
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is vulnerable
2 to catastrophic natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunami,
3 floods, volcanic eruptions, and high winds that can devastate
4 communities. The legislature also finds that there is a need
5 for all sectors of communities throughout the State to prepare
6 for and perform relief activities after disasters. As community
7 members are often the first at the scene of a disaster, the
8 incorporation of multisector preparation programs and community
9 groups into disaster preparedness plans increases the scope and
10 efficacy of disaster relief activities, manages the risks
11 associated with disasters, and mitigates the hardship of these
12 crises.

13 The purpose of this Act is to improve the State's
14 preparedness for and response to communities affected by
15 disasters.

16 SECTION 2. Section 107-27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:



1 "§107-27 Design of [~~state~~] public buildings. (a) No
2 later than one year after the adoption of codes or standards
3 pursuant to section 107-24(c), the design of all state building
4 construction shall be in compliance with the Hawaii state
5 building codes, except state building construction shall be
6 allowed to be exempted from:

7 (1) County codes that have not adopted the Hawaii state
8 building codes;

9 (2) Any county code amendments that are inconsistent with
10 the minimum performance objectives of the Hawaii state
11 building codes or the objectives enumerated in this
12 part; or

13 (3) Any county code amendments that are contrary to code
14 amendments adopted by another county.

15 (b) Exemptions shall include county ordinances allowing
16 the exercise of indigenous Hawaiian architecture adopted in
17 accordance with section 46-1.55.

18 (c) The State shall consider hurricane resistant criteria
19 when designing and constructing new public schools for the
20 capability of providing shelter refuge.



1 (d) All public buildings constructed after January 2021
2 shall be designed to withstand category four and higher
3 hurricanes and to be used as shelters in the event of an
4 emergency."

5 SECTION 3. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "[~~+~~]**\$127A-3**[~~+~~] **Hawaii emergency management agency.** (a)

8 There is established within the department of defense the Hawaii
9 emergency management agency. The adjutant general shall serve
10 as the director of Hawaii emergency management and, subject to
11 the direction and control of the governor, shall oversee the
12 agency.

13 (b) There shall be an administrator of emergency
14 management who shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the
15 director, and who shall have at least three years of experience
16 leading emergency management efforts at the local, state, or
17 federal level. The administrator of emergency management shall
18 be the civilian head of and responsible for the day-to-day
19 operations of the agency. The administrator of emergency
20 management shall report to the director. The administrator of



1 emergency management shall, in the absence of the director, have
2 all the duties and responsibilities of the director, and shall
3 report directly to the governor. The administrator of emergency
4 management shall not be subject to chapter 76.

5 (c) The administrator may, from funds allotted therefor,
6 employ technical, clerical, administrative, and other personnel
7 and make such expenditures as may be necessary.

8 (d) The administrator shall coordinate the activities of
9 the agency with all county emergency management agencies, other
10 state agencies, other states, or federal agencies involved in
11 emergency management activities, and all organizations for
12 emergency management within the State, whether public or
13 private, and shall maintain liaison and cooperate with all
14 county emergency management agencies, other state agencies,
15 other states, or federal agencies involved in emergency
16 management activities as provided in this chapter.

17 In addition:

18 (1) The department of health shall establish a statewide
19 inventory of:

20 (A) Hospitals;



1 (B) Dialysis centers and the number of patients who
2 can be treated at each dialysis center per day;
3 and

4 (C) Other medical facilities,
5 for disaster and emergency preparedness and response
6 infrastructure. The inventory shall be updated
7 annually; and

8 (2) The department of accounting and general services
9 shall establish a statewide inventory of generators to
10 provide backup power for disaster and emergency
11 preparedness and emergency response infrastructure.
12 The inventory shall be updated annually.

13 (e) The agency shall perform emergency management
14 functions within the territorial limits of the State. In
15 performing its duties, the agency shall:

16 (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management
17 plan, which shall be integrated into and coordinated
18 with the emergency management plans of the federal
19 government. The plan shall be integrated by a
20 continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency



1 management program. The plan shall contain provisions
2 to ensure that the State is prepared for emergencies
3 and minor, major, and catastrophic disasters. In
4 preparing and maintaining the plan, the agency shall
5 work closely with agencies and organizations with
6 emergency management responsibilities;

7 (2) Assign lead and support responsibilities to state
8 agencies and personnel for emergency functions and
9 other support activities;

10 (3) Adopt standards and requirements for county emergency
11 management plans. The standards and requirements
12 shall ensure that county plans are coordinated and
13 consistent with the state comprehensive emergency
14 management plan;

15 (4) Make recommendations to the legislature, building code
16 organizations, and counties for zoning, building, and
17 other land use controls; and other preparedness,
18 prevention, and mitigation measures designed to
19 eliminate emergencies or reduce their impact;



- 1 (5) Anticipate trends and promote innovations that will
2 enhance the emergency management system;
- 3 (6) Institute statewide public awareness programs. This
4 shall include intensive public educational campaigns
5 on emergency preparedness issues, including but not
6 limited to the personal responsibility of individual
7 citizens to be self-sufficient for up to fourteen days
8 following a natural or human-caused disaster;
- 9 (7) Coordinate federal, state, and local emergency
10 management activities and take all other steps,
11 including the partial or full mobilization of
12 emergency management forces and organizations in
13 advance of an actual emergency, to ensure the
14 availability of adequately trained and equipped forces
15 of emergency management personnel before, during, and
16 after emergencies and disasters;
- 17 (8) Implement training programs to improve the ability of
18 state and local emergency management personnel to
19 prepare and implement emergency management plans and
20 programs. This shall include a continuous training



1 program for agencies and individuals that will be
2 called on to perform key roles in state and local
3 post-disaster response and recovery efforts and for
4 local government personnel on federal and state post-
5 disaster response and recovery strategies and
6 procedures;

7 (9) Adopt standards and requirements for state agency
8 emergency operating procedures and periodically review
9 emergency operating procedures of state agencies and
10 recommend revisions as needed to ensure consistency
11 with the state comprehensive emergency management plan
12 and program; and

13 (10) Coordinate, in advance whenever possible, such
14 executive orders, proclamations, and rules for
15 issuance by the governor as are necessary or
16 appropriate for coping with emergencies and disasters.

17 (f) The agency shall establish a statewide inventory of
18 twenty-four satellite phones for state and county agencies to
19 use during and after disasters."



1 SECTION 4. Section 127A-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

3 "(f) For purposes of this section, "shelter" includes any
4 structure, excavation, or other facility or item used or useful
5 for the protection of persons[-] and any public building
6 constructed after January 2021 that meets the requirements of
7 section 107-27(d)."

8 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for:

11 (1) The hiring of four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE)
12 logistic planners and one full-time equivalent (1.0
13 FTE) grants manager, with employee competencies in
14 emergency response planning and allocation of
15 resources; and

16 (2) The Hawaii emergency management agency to review
17 shortages related to non-perishable food, water,
18 medicines, and other essential items in emergency
19 response planning and allocation of resources where



1 need is greatest or not sufficiently provided by the
2 Federal Emergency Management Agency.

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

5 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
8 the department of agriculture to:

- 9 (1) Procure and store enough non-perishable food to
- 10 provide assistance for fourteen days to at least one
- 11 million individuals affected by natural disasters; and
- 12 (2) Ensure that food stocks are appropriately rotated to
- 13 preserve usable resources and dispose of surplus or
- 14 rotated food stocks by donation to the respective food
- 15 banks in each county, when appropriate.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
17 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;
2 provided that sections 5 and 6 and shall take effect on July 1,
3 2050.



Report Title:

Emergency Management; Disaster Preparedness and Response;
Appropriation

Description:

Improves the State's preparedness and response to disasters. Requires statewide inventories of hospitals, dialysis centers, and medical facilities; satellite phones; and generators to provide backup power. Appropriates funds for positions related to emergency response planning and allocation of resources and for non-perishable food in natural disasters. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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