

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 Committee on
FINANCE**

**Wednesday, February 28, 2018
12:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1977, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION**

House Bill 1977, House Draft 2 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 and amendment.**

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 suggests 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 suggests revising SECTION 1 of this measure to read as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) The Hawaii emergency management agency shall ~~[develop strategic regional flood plans that shall]~~ facilitate a working group to address flood

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

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion, and catastrophic floods.

~~[The plans shall become effective on December 31, 2020.]~~

(b) The [agency] working group shall be comprised of representatives from the following county, state, and federal agencies:

- (1) city and county of Honolulu;
- (2) Hawaii county;
- (3) Maui county;
- (4) Kauai county;
- (5) Hawaii emergency management agency;
- (6) department of land and natural resources;
- (7) department of transportation;
- (8) office of planning;
- (9) army corps of engineers;
- (10) national oceanic and atmospheric administration;
- (11) federal emergency management agency;
- (12) natural resources conservation service;
- (13) united states geological survey.

(c) The Hawaii emergency management agency may invite other agencies, entities, or individuals to serve on the working group as they deem necessary.

(d) The Hawaii emergency management agency shall submit to the legislature a written report of its progress [in developing plans], including any findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, no later than

twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of [~~2019.~~] 2020.

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.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 12:00PM Room 308

In SUPPORT of HB 1977 HD2 Relating to flood mitigation

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, a member of the Common Good Coalition, **supports HB 1977 HD2**, which requires the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to develop strategic regional flood plans, including plans to address flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion, and catastrophic floods.

Climate change has already resulted in sea level rise and will likely increase the frequency and severity of floods. Development of climate change adaptation plans on a regional basis is a timely response to those threats.

As testimony from both the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency and Department of Land and Natural Resources stress, developing regional flood plans will require involvement of state and county agencies and other stakeholders through information of a working group.

Please pass this bill, including sufficient funding for its implementation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Dave Raney

Climate Change Volunteer
Leader Capitol Watch

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2018 11:51:23 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2018 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1977-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/23/2018 8:29:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/28/2018 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kat Culina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

LATE

TESTIMONY ON
HOUSE BILL 1977 HD2, RELATING TO FLOOD MITIGATION

Before the House Committees on
FINANCE (FIN)

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

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) supports the intent of House Bill 1977 HD2 regarding the development of a flood mitigation plan with the following comments:

- HI-EMA support is predicted on the understanding that this proposal does not detract from the Governor's priorities as documented in his executive package.
- We concur with DLNR testimony that the development of such strategic regional flood plan will require a working group comprised of the appropriate agencies that have authority or involvement in flood mitigation, flood water retention, flood diversion or preparation and recovery activities.
- HI-EMA respectfully requests that DLNR be named a co-chair of the working group, given their flood expertise and program responsibilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on House Bill 1977 HD2.

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