

DAVID Y. IGE
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EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2302

February 3, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 309 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 2302 appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 for the continued operation and disaster preparedness outreach efforts of the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness
Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

By
Darren T. Lerner, PhD
Director
University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 2302 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Eli, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) supports HB 2302 provided that its passage does not replace the priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Budget.

This Bill is urgently needed because there is more hazard risk than people realize, particularly with regard to hurricanes. Note the following:

- 1) A Pacific Disaster Study conducted after the near hit of Hurricane Lane in 2018, estimated a Category 2 strike on Oahu would result in 52,000 displaced households and 27 billion dollars in damage.
- 2) A 2019 Hurricane Behavioral Study by FEMA, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency found the average citizen was ill-prepared and had not properly gathered their supplies or readied their homes. The number one recommendation was increased education and outreach. The second was help in hardening homes. Both are important to make the State resilient.
- 3) A 2019 Communication Outreach and Education Study conducted by Hawai'i Sea Grant, at the request of the 2017 HI State Legislature, concluded that education and outreach should be significantly increased with traditional and non-traditional methods on a continuous long-term basis to inform and prepare citizens in the State. The report was submitted to the 2020 Legislature and is available online at the link below.
- 4) In 2020 Hurricane Daniel threatened the Hawaiian Islands and a Hurricane warning was called for Oahu for the first time in recent history. A 2021 presentation by the

Central Pacific Hurricane Center indicates tropical cyclone tracks may shift north in the future attributed to warming waters and climate change. See graphic below. This would increase the risk of Hurricanes such as Daniel impacting the State.

Hawai'i Sea Grant is well positioned to continue and increase its education and outreach of hurricane risk and preparation around the State. The *Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards – 4th Edition* (link below) provides useful tips regarding readiness for natural hazards such as tsunami, earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. The handbook lists local civil defense and emergency management agency information, provides guidance on emergency supplies, evacuation planning, and explains various measures to reduce property damage through home retrofit. This publication has gone through ten print runs with over 100,000 copies and has been modified for thirteen U.S. states and other countries based off the Hawai'i book. The 4th Edition, released in late 2019, was a major update with more options on home retrofit, as well as evacuation planning guidance and sections on volcanoes and climate change.

In the last three years, Sea Grant has participated in over 100 outreach events, and given almost 30,000 Homeowner's Handbooks. We have provided free books to individual homeowners as well as large organizations such as: (Catholic Charities – 280), (AARP – 63), (Be Ready Manoa - 80), (Zephyr Insurance – 200), (Kahala Emergency Fair – 80), (Cross Island Resilience Network consisting of 21 Communities on Oahu – 2,800), Hawai'i Public Library System – 480 with another 600 requested for all 51 public libraries around the State). All Emergency Management and Civil Defense Agencies have receive an initial allotment of 1,000 books. Maui Emergency Management Agency has requested another 500. It is estimated about 7,000 homes have been retrofitted since 2007, through the education and outreach of many organizations, including Hawai'i Sea Grant. Many homeowner's who retrofit plan on using their locations to shelter their families and/or friends, so there is a multiplier in the relief on hurricane shelter demand.

Hawai'i Sea Grant is committed to continued partnership with all emergency management and civil defense agencies at the State and county level in order to make our communities more resilient and foster a greater culture of preparedness in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

