural emergencies on an as needed basis, for example, the recent jet fuel spill that occurred at the Keehi Small Boat Harbor, Oahu.

The Manual is available at all state small boat harbors, district offices, the administrative office, and on the DOBOR website. Copies of the Manual can be made available to the Committee upon request as well.

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rgaffney@pacificboatsales.com](mailto:rgaffney@pacificboatsales.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB485 on Mar 16, 2015 14:45PM  
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**HB485**

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 16, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rick Gaffney	Hawaii Fishing & Boating Association	Support	No

Comments: HB485 HD1 should be a "no-brainer." Hawaii's Small Boat Harbor are threatened by a multitude of natural and man-made disasters, yet there is no specific emergency plan for any of the small boat harbors in our state. There is no plan for how to handle a major boat fire in a small boat harbor, or what boaters should/could do if a hurricane is approaching from the Southwest, or how to best handle the exodus of boats when a tsunami threat looms. Hawaii's small boat harbors shelter the State's ocean recreation industry and private recreational vessels from minor weather events, but plans for what to do in the event of a major storm or tsunami are sadly lacking, leaving DOBOR staff unclear of their role and largely unprepared to help the boating community. Emergency plans for each individual small boat harbor are essential because each has different requirements and needs in the event of a major catastrophic event. These emergency plans should be prepared in consultation with the boating community to take advantage of the wealth of experience some of Hawaii's boaters have with regard to storms and fires. Please pass HB 485 HD 1 out of committee and task DOBOR with planning for emergencies in the facilities it is responsible for at the earliest possible time-say the next 3-5 years, not "by 2050.

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**To:** [WTLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [councilmemberholmes@yahoo.com](mailto:councilmemberholmes@yahoo.com)  
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**HB485**

Submitted on: 3/14/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 16, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steve Holmes	Sierra Club	Support	No

Comments: Testimony in Support of HB485 HD-1 Emergency Plans for Small Boat Harbors Sierra Club recognizes that the impacts to a small boat harbor from a storm, high waves, or other natural occurrence could have a corresponding negative impacts on the coastal environment. Damaged boats can spill fuel. Boats torn loose from their moorings can damage corals. With proper emergency planning, DOBOR and other State agencies can reduce or avoid these kinds of damage. Establish communications protocols with support agencies like local fire departments or the U.S. Coast Guard so that response can be coordinated and effective. With global climate change, the potential for increasingly powerful storms devastating our state small boat harbors increases and deserves pre-planning. Thank you for hearing this bill and please give it your support. Steve Holmes Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter Conservation Chair

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