

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 11:04:08 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
dana pagalaboyd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

With each passing hurricane season, we're seeing more and more powerful storms pass by our islands, and it's only a matter of time before one of them passes right over us.

The state of Hawaii is terribly unprepared for such an event. Windward O'ahu has precisely zero shelters for us to evacuate to. Although this bill is for future constructions, we really need to start somewhere and this is a good start. Yes, this will increase the cost of the new building, but I feel that adding this cost at the beginning instead of retrofitting the new building will ultimately cost less. We need to start thinking about the future of Hawaii and putting things in place now before the event happens.

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 7:05:21 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nhi Hoan Quach	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in **support** of bill SB2972.

As a volunteer trained with Red Cross and Kailua Community Emergency Response Team, it is clear to me that our community's infrastructures are poorly equipped to shelter our community members in serious storm conditions. As a member of Kailua CERT, we are trained to shelter and triage out of the wood shop and JROTC room at Kailua High School, which are in poor condition but was still chosen for the building's structural ability to shelter and protect during serious storm. While not ideal and can only shelter about 20, at least Kailu CERT members can mobilize to help others while being assured that their family is safely sheltered, which many other communities do not have. With more of these shelter available, more community members can be proactively trained to help themselves and their neighbors in time of disasters when government agencies and resources are likely to be already strained.

Mahalo for letting me testify!

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 12:56:56 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melisa D. Haile	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a member of Kailua's Community Emergency Response Team, I believe one of the best ways to be prepared for all hazard events is to make sure our public use infrastructure is able to withstand their impact. The costs to protecting our structures while also providing safe haven for residents should not outweigh the intent. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Melissa D. Haile

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 10:28:03 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I completely support the need for more hurricane shelters. Since we can't benefit from evacuating to other states during an emergency and previous shelters that we used to count on were not capable of surviving a major hurricane need as much structures being build to be capable of surviving a major hurricane.

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 6:45:23 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's unconscionable that there is not a hurricane shelter for the people of Windward Kailua. I support immediate establishment of such a shelter in Windward Kailua. Thank you. A senior citizen.

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 9:07:53 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
D Nautu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am FOR Hurricane Shelter Bill SB2972. We live in Hauula. When not if a natural disasters hits we have no place to go. We need a shelter that will withstand a hurricane even a Hurricane 5 Storm as well as a tsunami. Some places in Hauula is only about a mile from mountain to ocean. Please do the right thing and support this bill.

Mahalo.

D. Nautu

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 7:21:47 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Legrande	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Let's find the money for this. It's good sensible planning for our future. Mahalo, Linda Legrande

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 8:48:31 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Snider	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Scott Snider

808-220-5395

I support SB2972:

This bill is much needed due to the worsening storms, lack of Tradewinds and global warming. The cost benefit of building to withstand category 5 structures outweighs the cost of replacement of the building. The added benefit could be longer lasting buildings. I believe the sustainable, renewable language, etc. in the bill should be removed as it does not relate to this issue.

One strong benefit in the bill is these public buildings can be and should be used as a shelters for the general population.

We are long overdue for a hurricane so remember; It's not a matter of "if" it's a matter of when.

Thank you



KAILUA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 31

WILLIAM M. HICKS, CHAIRMAN • 923 AKUMU STREET • KAILUA, HAWAII, 96734-4004
PHONE (808) 230-2293 (home) (808) 452-2761 (cell) • E-MAIL billhicksknb@gmail.com

February 12, 2024

Subject: Need for More Hurricane Shelters and Support for SB 2972 on Disaster Preparedness

Aloha Chair McKelvey and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,
Aloha Chair Wakai and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs,

SB 2972 would require all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025 to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.

There used to be eight designated hurricane shelters in Kailua (Aikahi Elementary, Enchanted Lake Elementary, Kailua Elementary, Kailua HS, Kailua Intermediate, Kalaheo HS, Lanikai Elementary, and Maunawili Elementary), but they were all evaluated in 2020 and 2021 and deemed to be below standards. So, there are now zero designated hurricane shelters in Kailua.

