

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Kim Coco Iwamoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Mark J. Hashem	Rep. Mahina Poepoe
Rep. Linda Ichiyama	Rep. Justin H. Woodson
Rep. Rachele F. Lamosao	Rep. Garner M. Shimizu
Rep. Dee Morikawa	Rep. Kanani Souza

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 411
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

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A G E N D A

[HB 673](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.
Amends chapter 127A, HRS, to clarify State and local authority.
Prohibits the Governor or Mayor from suspending requests for public records or vital specifics during a state of emergency. Adds definition of the term "severe warning". Allows the Legislature and city councils to terminate a state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or Mayor, respectively.

PBS, JHA

[HB 596](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.
Clarifies the types of events that constitute disasters and emergencies for the purposes of emergency management.

PBS, FIN



<u>HB 1060</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS. Establishes the Community Readiness Centers Program to be implemented and administered by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. Establishes the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund to fund the Community Readiness Centers Program. Renames the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax to the Environmental Response, Energy, Food Security, and Resilience Tax and directs a portion of the tax into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund. Effective 7/1/2025.	PBS, FIN
<u>HB 883</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. Requires the Hawaii emergency management agency to inventory all designated emergency shelters and their ability to withstand a category one hurricane or higher. Requires Hawaii emergency management agency to publish a publicly available list of shelters and their respective hurricane ratings. Appropriates funds for a hurricane shelter retrofit program and director.	PBS, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 357</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO HURRICANE SHELTERS. Appropriates funds for the Office of the Governor, in collaboration with the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, to strengthen existing hurricane shelters and develop new hurricane shelters to withstand category five hurricanes.	PBS, CPC, FIN
<u>HB 353</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. Appropriates funds for the Office of the Governor, in collaboration with the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, to oversee and administer grants to low-income residents, and condominium associations on behalf of low-income condominium owners, to fortify residential real property against hurricanes.	PBS, CPC, FIN
<u>HB 358</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. Requires all public buildings, including public school buildings, constructed after January 1, 2026, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.	PBS, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 1059</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY. Converts the Emergency Management Specialist series positions at level V and higher in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency from civil service status to exempt status.	PBS, LAB, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Hearing PBS 01-29-25.DOCX



Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at (808) 586-9425. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-9425.

Rep. Della Au Belatti
Chair

