



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2443,
RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
**PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES &
HOMELESSNESS**

BY

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

FEBRUARY 15, 2022

Aloha Chairs Ichiyama and Yamane, Vice-Chairs Eli and Tam, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB 2443.

House Bill 2443 appropriates moneys to the state Department of Defense for fiscal year 2021-2022 to provide relief from flooding events; provides for the lapse of the moneys on an unspecified date.

Recent incidents such as the March and December 2021 severe storms show that the state of Hawai'i is vulnerable to many natural disasters; flooding events related to severe storms, in particular.

House Bill 2443 creates a legislative vehicle to appropriate funds to the Department of Defense should a severe storm or other incident occur during the legislative session. Creating such a vehicle would pre-position a fiscal tool to manage and deploy resources quickly and with a shortened set-up time in the event an emergency incident requires it.

While there is no guarantee such an incident will occur, HI-EMA sees value in such preparatory work to deliver assistance to the people of Hawai'i as quickly and with as few obstacles as possible in the event that it does.

The HI-EMA is in support of this bill provided it does not conflict with the Governor's budget priorities. HI-EMA acting as the lead for the statewide coordination for the all-hazard incident management has successfully

leveraged similar previous funding opportunities as result of incidents impacting the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2443.

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KENNETH S. HARA
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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2443,
RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & HOMELESSNESS

BY

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

FEBRUARY 15, 2022

Chairs Ichiyama and Yamane, Vice Chairs Eli and Tam, and Members of the Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness and Health, Human Services & Homelessness.

I am Major General Kenneth Hara, Adjutant General, Director of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Homeland Security Advisor.

The Department of Defense (DOD) provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB 2443.

This measure, if passed, would appropriate moneys to the state Department of Defense for fiscal year 2021-2022 to provide relief from flooding events. It would also provide for the lapse of the moneys on an unspecified date. The department would recommend a lapse date of June 30, 2023.

Recent incidents such as the March and December 2021 severe storms show that the state of Hawai'i is vulnerable to many natural disasters; flooding events related to severe storms, in particular.

House Bill 2443 creates a legislative vehicle to appropriate funds to the Department of Defense should a severe storm or other incident occur during the legislative session.

While there is no guarantee an incident like this will occur, creating such a vehicle would preposition a fiscal tool to manage and deploy resources quickly and with a shortened set-up time in the event an emergency incident requires it.

The DOD supports this bill provided it does not conflict with the Governor's budget priorities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of of HB 2443.

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

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. 2443

February 15, 2022
11:00 a.m.
Room 309 and Videoconference

RELATING TO DISASTER RELIEF

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

House Bill No. 2443 does the following: 1) appropriate unspecified amounts of general funds to the Department of Defense for FY 22 to provide relief from flooding events to be expended in accordance with Section 127A-12(b), HRS; and 2) provide for the lapse of the moneys on unspecified dates and exemption of the funds from Section 37-74(d), HRS.

B&F notes that pursuant to Section 11 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, Lapsing of Appropriations, all appropriations for which the source is general obligation bond funds or general funds shall be for specified periods, provided that no such appropriation shall be made for a period exceeding three years.

Accordingly, any general funds appropriated for FY 22 should lapse no later than June 30, 2024.

B&F also notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriations 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.

HB-2443

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 11:58:11 PM

Testimony for PDP on 2/15/2022 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha nui,

I support this bill and its intention to serve our communities who are experiencing these very real and difficult circumstances. As someone who lives in a flood prone community, and having seen first hand the impacts of flooding on a large scale, I believe it is paramount to ensure that we have funding ready to be activated to serve the community.

Mahalo,
Kimeona Kane