At the Kailua Neighborhood Board regular meeting on October 6, 2022 the following resolution was adopted: **“The Kailua Neighborhood Board notes that there used to be 8 designated hurricane shelters in Kailua. However, as a result of recent assessments, none of those facilities are currently authorized. The State of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency is tasked with managing a retrofit program to bring potential hurricane shelters up to standards. The Kailua Neighborhood Board requests that Kailua’s State Senators and Representatives explore ways to retrofit appropriate hurricane shelters for Kailua Residents.”**

For Kailua, zero designated hurricane shelters where there used to be eight is unacceptable disaster preparedness. In parallel with upgrading existing facilities where practical and cost effective, specifically designing appropriate new facilities in the foreseeable future to also be able to serve as proper hurricane shelters is very prudent. The provisions of SB 2972 should remain in effect until such time that there is an adequate inventory of hurricane shelters.

Mahalo.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William M. Hicks".

William M. Hicks
Chairman, Kailua Neighborhood Board

Testimony on SB2972 2024

I am Dr. Kioni Dudley. I am the president of 2050 Hawaii, Inc. and speak for them. In October and again in November, I sent you all a link to my one-hour TV program titled “The New Hurricane Threat to Hawai’i.” That program has presentations by the hurricane meteorologist from NOAA, and the heads of HI-EMA and the O’ahu Department of Emergency Management. The facts I will give here are taken from the presentations of those hurricane specialists.

As you hopefully are aware, with climate change, the oceans have warmed farther and farther north. As the seas have warmed, the spawning area for hurricanes over by Mexico has also moved northward, and now, hurricanes that used to pass a couple hundred miles south of us are headed directly at us. We used to have two major protections: First, we had cooler seas around the islands, too cool for hurricanes to function, so they would weaken as they approached us. Second, we had strong tradewinds coming out of the North East, and above those winds, we had strong Kona winds blowing in the opposite direction. This criss-cross of winds going in opposite directions would tear the hurricanes apart. In 1970, we had just under 300 days of strong tradewinds. But every year we have lost two more days of tradewinds. And now we have a *hundred less* days of tradewinds a year than we had fifty years ago. We have tradewinds on less than half of the days of the year. So...if a hurricane heads at us on days that we have no tradewinds, there will be *nothing* to tear it apart. We will take a direct hit.

What you may not be aware of is that hurricanes are also getting broader and much stronger. I was stunned to find out, just a month ago, that the number of Category 4 and 5 hurricanes has doubled worldwide in the last thirty years. And their number will continue to increase.

That’s not bad enough, we are now getting super hurricanes with winds over 200 mph. They destroy everything in sight. And new studies show that while we are now getting one of these super hurricanes only every eight years, their numbers are growing tremendously. By the end of the century, one of these super hurricanes will hit every single year somewhere in the world.

Finally, these recent studies on the more powerful hurricanes predict that the greatest number of stronger hurricanes will take place in the northern Pacific Ocean. We are in the northern Pacific Ocean.

Did you know that we do not have one single hurricane shelter on O’ahu that has been built to withstand a Category 2, 3, 4, or 5 hurricane? There is *no place* on this island for your family, ‘ohana, friends, and voters to go for safety in a Cat 2, 3, 4, or 5.

We need to have places to go. We need to start constructing all new buildings to withstand Category 5 hurricanes, and we need to start NOW. I beg you to pass this bill.

Dr. Kioni Dudley



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/15/2024
Time: 03:45 PM
Location: CR 225 & Videoconference
Committee: Senate Government
Operations
Senate Public Safety and
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2972 RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

Purpose of Bill: Requires all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) would like to provide comments on SB 2972.

The Department agrees that Hawaii is vulnerable to natural disasters and more shelters are needed; however, the proposed bill to require all public buildings to be constructed to withstand Category 5 hurricanes and to be used as shelters should consider the feasibility of this measure.

