

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



TESTIMONY ON  
**HOUSE BILL 1977 HD1, RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION**

Before the House Committees on  
**PUBLIC SAFETY (PBS)**  
and  
**VETERANS, MILITARY, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
(VMI)**

by  
BRIGADIER GENERAL MOSES KAOIWI  
Interim Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Chairs Takayama and Lopresti, Vice-Chairs Gates and Fukumoto, and Members of the Committees:

Aloha. The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) supports House Bill 1977 HD1 regarding the development of a flood mitigation plan with the following comments.

The bill calls upon HI-EMA to develop a strategic regional flood plan addressing flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion, and catastrophic floods. While HI-EMA sincerely appreciates the measure's recognition of the importance of community resilience and preparedness regarding our water and other critical resources needed during a disaster, it will take a whole-of-community approach to address this issue. Specifically, undertaking such a major strategic regional flood plan will call for assistance from Department of Land and Natural Resources as well as the support of other State Agencies and other experts on flood mitigation, flood water retention, and flood diversion.

This new major task will be in addition to HI-EMA's ongoing disaster planning projects related to the post disaster restoration of critical systems—airports and seaports, power, fuel, food, potable water, shelters, and medical services.

Due to the strategic regional scope of this plan HI-EMA recommends as a better option assembling a working group of various state agencies, counties, and first responders that already have established authorities in flood mitigation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill 1977 HD1.

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DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committees on  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
and  
VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

**Thursday, February 15, 2018  
9:45 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 312**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1977, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION**

House Bill 1977, House Draft 1 proposes that the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency develop a strategic regional flood plan that shall address flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion, and catastrophic floods, and report its progress back to the legislature. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

The development of a strategic regional flood plan will require the participation of various County, State and Federal Agencies, and may also include participation from large private landowners. The Department suggest utilizing a working group comprised of the appropriate agencies and stakeholders that have authority or involvement in flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion or flood preparation and recovery activities to develop a comprehensive report to the legislature. The Department also notes that funding will be needed to support the activities of such a working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

**HB-1977-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 10:20:43 PM

Testimony for PBS on 2/15/2018 9:45:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1977-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:49:24 PM

Testimony for PBS on 2/15/2018 9:45:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: