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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1107, SD2, HD1
RELATING TO HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

BY

Luke P. Meyers
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **supports** Senate Bill 1107, SD2, HD1.

HI-EMA has had funding to implement entering property to remove dangers to public safety, after taking appropriate measures with the landowners. This funding is nearly exhausted, making the program mute.

This measure would provide funding and to slightly expand program authority to allow the agency to continue its work in cutting, trimming, or removing dangerous trees or branches that pose a hazard to public safety; stabilizing or removing unstable rock and soil hazards; and cleaning streams and waterways to mitigate or prevent flooding or other natural hazards. This measure would also create a special mitigation fund mechanism, which when funded will support state mitigation projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 1107, SD2, HD1.

Luke P. Meyers: Luke.P.Meyers@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

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HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1107, SD2, HD1,
RELATING TO HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
ADJUTANT GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AND DIRECTOR OF HOMELAND SECURITY

MARCH 22, 2021

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice-Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee:

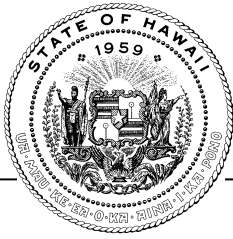
I am Major General Kenneth S. Hara, Adjutant General, Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Advisor. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1107, SD2, HD1.

HI-EMA has had funding to implement entering property to remove dangers to public safety, after taking appropriate measures with the landowners. This funding is nearly exhausted, making the program mute.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 1107, SD2, HD1.

MG Kenneth S. Hara, kenneth.s.hara.mil@mail.mil; 808-672-1211



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 23, 2021
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

In **SUPPORT** of
SB1107 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) **supports** SB 1107 SD2 HD1 which establishes the Hazard Mitigation Special Fund to allow the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency the ability to monitor its own hazard mitigation projects.

Ensuring that the state, through the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, has both the capabilities and funding mechanisms in place in advance of a disaster to address all forms of hazard mitigation will have a positive impact on government and private sector infrastructure preparedness planning, and can improve response times following a disaster impacting essential community lifelines, including energy. Having an established funding mechanism in place can reduce the amount of time between identification of relevant hazard conditions and mitigation actions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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March 22, 2021

Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Re: **SB 1107.SD2.HD.1, RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Aloha Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kealii Lopez. I am the State Director of AARP Hawaii and we support this bill.

AARP is a non-profit non-partisan membership nationwide organization that advocates for the interest of persons 50+ in age. We have about 38 million members across the nation, including over 145,000 members in Hawaii.

The elderly are disproportionate victims of natural disasters. That is why AARP has a keen interest in maximizing the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency's (HI-EMA) mitigation management capability.

This bill will modify HRS 127A-18 HRS by creating a new special fund that meets the definition of such a fund as found in 37-62 HRS. There are no costs associated with this change. We believe that it will allow the agency to better monitor its hazard mitigation projects and improve fund administration within HI-EMA.