

JAN 18 2019

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that first responders,  
2 National Guard members, and military personnel play key roles in  
3 responses to natural or human-caused disasters. Trained and  
4 educated community civilians are also imperative to any  
5 emergency management plan. These trained community civilians  
6 work with county, state, and federal emergency management staff  
7 who are well trained and prepared for all natural or human-  
8 caused disasters that can occur in the State. With proper  
9 training and knowledge provided by emergency management  
10 agencies, civilians can assist communities in preparing for  
11 emergency situations and provide first response support.

12           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to allow the state  
13 department of defense Hawaii emergency management agency to  
14 provide administrative oversight for twenty-five civilian  
15 community teams and to hire a coordinator to establish the teams  
16 and ensure they are properly trained to assist county, state,



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1 and federal personnel during natural or human caused disasters,  
2 and to appropriate funds for that purpose.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§127A- Civilian community teams. (a) For the purpose  
7 of providing for community assistance in disaster relief, as  
8 defined in section 127A-2, the director may assemble one  
9 civilian community team of five to ten unpaid volunteer  
10 residents over the age of eighteen for each senatorial district,  
11 adjusted pursuant to the most recently adopted final  
12 reapportionment plan.

13 (b) Each civilian community team should meet at least  
14 quarterly. Subject to funding, each team may be eligible to  
15 receive up to \$5,000 per fiscal year for community workshops,  
16 informational brochures, signage, pre-positioning an appropriate  
17 amount of food supplies to be managed by a non-profit  
18 organization, and other emergency-related supplies that assist  
19 in community readiness for disasters, subject to the approval of  
20 the director.



1        (c) The director may hire a coordinator to help establish,  
2 train, and provide administrative oversight of the civilian  
3 community teams."

4        SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the  
7 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
8 2020-2021 for the director of the Hawaii emergency management  
9 agency to establish twenty-five civilian community teams and one  
10 coordinator position pursuant to this Act.

11        The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
12 of defense for the purposes of this Act.

13        SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

14        SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

15  
INTRODUCED BY *[Signature]*

*Ronald H. Bell*  
*Mike Hubbard*  
*Paul E. Pelt*  
*[Signature]*  
*Gene Merataki*

# S.B. NO. 946

**Report Title:**

State Department of Defense; Emergency Management Agency;  
Natural or Human-caused Disaster; Civilian Community Teams;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Allows for and appropriates funds for the state department of defense Hawaii emergency management agency to assemble twenty-five civilian community teams to assist communities during emergencies and disasters and to hire a coordinator to help establish, train, and assist the teams.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