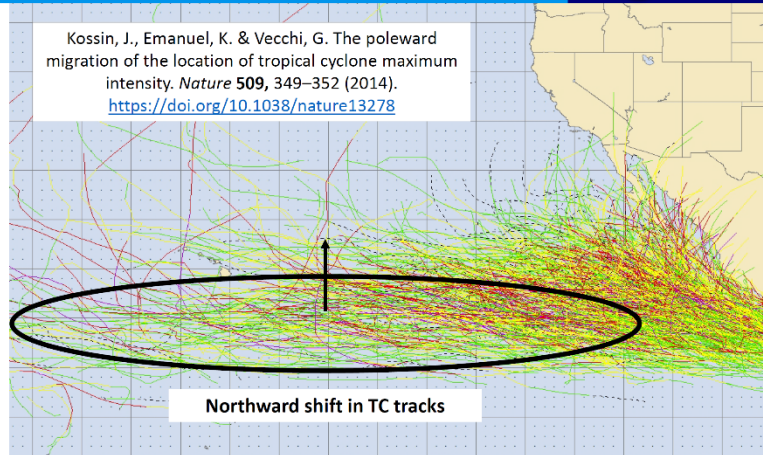
Impacts of a Warming Ocean

Observed: covering the 31 year period 1982-2012



Central Pacific
Hurricane Center

Kossin, J., Emanuel, K. & Vecchi, G. The poleward migration of the location of tropical cyclone maximum intensity. *Nature* 509, 349–352 (2014).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/nature13278>



weather.gov/cphc

@NWSHonolulu

Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards – 4th Edition

<http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/homeowners-handbook-to-prepare-for-natural-hazards/>

Communication Plan and Outreach Strategy Submitted to the 2020 Legislature

<https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Communication-Strategy-Outreach-Plan-V.1.pdf>

HB-2302

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 5:09:31 PM

Testimony for PDP on 2/3/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Wesley Oda | Be Ready Manoa - an approved not for profit organization | Support | No |

Comments:

I am the President of Be Ready Manoa, an approved not for profit organization whose primary mission is to raise awareness of the importance of disaster preparedness. The Homeowners Handbook is a vital reference guide for any/all residents Statewide to be and stay prepared for various disasters. It is not a matter of 'if' but 'when' a disaster will strike, and we need to support the UH Sea Grant program - not only because they issue/update the Homeowner's Handbook but also because individuals like Dennis Hwang are always willing/able to participate in in-person workshops (pre/post pandemic), online webinars, community fairs, and other events meant to provide training and awareness of disaster preparedness. Specifically for Be Ready Manoa, we have distributed hundreds of the Homeowner Handbook to Manoa residents and Dennis has conducted several workshops (both in person and virtual) on hardening your home and sheltering in place - both of which are important topics when a hurricane impacts the State. Please continue to fund the UH Sea Grant Program as it is providing an important service that benefits all residents. Thank you in advance for your anticipated support. Wesley Oda - President, Be Ready Manoa

HB-2302

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 11:01:02 AM

Testimony for PDP on 2/3/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Linda Sueyoshi | Hawaii State Library | Support | No |

Comments:

The Hawaii Documents Center at the Hawaii State Library was grateful to receive 12 boxes (480 copies) of the “Homeowner’s Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards” on behalf of the Hawaii State Public Library System back in November 23, 2021. We were able to distribute copies to the libraries on each island as free giveaways, and made an announcement on our website to alert the public.

Hawaii’s public libraries have always been a reliable resource for our community’s informational needs, so it makes perfect sense to be able to offer this extremely useful handbook out for free to the people we serve. With climate change on everyone’s mind, there has never been a better time to prepare yourself for the threat of natural disasters.

As it turns out, there is a high demand for this resource in certain communities. For instance, Kahuku Public & School Library urgently asked for more copies for their library users. As their branch manager said, “We’re seeing erosion damage daily up here.” Keaau Public & School Library on the Big Island also asked for more than what we initially gave them, saying their copies disappeared “pretty quick.” We are hoping for 600 copies of this publication for our libraries this year, if possible. We would like to thank the University of Hawaii Sea Grant once again for this opportunity to get this valuable resource out into our communities!



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness
February 3, 2022 10:00 AM
By
Dennis Hwang

HB2302 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Chair Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair Rep. Staceylnn K.M. Eli, and members of the committee:

I am Dennis Hwang, Faculty at the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program. Since 2007, I have been helping the University of Hawaii Sea Grant with hazard education and outreach related to the Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards. In 2020, we sent a Communication Education and Outreach Plan to the Legislature. Both the Handbook and Communication Plan can be found in the links below.

Today I am speaking as a private citizen. I am in support of HB2302 as there is more hazard risk than the general public realizes. To make our community more resilient, it will take a concentrated education/outreach effort on multiple fronts using traditional education and outreach methods as well as concepts of Social Science. Sea Grant is well suited to carry out this mission as demonstrated by the resources provided below as well as their experience in having conducted over 300 events since 2007 to educate the community.

