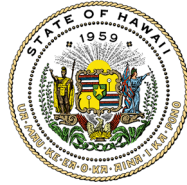


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



**KENNETH S. HARA**  
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

**JAMES DS. BARROS**  
ADMINISTRATOR OF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA**  
**HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**  
4204 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD  
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4420

STATE OF HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 44  
REQUESTING THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO ESTABLISH  
A TWO-YEAR TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS KEY FINDINGS AND IMPLEMENT  
RESILIENCE ENHANCEMENT OPTIONS FROM THE 2022 RESILIENCY  
ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE HAWAII MARITIME TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL  
RESILIENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PROJECT

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON **WATER AND LAND**

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS  
ADMINISTRATOR  
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

MARCH 24, 2023

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and members of the committee:

I am James Barros, Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA).

HI-EMA provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of HR44.

HR44 requests that the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with Department of Transportation's Harbors Division, establish a two-year task force to work with local, state, federal and private parties to address key findings validated by the July 2022 report of the Hawaii Maritime Transportation Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) project, and plan for related resiliency enhancements.

The Port of Honolulu is a vital link in Hawaii's statewide supply chain, accounting for roughly 90% of imported and exported goods and serving as a transfer hub for nearly all goods bound for the neighbor islands. Although Pearl Harbor and Daniel K. Inouye International Airport provide some supply-chain capacity, a natural disaster such as a hurricane landfall that damaged the Port of Honolulu would likely also damage those nearby alternative sites.

To provide resilience against such a critical failure, HI-EMA supports robust planning for port enhancements, alternative supply chain configurations, and other improvements to protect the people and property of Hawai'i. This resolution aligns closely with HI-EMA's vision of a path forward toward maritime transportation resiliency, and we enthusiastically support it.

We respectfully ask this committee to support HR44 as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

James Barros: [james.barros@hawaii.gov](mailto:james.barros@hawaii.gov); 808-733-4300

Testimony of the Hawaii Harbor Users Group  
Support of HCR40 and HR44  
Before the Committee on Water and Land  
March 28, 2023

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG) is a non-profit maritime transportation industry group comprised of key commercial harbor users statewide. HHUG supports HCR40 and HR44, which requests the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to address key findings validated by the 2020 Resiliency Assessment Report of the Hawaii Maritime Transportation Regional Resiliency Assessment Program Project and plan resiliency enhancements.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses. These resolutions would encourage resiliency for our harbors.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support.

Matson Navigation Company, Inc.  
Support of HCR40 and HR44  
Before the Committee on Water and Land  
March 28, 2023

Dear Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

Matson Navigation Company, Inc. (Matson) supports HCR40 and HR44, which requests the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to address key findings validated by the 2020 Resiliency Assessment Report of the Hawaii Maritime Transportation Regional Resiliency Assessment Program Project and plan resiliency enhancements.

As an island state, Hawaii is very dependent upon our commercial harbors to ensure the continued and unimpeded flow of cargo in and out of our State. It is estimated that over 90 percent Hawaii's imported goods pass through our commercial harbors, including consumer goods, motor vehicles, construction materials, and fuel. Given the critical role of our commercial harbors, it is imperative that the State support dependable and efficient cargo transportation and handling to service our residents and businesses. These resolutions would encourage resiliency for our harbors.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support.