

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2020

RE: H.B. No. 2329
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Veterans, & Military
Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2329 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hazard
Mitigation Special Fund for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
and appropriate funds for personnel costs and operating and
administrative costs deemed necessary by the agency to administer
section 127A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which allows certain
personnel to enter private property in the absence of an emergency
or disaster, with notice to the landowner and occupant, to address
dangerous trees and unstable rock and soil conditions and mitigate
flood hazards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of the Adjutant General, Department of Defense;
Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii State Energy Office;
and Department of Emergency Management, City and County of
Honolulu.



Your Committee finds that creation of the special fund will provide the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency a dedicated funding source for personnel to mitigate situations deemed hazardous to the health and safety of the public through the actions identified in the statute.

Your Committee understands funding for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to perform this work is nearly exhausted. This measure will provide funding to allow this work to continue, thereby protecting the public and in some situations, preventing potentially even greater hazards from developing.


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount and making the appropriation sections effective on July 1, 2020, the start of the next fiscal year; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Should your Committee on Finance decide to hear this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider appropriating \$5,000,000 for the Hazard Mitigation Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Veterans, & Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2329, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2329, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Veterans, & Military Affairs,



GREGG TAKAHAMA, Chair