A few things to note:

- 1) Through research, field work and partnerships – the Handbook strives to provide the most up to date mitigation measures to reduce damage to homes from a Hurricane. For example, we work with engineers and architects, as well as agencies such as the FEMA Building Science Branch and Institute of Building and Home Safety.
- 2) The Handbook also covers concepts of Climate Change and provides guidance measures that are simultaneously resilient, adaptive and sustainable.
- 3) There is strong demand for the book. Maui Emergency Management Agency recently asked for 500 after receiving an initial 1,000. Hawaii Public Library System, which distributes to all 51 of their libraries around the State on all islands recently asked for 600 more after receiving an initial 480. The Cross Island Resilience Network which consists of resilience organizations around Oahu (e.g., Aina Haina, Hauula, Kaaawa, Kailua, Kaneohe, Manoa, Wahiawa, Waimanalo) requested and picked up 2,800 books.
- 4) One of the major vulnerabilities for Hawaii is shelter space for Hurricane. Through education with our partners we believe approximately 7,000 homes have been

retrofitted. While much more needs to be done, this is significant in that many of these homeowners plan to shelter multiple families if there is a severe weather event. This will relieve demand on shelter space.

For the reasons above, I support HB2302

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

I have also attached testimony from Suzanne Chun Oakland of the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, who asked me to submit for her due to her busy schedule.



Suzanne Oakland <suzanne.oakland@catholiccharitieshawaii.org>

Dennis J. Hwang

Tue 4:35

Fw: [EXTERNAL] FW: House Bill 2302 in Support of UH Sea Grant and the Homeowner's Hand...

Prepare for Natural Hazards

Dear Honorable Chair and House Members:

The Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center members received 300 copies of the Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards last year, received an online presentation from Dennis Hwang on the book, and found the booklet very beneficial and helpful guidance in preparing their homes for a variety of natural disasters.

We support HB2302 and appreciate your kokua.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Susie Chun Oakland
Program Coordinator
Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards – 4th Edition

<http://seagrantsoest.hawaii.edu/homeowners-handbook-to-prepare-for-natural-hazards/>

Communication Plan and Outreach Strategy Submitted to the 2020 Legislature

<https://seagrantsoest.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Communication-Strategy-Outreach-Plan-V.1.pdf>

HB-2302

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 7:52:13 PM

Testimony for PDP on 2/3/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| rodney boucher | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I, Rodney Boucher, support HB2302. I have used the Homeowers Handbook to fortify my home. Using the Handbook's guidance I installed a Roof to Wall supplemental Hurricane/High Wind support. I am currently preparing to use the Handbook's guidance to install Wall to Foundation structural support.

Point of Disclosure I am an active Community Preparedness volunteer. I recieved 5 boxes of printedHandbooks when they came available in 2021. I have distributed 4 cases to various veterans service organizations, schools, and throughout various communities.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

I am available to provide further information.

HB-2302

Submitted on: 1/31/2022 9:15:42 PM

Testimony for PDP on 2/3/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alice Saul | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Please support the passage of the provision in HB2302 which aims to facilitate the distribution of TheHomeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards. This is the single most informative, practical, and productive publication available on disaster preparation as it addresses directly the hazards specific to Hawaii.

I am personally engaged in seeing that everyone in my community of over 220 families who cannot readily access the information digitally can have this important reference source available to them. The University of Hawaii Sea Grant program has been very helpful in this regard.

HB-2302

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 9:28:50 AM

Testimony for PDP on 2/3/2022 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Clement Jung | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I support the continue funding of the University of Hawaii Sea Grant and the Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards for the following reasons:

1 - Our organization help distribute the handbook at our preparedness fairs to help Kailua residents prepared for all hazards.

2 - It helped me get my home better prepared for and survive a hurricane. The information in the handbook was very valuable in making the proper decisions in what to do to prepare my home.

I urge the committee to support this bill!

