
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that disaster recovery is
2 a complex and long-term process that involves a range of
3 activities and many participants. Recovery operations begin
4 shortly after a disaster occurs and can continue for many years.
5 It involves short-term restoration of essential community
6 functions and long-term recovery planning and coordination.

7 State, public, and private organizations share in providing
8 for the public's health and safety. It is essential that the
9 response, recovery, and mitigation activities of all parties be
10 fully aligned.

11 The purpose of this Act is to enhance the capacity of the
12 government, relevant agencies, and the community to recover from
13 the impacts of disasters by establishing the state disaster
14 recovery program as overseen by the state disaster recovery
15 coordinator whose position was funded through the governor's
16 executive budget in fiscal biennium 2019-2021.



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

"§127A- State disaster recovery coordinator; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) The state disaster recovery coordinator shall:

(1) Report to the governor;

(2) Oversee the state disaster recovery program and framework;

(3) Establish and maintain recovery priorities and strategy on behalf of the governor;

(4) Convene and provide executive level coordination for state agencies working on the federal disaster recovery and reconstruction programs and alignment of funding;

(5) Facilitate disaster recovery coordination and collaboration between the federal, state, and local governments, the private sector, and voluntary, faith-based, and community organizations;

(6) Serve as the primary contact with the federal disaster recovery coordinator to address recovery needs;



1 (7) Promote a unified communications strategy with state
2 and local partners; and

3 (8) Develop and adopt interagency coordination plans to
4 drive long-term recovery from disasters.

5 (b) The state disaster recovery coordinator shall conduct
6 a comprehensive review of recovery plans, policies, and
7 decisions and submit a report to the governor and the
8 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
9 the regular session of 2022 and every odd year thereafter. Each
10 stakeholder agency involved is responsible to keep applicable
11 portions of recovery plans, together with annexes and appendices
12 thereto, accurate and up to date."

13 SECTION 3. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by amending subsection (e), to read as follows:

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

18 (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management
19 plan, which shall include a state disaster recovery
20 program and framework and be integrated into and
21 coordinated with the emergency management plans of the



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

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

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

17 (4) Make recommendations to the legislature, building code
18 organizations, and counties for zoning, building, and
19 other land use controls; and other preparedness,
20 prevention, and mitigation measures designed to
21 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
21 program for agencies and individuals that will be



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

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

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

17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

COVID-19 Statewide Recovery Planning and Coordination; State Disaster Recovery Program and Framework; State Disaster Recovery Coordinator; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

Description:

Establishes a framework for disaster recovery in the State and describes the role of the state disaster recovery coordinator. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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