The current Hawaii State Building Code includes life safety design criteria for enhanced hurricane protection areas (EHPA) in high occupancy state- and county-owned buildings occupied during hurricanes of up to Category 3. High occupancy is defined as 300 or more occupants. To meet EHPA design requirements to withstand a Category 3 hurricane restrooms are required to be accessible from the interior, the facility must withstand projectiles, emergency generator power must be provided, a higher level of structural integrity is factored in, and other design considerations have to be met. The Department would have to overhaul the design requirements for school facilities and greatly increase the cost to design and construct any school building to withstand a

higher Category 5 hurricane. In addition, the current Hawaii State Building Code does not include requirements for a building that can withstand a Category 5 hurricane in Appendix U, Hawaii Hurricane Sheltering Provisions for New Construction, Section 430 State- and County-Owned Public High Occupancy Buildings - Design Criteria for Enhanced Hurricane Protection Areas.

The Department would also request greater specificity on the type of public facilities impacted. For example, covered playcourt structures are not fully enclosed so it would not be a desirable shelter during a hurricane but would still be required to meet the requirements under the proposed bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on SB 2972.

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/13/2024 9:03:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wesley Oda	Testifying for Be Ready Manoa	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Wesley Oda and I am the president of Be Ready Manoa, an approved not for profit community organization whose primary objective is to raise the awareness of the importance of disaster preparedness. I support SB2972 because there is a need to have adequate shelter options for residents of the State given the growing threat of hurricanes. Communities like Manoa, with older homes, will not withstand even a Category 1 hurricane - and there are very few options for shelters that would fit the number of residents who will have to seek shelter if a strong hurricane were to hit the island of Oahu. It is extremely important that our State be proactive - not reactive - in preparing for a natural disaster. The fact that we are geographically isolated makes it even more important that we do what we can to prepare for natural disasters - and providing shelters for its residents is just one important way the State can be more prepared. Investing in well-hardened structures may be expensive, and that initial investment will be made up when it can withstand - hopefully with little to no damage - a natural disaster. We all agree that it is not a matter of if but when a major hurricane will hit our State and we've already had several near misses that did not hit Oahu but caused significant damage to the islands of Hawaii and Kauai. It would therefore make sense that any new public building - including schools, government buildings, and public housing - should be built to withstand strong tropical cyclones, the frequency and intensity of which are growing. The government has to view this as an investment in our future and one way we can ensure there are safe shelter options for our residents, which is an important way for us to initially survive and ultimately recover post disaster. Thank you for your serious consideration of this bill. Wesley Oda

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 6:19:49 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dotty Kelly-Paddock	Testifying for Hui O Hauula, 501c3 nonprofit	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to share that I strongly support Bill SB2972. This funding is a critical step to ensure that the residents of Hawaii in all communities will be provided a Community Safe Rooms/Shelters to protect all residents in a disaster such as a Hurricane or Tsunami.

The funding will support the creation of Community Safe Rooms/Shelters that will provide near absolute protection for people in times of need. These Shelters/Safe Rooms can also provide critical lifelines including food, water, power, healthcare and communications that will be needed in disasters and emergencies. These facilities can also be used to serve communities in Hawaii on a daily basis to provide the most vulnerable people in need of social, economic, health, education, and food services.

I strongly encourage you to approve Senate Bill 2972 to ensure that all communities and especially small rural, remote, coastal communities with poor infrastructure and high community vulnerability are ensured the same level of safety and security as other communities in Hawaii.

Mahalo!

Dotty Kelly-Paddock, Executive Director, Hui O Hauula, 501c3 nonprofit

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 12:29:01 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eileen Hilton	Testifying for Windward Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Windward Coalition strongly supports passage of SB2972. Hawaii is vulnerable to catastrophic natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, volcanic eruptions, and high winds. The risk has increased with global warming, specifically warmer seas and weaker Tradewinds.

Using government buildings as storm shelters can have several advantages and disadvantages:

Pros of this proposed Bill:

- **Availability:** Government buildings, such as schools, community centers, or government offices, are often centrally located and easily accessible to residents. Accessibility is crucial during emergencies.
- **Space:** Government buildings tend to have ample space particularly important in densely populated areas.
- **Structural Integrity:** Many government buildings are constructed to a higher standard than residential and commercial ones but currently still insufficient.
- **Facilities and Resources:** Government buildings often have facilities such as restrooms, kitchens, and medical rooms that can be useful during emergencies.
- **Coordination:** Utilizing government buildings as storm shelters allows for better coordination and management of resources by local authorities. This can lead to more efficient evacuation procedures and emergency response efforts.

