

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**LATE**

TESTIMONY ON  
**HOUSE BILL 329, RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF**

Before the House Committee on  
**PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

by

THOMAS L. TRAVIS  
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chair Takayama and Vice-Chair Gates, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **supports** House Bill 329.

House Bill 329 Amends the Kauai flooding disaster relief appropriation made in Act 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to include flood mitigation measures. Extends the lapse date of the appropriation to June 30, 2020. Exempts the appropriation from certain restrictions on transfers of or changes to appropriations.

Note: My comments represent HI-EMA concerns at the state emergency management level only. I would defer to the separate comment/testimonies of the county emergency management agencies, as they would be the jurisdictions impacted by this legislation at the local level.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 329.

Thomas L. Travis: [Thomas.L.Travis@hawaii.gov](mailto:Thomas.L.Travis@hawaii.gov); 808-733-4300



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR  
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR



Testimony of Derek S. K. Kawakami  
Mayor, County of Kaua'i

Before the  
House Committee on Public Safety, Veterans, & Military Affairs  
February 8, 2019; 10:00 am  
Conference Room 430

In consideration of  
House Bill 329  
Relating to Disaster Relief

Honorable Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Gates, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i is in **strong support** of HB329 which proposes to amend the Kaua'i flooding disaster relief appropriation made in Act 12, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2018, to include flood mitigation measures. This measure also extends the lapse date of the appropriation to June 30, 2020, and exempts the appropriation from certain restrictions on transfers of or changes to appropriations.

As I previously expressed when I testified before the joint hearing of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Finance last week, I would like to acknowledge that Kaua'i County would not be where we are today without the support of Governor David Ige and the State Legislature. Act 12, which provided the funding of Kaua'i's flood recovery efforts, served as a beacon of hope when we needed it the most.

As we remain in the midst of these important repairs, we believe now is the time to address further mitigation efforts for the long-term health, safety, and well-being of our community rather than rebuild at a level which may not be sufficient to withstand future emergency disaster scenarios. For this reason, we are asking the Legislature to broaden the scope of Act 12 to include mitigation efforts to prevent the same destructive effects from reoccurring.

As you may know, four months after our April floods, Kaua'i was hit by the remnants of Hurricane Lane causing more flooding and damage to our island and increasing the needs of infrastructure recovery. We humbly request that you also broaden the scope of Act 12 to also include recovery measures from this storm.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of the island of Kaua'i.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek S. K. Kawakami  
Mayor, County of Kaua'i



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
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

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
PUBLIC SAFETY, VETERANS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Friday, February 8, 2019  
10:00 A.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 430**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 329  
RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF**

House Bill 329 proposes to amend the Kauai flooding disaster relief appropriation made in Act 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to include flood mitigation measures, extend the lapse date of the appropriation to June 30, 2020, and exempt the appropriation from certain restrictions on transfers of or changes to appropriations. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department sustained substantial damage to its facilities on Kauai due to the heavy rains and flooding events in April 2018. The Department received Act 12 funds for recovery response for several locations and facilities and is currently implementing these projects. The broadened latitude and additional time to for our flood response work will be appreciated.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**HB-329**

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 9:47:48 AM

Testimony for PVM on 2/8/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



## O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair  
Rep. Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 8, 2019

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 430, State Capitol

### HB 329 RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

To the Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair; the Honorable Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Veterans & Military Affairs:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 329 relating to Disaster Relief.**

HB 329 amends the Kauai flooding disaster relief appropriation made in Act 12, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to include flood mitigation measures. HB 329 extends the lapse date of the appropriation to June 30, 2020 and exempts the appropriation from certain restrictions on transfers of or changes to appropriations.

DPH demands the protection of the people of Hawai`i and their property against natural and man-made disasters. DPH believes in the science of climate change, affirm human activity as its primary cause and main driver, and support emergency preparedness and planning efforts to mitigate its impacts. This includes investment in early warning systems, emergency management and response systems and adequate emergency sheltering. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018), p. 20, ln. 28-32.*

For the foregoing reasons, i.e., to invest in early warning systems, emergency management and response systems and adequate emergency sheltering to protect the people of Hawai`i and their property against natural and man-made disasters, OCCLP supports HB 329 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Public Safety, Veterans & Military Affairs.

Mahalo nui loa  
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ *Melodie Aduja*

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of  
Hawai`i

Ph. (808) 258-8889

Email: [legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com)

**LATE**

Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair  
Representative Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Public Safety, Veterans & Military Affairs

Testimony of Jame K. Schaedel

Friday, February 8, 2019

**Strong Support** for House Bill No. 329 – Relating to Disaster Relief

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **strong support** for House Bill No. 329. This bill proposes to amend Act 12 (SLH 2018) to extend the sunset date of Act 12 to June 30, 2020. If approved, this bill will allow the state Department of Defense to continue addressing issues caused by the catastrophic flooding that occurred on Kaua‘i in April 2018. Furthermore, this bill will allow the state Department of Defense (DOD) to implement mitigation measures to prevent and minimize current and future flooding in areas affected by flooding on Kaua‘i in April 2018.

I offer this testimony as a private citizen.

The residents of the Halele‘a moku of Kaua‘i deserve the same level of attention as those affected by the volcanic episodes that occurred on Hawai‘i island. This bill will perpetuate existing recovery efforts spearheaded by DOD, and will authorize DOD to implement measures which may prevent future catastrophes from occurring. Mr. Chair, I implore you to pass this bill, un-amended, with a recommendation for passage on Second Reading.

Respectfully,

Jame K. Schaedel  
Kapolei, Hawai‘i