

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY OF MAUI, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MAUI
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
AGENCY, AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, TO CONDUCT REAL-TIME
WILDFIRE AND OTHER DISASTER DRILLS INVOLVING THE MAUI
COMMUNITY.

1 WHEREAS, the devastating impact of wildfires and other
2 natural disasters in Maui and throughout the State has
3 underscored the critical need for comprehensive and community-
4 involved emergency preparedness measures; and
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6 WHEREAS, recent natural disasters have demonstrated the
7 importance of real-time, practical emergency response training
8 that incorporates both emergency personnel and members of
9 affected communities; and
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11 WHEREAS, several municipalities in the United States and
12 other jurisdictions implemented community-based disaster drills,
13 successfully engaging residents in the planning, execution, and
14 evaluation of emergency response exercises to increase
15 preparedness and resilience; and
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17 WHEREAS, Culver City, California's annual community-wide
18 disaster drills, Japan's extensive public disaster preparedness
19 education programs, Vietnam's community-based disaster risk
20 management initiative, and Indonesia's tsunami evacuation drills
21 in coastal villages are examples of successful community-based
22 disaster drills and response programs; and
23

24 WHEREAS, real-time wildfire and disaster drills that
25 include community participation enhance public awareness,
26 familiarize residents with evacuation protocols, and create
27 opportunities for immediate feedback and improvement in
28 emergency response strategies; and
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30 WHEREAS, involving community members in all phases of
31 disaster drill preparation, execution, and evaluation fosters a
32 sense of ownership, responsibility, and empowerment that leads
33 to more effective and coordinated emergency response; and



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2 WHEREAS, lessons learned from disaster preparedness drills
3 will provide invaluable insight for the Maui Emergency
4 Management Agency, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and
5 Department of Defense in refining disaster response strategies,
6 improving communication channels, and identifying gaps in
7 existing emergency protocols; and
8

9 WHEREAS, a proactive approach to disaster preparedness,
10 emphasizing hands-on community engagement, will create a
11 resilient and well-informed population that is better equipped
12 to respond effectively when natural disasters occur; now,
13 therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
17 that the County of Maui, in conjunction with the Maui Emergency
18 Management Agency, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and
19 Department of Defense, are urged to conduct real-time wildfire
20 and other disaster drills involving the Maui community; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the drills are urged to be
23 designed to include local residents in planning, participation,
24 and post-drill evaluations to ensure continuous improvements in
25 disaster preparedness; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Maui Emergency Management
28 Agency is urged to collaborate with community leaders, local
29 businesses, schools, and other stakeholders to maximize
30 participation and effectiveness of disaster preparedness drills;
31 and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Adjutant General,
35 Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, Mayor
36 of the County of Maui, and Administrator of the Maui Emergency
37 Management Agency.
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OFFERED BY: 