Suggestions for possible inclusion in the bill

- **Timing:** Current government buildings may have ample space but are structurally inadequate to withstand a severe storm. **Waiting for new construction may be too little too late for many communities.** Unless these buildings are scheduled for near term replacement, funds should be allocated to upgrade them.
- **Accessibility Concerns:** Not all current government buildings are easily accessible, especially those with mobility issues. Ensuring that shelters are accessible to all members of the community may require additional resources and planning.
- **Maintenance and Upkeep:** Government buildings used as storm shelters may require additional maintenance and upkeep to ensure they remain safe and functional during emergencies. This can incur additional costs for local governments, particularly in areas prone to frequent severe weather events.

Overall, the Windward Coalition supports **BILL SB2972**. **Additionally, we** feel that while new government buildings will serve as valuable resources during storms and emergencies, more immediate solutions such as retrofitting currently available

buildings should also be prioritized. In addition to shelters, more financial support to planning, coordination and training of emergency personnel is necessary to maximize their effectiveness and minimize risks to the community.

Mahalo,

Eileen Hilton MD, President Windward Coalition

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 12:39:00 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leonard Rossoff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii is at high and increasing risk for catastrophic natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, volcanic eruptions, and high winds. Therefore, I support BILL SB2972 requiring all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency. However, I believe that the bill could be strengthened by addressing related concerns including:

- Unless new construction is imminent funds should be allocated to upgrade current government structures.
- Ensure accessibility to all members of the community.
- Ensure funding for maintenance and upkeep.
- Ensure critical administrative and financial support for planning, coordination, and training of emergency personnel.

L.J. Rossoff MD

Kaneohe Bay

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 1:23:02 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Kirk-Kuwaye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is much need for the passage of this bill. The Lahaina fires have shown that we should prioritize preventative steps now and not just hope that a natural disaster won't occur here.

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 1:30:42 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
susan hassett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB 2972 designs for the future, and the chances of Hawaii having more hurricanes, tsunamis, volcano activities, fires, etc..continues to grow as our oceans and crazy climate changes are continuing...NOW.

Therefore, let's be proactive.... we have some of the best, most sophisticated equipment for our active volcanoes, why not include better buildings for fire and water-related, wind-related activities??? Check out what Florida has had in place for over ten years, on new construction for example...

Please! Stop running this stae in crisis mode; take that 12\$\$ billion dollar tourist money and use it for the the actual residents who live and work here year round...

Mahalo nui,

Susan

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 2:39:30 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce L Hultgren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There are currently no places on Windward side that would be available for shelter in event of a severe , Category 3 or above, Hurricane. This is unacceptable and should be addressed.

SB2972 would help remedy this situation. Please support this measure.

Bruce Hultgren

Kailua

February 13, 2024

Subject: SB 2972, Relating to disaster preparedness. Require all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelter in the event of an emergency.

Chair McKelvey and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,

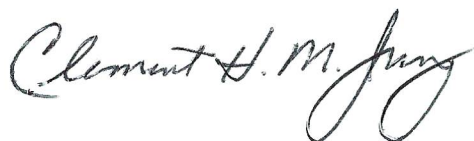
Chair Wakai and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

Presently there are insufficient hurricane shelters in the State of Hawaii and there are no category five hurricane shelters. There are also no hurricane shelters in Kailua, Oahu, whereas there were eight at one time.

With the warming of the planet and the ocean and with sea level rise, there is predicted to have stronger hurricanes than what Hawaii had experienced in the past. Hawaii needs to be better prepared for strong hurricanes to protect the residents and visitors. Presently there are no category five hurricane shelters, and we need to prepare for these stronger hurricanes.

Please pass SB 2972 before it is too late.

Mahalo,

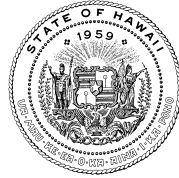
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clement H. M. Jung". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "J" at the end.

Clement H. M. Jung

Kailua Community Emergency Response Team Leader

Kailua Alert & Prepared, Board Member

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



LATE

KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE COMMITTEES ON

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 15, 2024, 3:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 2972

RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Chairs McKelvey and Wakai, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Elefante, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 2972.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) appreciates the intent of S.B.2972 which requires all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.

DAGS offers the following **comments**:

- Consideration should be given to exempting public building types for which the associated design and construction standards would be excessive, such as, but not limited to public restrooms, public bus stops, carports, bike storage and

material storage sheds at base yards.

- It should be expected that adherence to the design and construction standards required to withstand category five hurricanes will involve substantial increases in project costs. Projects currently under design and intended to begin construction on or after January 1, 2025, may not have sufficient appropriated funding to accommodate the increased costs of compliance. Therefore, consideration should be given to revising the measure's language to provide that such compliance will be required on projects for which appropriations were made in the legislative session of 2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

LATE

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 3:43:36 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marie R. Samudio	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB2972 provides good recognition of the increasing natural disaster threats to Hawai`i and our vulnerabilities. Impressive in its scope that future state construction be able to withstand a Category 5 storm, I do not think this is a viable bill, great in its intent but too grandiose and improbable in its execution.

My concerns: (1) Have hearings on this proposal, which I couldn't access, provided viable building design guidelines that validate the success of any buildings able to withstand a Cat 5? (2) If these are state buildings, why are the counties possibly exempt from this legislation? (3) It's my understanding that years ago, certain buildings (size and function) were to use steel girders/beams and various earthquake resistance techniques to minimize disaster effects, but I don't believe this has ever been enforced?

I propose that we concentrate our energies and funding to focus on buildings we already have, generally state schools, and retrofit these into secure areas as immediate and long term 'refuge areas' ("shelter" term no longer used?) as designated in the Bill. To ensure continuation of emergency & regular government services, many already existing buildings should also be retrofitted. Focus should also be redirected to community based projects, long an issue well into the execution stage with proper support (HUBS).

Our needs are past due in being met. This Bill pushes meeting these needs further down the road.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marie Samudio

LATE

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and Wakai, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Elefante, and Members of the Committees,

I am writing in strong support of SB2972.

The number of Category 3, 4, and 5 hurricanes has more than doubled worldwide in the last thirty years. Hurricanes are increasing in intensity and threaten shorelines and populations across the planet. Statistically the Hawaiian Islands are 25 years overdue for a major hurricane. The need to protect our population and the guests we invite to our beautiful islands is a moral imperative. Nothing is more important than providing temporary shelter to vulnerable populations, including tourists with no place to go, and the families of hurricane response workers who must save lives and maintain societal essential services during the storm.

Today we find ourselves in an extremely vulnerable situation. There are few places on this island for our community to take refuge in the event of such a large-scale disaster. And on top of that, on any given day, we only have food for 5-3days to sustain our needs. During the short-term recovery phase shelter and food will be needed due to an extremely vulnerable logistics chain.

I have lived through category 4 and 5 typhoons and hurricanes in overseas communities in Japan and Europe where they prepared for and protected their populations. There are examples for us to use. Building cost effective disaster resistant buildings with innovative materials and methods is imperative in Hawaii.

Please vote in favor of SB2972.

LATE

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/14/2024 11:19:46 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Claudine Tomasa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Claudine Tomasa. I am a Kailua resident testifying in support of SB2972 that requires all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2025 to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.

According to the City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management, there are very few public buildings in the State of Hawaii that meet the criteria for a hurricane shelter.

Although Honolulu has just 38 designated hurricane emergency shelters which is down from 122 a few years ago, other communities like Kailua have NONE.

This is very concerning and needs to be addressed in a timely manner. With the advent of climate change more active and destructive hurricane seasons are being forecasted. This will have a major impact upon the health and safety of our people.

SB2972 will help mitigate the impact of this natural disaster. Please vote in favor and pass SB2972.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB2972.

LATE

SB-2972

Submitted on: 2/15/2024 10:57:00 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/15/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.