
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that disaster recovery is
3 a complex and long-term process that involves a range of
4 activities and many participants. Recovery begins shortly after
5 the disaster occurs and can continue for many years. It
6 involves short-term restoration of essential community functions
7 and long-term resilience rebuilding. It also incorporates
8 hazard mitigation as restoration and rebuilding take place.

9 State, public, and private organizations share in providing
10 for the public's health and safety. It is essential that the
11 response, recovery, and mitigation activities of all parties be
12 fully aligned. The purpose of this Act is to enhance the
13 capacity of the government, relevant agencies, and the community
14 to recover from the impacts of disasters and build resilience
15 and sustainability by establishing the long-term recovery
16 authority to work with the state disaster recovery coordinator,



1 whose position was funded through the governor's executive
2 budget in 2019.

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

6 "§127A- Long-term recovery authority; general
7 functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established the
8 long-term recovery authority within the Hawaii emergency
9 management agency whose purpose is to:

- 10 (1) Recommend policies and set strategic direction for
11 resilient recovery planning;
- 12 (2) Develop legislative recommendations to further
13 recovery goals;
- 14 (3) Approve administrative decisions of the state disaster
15 recovery coordinator; and
- 16 (4) Facilitate the identification, coordination, and
17 delivery of recovery assistance to supplement
18 resources and efforts by local governments and
19 citizens.



1 (b) The long-term recovery authority shall be flexible in
2 size and composition to meet the requirements of the situation
3 and may integrate personnel from all relevant entities.

4 (c) The long-term recovery authority shall be convened by
5 the state disaster recovery coordinator.

6 (d) The long-term recovery authority shall include the
7 following members:

8 (1) The adjutant general, or the adjutant general's
9 designee;

10 (2) The administrator of the Hawaii emergency management
11 agency, or the administrator's designee;

12 (3) The Federal Emergency Management Agency's state
13 coordinating officer, or the officer's designee for
14 active disasters;

15 (4) The director of finance, or the director's designee;

16 (5) The mayors of each county, or the mayors' designees;
17 and

18 (6) The directors, or their designees, of state
19 departments or agencies for each of the primary
20 agencies responsible for recovery support functions.



1 (e) In addition to the members listed in subsection (d),
2 the state disaster recovery coordinator may seek participation
3 or input from members of the public, experts in applicable
4 fields, other government officials, and others as necessary.

5 (f) At the discretion of the state disaster recovery
6 coordinator, members of the long-term recovery authority who are
7 not employed by the State, including individuals whose
8 participation is requested pursuant to subsection (e), may be
9 reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses, including
10 travel expenses, incurred in carrying out their duties.

11 (g) The long-term recovery authority shall not be subject
12 to the requirements of part I of chapter 92.

13 §127A- State disaster recovery coordinator; general
14 functions, duties, and powers. The state disaster recovery
15 coordinator shall report to the governor and support and convene
16 the long-term recovery authority, and shall:

- 17 (1) Establish and maintain recovery priorities and
18 strategies on behalf of the governor;
19 (2) Convene and provide executive level coordination for
20 local, state, and federal agencies working on disaster
21 recovery programs and budgets;



- 1 (3) Facilitate disaster recovery collaboration between
2 local, state, and federal governments; the private
3 sector; and voluntary, faith-based, and community
4 organizations;
- 5 (4) Serve as a state point of contact with federal
6 agencies through the supervising federal recovery
7 officer;
- 8 (5) Develop a budget and operating procedures to fulfill
9 duties and administer the long-term recovery
10 authority; and
- 11 (6) Review recovery plans, policies, and decisions as
12 required by this section and submit a report to the
13 governor, the legislature, and the counties no later
14 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
15 session of 2021 and each year thereafter."

16 SECTION 3. Section 127A-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
18 and to read as follows:

19 "Recovery support functions" refers to those functions
20 comprising the coordinating structure for key functional areas
21 of assistance in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's



1 National Disaster Recovery Framework, namely: community
2 planning and capacity building; economic; health and social
3 services; housing; infrastructure systems; and natural and
4 cultural resources."

5 PART II

6 SECTION 4. The office of the governor shall establish two
7 full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) planner positions, without regard
8 to chapters 76 and 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support the
9 state disaster recovery coordinator and the long-term recovery
10 authority in carrying out the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
14 the purposes of this Act.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
16 emergency management agency for the purposes of this Act.

17 PART III

18 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
20 provided that section 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Long-term Recovery
Authority; State Disaster Recovery Coordinator; Appropriations

Description:

Establishes a long-term recovery authority to work with the
state disaster recovery coordinator in enhancing the capacity of
the government, relevant agencies, and the community to recover
from the impacts of disasters and build resilience and
sustainability in the State. Appropriates funds. (HD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

