



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
**FINANCE**  
BY

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

APRIL 6, 2022

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB1107, SD2, HD1.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) has in the past had funding to enter property to remove dangers to public safety, after taking appropriate measures with the landowners. This funding was effectively exhausted last year forcing HI-EMA to use limited general funds to accomplish open items.

This measure would provide funding and 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, in manners authorized by law. This measure also would 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.

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

APRIL 6, 2022

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

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 SB1107, SD2, HD1.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) previously had funding to enter property to remove dangers to public safety, after taking appropriate measures with landowners. Funding was effectively exhausted last year forcing HI-EMA to use limited general funds for open items.

This measure would provide allow the agency to continue 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, as authorized by law. This measure also would 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.

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