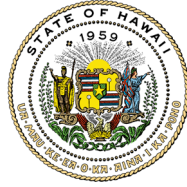


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
KAHU HO'OMALU PŌULIA

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 SENATE BILL 111,
RELATING TO HURRICANE RESISTANT CRITERIA

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

JANUARY 31, 2025

Aloha Chairs Elefante and McKelvey, Vice-Chairs Wakai and Gabbard, and Members of both Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a testimony to **SUPPORT** Senate Bill 111.

The Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency endorses initiatives aimed at the designing and constructing of all new state buildings – to improve the state's preparedness against hurricane winds.

HIEMA's mitigation projects reflect our commitment to making concerted efforts and proactive investments in the safety and resilience of our communities.

HIEMA supports this measure, with the understanding that its passage will not negatively impact the priorities outlined in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a testimony in support of Senate Bill 111.

James Barros: james.barros@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



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 LAWELAWÉ 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

PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

JANUARY 31, 2025, 3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 111

RELATING TO HURRICANE RESISTANT CRITERIA

Chairs Elefante and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Wakai and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 111.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers comments on this measure, which 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.

We note that public buildings currently under design will be constructed using funds appropriated in prior years. Those projects in design may not have been appropriated sufficient funds to satisfy the structural requirements for category five hurricane resistance and will require appropriation of additional design and construction

funds to satisfy the related design criteria.

In addition, there are some types of public buildings for which the cost of designing and constructing to category five hurricane resistance requirements may not be appropriate (such as small storage facilities, vehicle carports, and similar incidental facilities) as those buildings are not intended to be used as emergency shelters.

Therefore, the department suggests that the measure be amended to require that all public buildings intended to serve as shelters during and after a category five hurricane for which construction is anticipated to commence on or after July 1, 2026, shall be designed and constructed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency. The change in date is intended to provide the responsible agencies with the opportunity to request any additional funding required during the 2026 legislative session.

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