Thank you,

Clement Jung, Boardmember, KAP

**3318 Martha Street
Honolulu, HI 96815
okimotod@gmail.com**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thursday, February 3, 2022
10:00 am
Via Videoconference
Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
RELATING TO HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS
WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Linda Ichiyama and Vice Chair Stacelynn K.M. Eli and Members of the Committee:

My name is Darren Okimoto and I serve as the Associate Director/Extension Leader for the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am providing testimony as a private citizen in support of HB 2302.

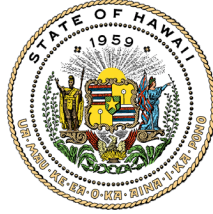
In 1992, Hurricane Iniki struck Kaua'i and damaged or destroyed over 41% (15,200) of the homes. Since Hurricane Iniki the Hawaiian Islands were threatened numerous times, most notably: i) there was a record of 13 tropical cyclones in the central Pacific in 2015, all of them fortunately missing the Hawaiian Islands, ii) Hurricane Lane threatened to do to O'ahu what Hurricane Iniki did to Kaua'i in 2018, and iii) Hurricane Douglas in 2020 was the closest tropical cyclone to pass near O'ahu in decades. A hurricane warning was issued for O'ahu, indicating hurricane winds were expected within 36 hours. A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazus study indicates a Category 2 strike on O'ahu would cause 52,000 houses to be displaced and cause \$27 billion in economic losses. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service (NOAA NWS) forecasters have also noticed a trend of hurricane paths that once tracked to the south of Hawai'i, now appear to have a more northerly track, placing the islands at greater risk from storm systems like Hurricane Douglas in 2020. With an apparent increasing trend of hurricane risks, most likely caused by the warmer ocean waters and climate change, it is even more important that residents in Hawai'i prepare their families and homes for future storm threats.

Hawai'i Sea Grant is well positioned to continue and increase its education and outreach of hurricane risk and preparation around the State. The Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards – 4th Edition ([link below](#)) provides useful tips regarding readiness for natural hazards such as tsunami, earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. The handbook lists local civil defense and emergency management agency information, provides guidance on emergency supplies, evacuation planning, and explains various measures to reduce property damage through home retrofit. This publication has gone through ten print runs with over 100,000 copies and has been modified for thirteen U.S. states and other countries based off the Hawaii book. The 4th Edition, released in late 2019, was a major update with more options on home retrofit, as well as evacuation planning guidance and sections on volcanoes and climate change.

In the last three years, Sea Grant has participated in over 100 outreach events, and given almost 30,000 Homeowner's Handbooks. We have provided free books to individual homeowners as well as large organizations such as: (Catholic Charities – 280), (AARP – 63), (Be Ready Manoa - 80), (Zephyr Insurance – 200), (Kahala Emergency Fair – 80), (Cross Island Resilience Network consisting of 21 Communities on Oahu – 2,800), Hawaii Public Library System – 480 with another 600 requested for all 51 public libraries around the State). All Emergency Management and Civil Defense Agencies have receive an initial allotment of 1,000 books. Maui Emergency Management Agency has requested another 500. It is estimated about 7,000 homes have been retrofitted since 2007, through the education and outreach of many organizations, including Hawai'i Sea Grant. Many homeowner's who retrofit plan on using their locations to shelter their families and/or friends, so there is a multiplier in the relief on hurricane shelter demand.

Hawai'i Sea Grant is committed to continued partnership with all emergency management and civil defense agencies at the State and county level in order to make our communities more resilient and foster a greater culture of preparedness in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill and respectfully ask this committee to pass HB 2302.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2120,
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
PANDEMIC AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
BY

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

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Eli, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB2302.

House Bill 2302 appropriates moneys for the continued operation and disaster preparedness outreach efforts of the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program.

The University of Hawaii College Sea Grant Program has been and continues to be an important partner with the Hawaii'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) in preparing readiness materials for the people of Hawaii'i. Past projects include the "Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Disasters," which was, in part, funded by grants administered by the HI-EMA; as well as other emergency preparedness public outreach avenues.

These continued education measures to help Hawaii'i residents be prepared for, mitigate against, and recover from disasters are vital to the safety and resiliency of the state.

The HI-EMA supports this bill provided that the appropriation does not conflict with the Governor's budget priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2302.

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