

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

LATE

**TESTIMONY ON SCR69,
RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Before the Senate Committee on
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

By

Luke P. Meyers
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair English, and Members of the Committee:

SCR69 requests the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to develop an evacuation plan for the areas within lava zones 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **offers comments** on SCR69.

A significant aspect of HI-EMA's standard operating procedures has been to utilize comprehensive, all-hazard plans which include significant evacuation capabilities and builds on lessons learned from past incidents and trainings and exercises.

The 2018 eruption incident has helped solidify a productive and dynamic working relationship between the County of Hawai'i, the United States Geological Survey, and the HI-EMA. Earlier this year, HI-EMA in partnership with County of Hawai'i, and the United States Geological Survey, started working on updated documentation regarding the potential of Mauna Loa impacts. This process not only includes evacuation capabilities, but other functions including alert and warning, transportation impacts, public information, and cross agency collaboration.

SCR69 would create an atmosphere that could duplicate efforts and hamper current progress and jeopardize any future operations.

Thank you.

Luke P. Meyers: Luke.P.Meyers@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300