



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2918, RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Before the Senate Committees on
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
and
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

by

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Interim Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chairs Nishihara and Kim, Vice-Chairs Wakai and Ruderman, and the Members of the Committees

SB 2918 prohibits the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) from issuing any alert or warning related to military matters without receiving prior approval for such an alert or warning from the United States Pacific Command (USPACOM). HI-EMA opposes the bill and offers the following comments:

- Under the current notification process for a military threat to the state of Hawaii, primarily an inbound missile, USPACOM will call the HI-EMA State Warning Point via a secure line and issue a pre-scripted message identifying the inbound threat.
- In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will issue a similar message via the National Warning and Alert (NAWAS) system to the state.
- Both USPACOM and FEMA are in the missile event conference that determines if there is a threat to the state.
- Only upon receipt of these messages will the SWP issue an alert or warning to the state.

Consequently, under the protocol already in place, HI-EMA will not issue any real-world alert or warning related to military matters without receiving notification from USPACOM and FEMA.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 2918.

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SB-2918

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 5:19:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/8/2018 3:10:00 PM

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments: