

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1417  
A BILL RELATING TO WATER

PRESENTATION TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

BY

VERN T. MIYAGI  
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Kong and Members of the Committee.

Aloha - I am Vern T. Miyagi, Administrator of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. I am supporting the intent of House Bill 1417 **as long as it does not replace the Governor's priorities as requested in his executive budget and that the measure can support, in addition to water, the other critical resources needed during a disaster.**

I do sincerely appreciate the measure's recognition and focus on the importance of community resilience and preparedness regarding our water resources.

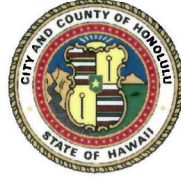
Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony supporting the intent of House Bill 1417.

Vern T. Miyagi; [vern.t.miyagi@hawaii.gov](mailto:vern.t.miyagi@hawaii.gov); 808-733-4300

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU  
DIRECTOR

PETER J.S. HIRAI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
The Honorable Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Kong, and Members:

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF H.B. 1417 RELATING TO WATER**

I am Melvin Kaku, Director of the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), City and County of Honolulu (City).

DEM supports the intent of H.B. 1417 which proposes preparing a post-disaster potable water security plan.

Drinking water is a commodity and service provided by each of the four Counties in the State of Hawaii. The City and County of Honolulu (City), Kauai County, Maui County, and Hawaii County own and operate the water infrastructure and distribution system.

We appreciate the intent to have a security plan to ensure that our water resources are protected and available to our communities after an disaster thus reinforcing preparedness and ensuring the State's and each respective County's community resiliency.

We look forward to working with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency in conjunction with H.B. 1417. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melvin N. Kaku".

Melvin N. Kaku  
Director

cc: Roy K. Amemiya, Jr., Managing Director



February 15, 2017

**COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**

Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair; Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair; and Committee Members  
Public Hearing, February 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 325

**TESTIMONY of WILLIAM F. ANONSEN  
MANAGING PARTNER/PRINCIPAL of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC  
In SUPPORT of the INTENT of H.B. 1417**

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC. We support the intent of HB 1417 which would require the development of a post-disaster fresh drinking water security plan. The responsibilities of ensuring the integrity of a safe water system are shared responsibilities of many entities.

It will be helpful to have in place an emergency response plan that incorporates the results of vulnerability assessments that are essential in maintaining system wide access to safe drinking water. The emergency response plan should include, but not be limited to; plans, procedures, and identification of equipment that can be implemented or utilized in the event of a terrorist or other intentional attack on the public water system.

The emergency response plan should also include actions, procedures, and identification of equipment which can obviate or significantly lessen the impact of terrorist attacks or other intentional actions on the public health and the safety and supply of drinking water provided to communities and individuals.

The need for collaboration and shared responsibility by many partners throughout the various island counties to ensure an adequate potable water supply in the aftermath of an event.

**Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on the intent of this measure.**

Sincerely,

*William F. Anonsen*

William F. Anonsen  
Managing Partner/Principal