

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2007

RE: H.B. No. 575  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 2

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B.  
No. 575, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the economic  
stability of Hawaii during a crisis that adversely affects  
tourism.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Establishes procedures for the Governor to declare a  
tourism emergency, followed by a grant of authority to  
the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority  
to implement an emergency response to the tourism  
emergency;
- (2) Requires the Hawaii Tourism Authority to develop and  
implement measures to respond to a tourism emergency,  
including the provision of emergency assistance to  
tourists; and
- (3) Prohibits the implementation of any tourism emergency  
response measure from adversely affecting organized  
labor in tourism industries;
- (4) Establishes a tourism emergency trust fund with a fund  
balance of \$5,000,000, from transient accommodations tax



revenues, to be used exclusively for the development and implementation of tourism emergency response measures.

Your Committee received comments in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the Hawaii Tourism Authority; and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that natural disasters or world events have the potential to threaten Hawaii's tourism industry. These events may have a substantial detrimental economic impact on the overall financial well-being of Hawaii's tourism industry. This would, in turn, have an adverse effect on the State's entire economy. Accordingly, your Committee believes it is critical to have the ability to respond to emergency situations on a timely basis to offset any adverse impact on the tourism industry and Hawaii's economy. Your Committee finds that this measure will provide the means and the flexibility to respond to this type of economic emergency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 575, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 575, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 575 HDI, SDI</b>	Committee Referral: <b>TSG/IGM, WAM</b>	Date: <b>3/29/07</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	/			
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
MENOR, Ron	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
WHALEN, Paul				/
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes