

MAR 09 2007

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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URGING THE CIVIL DEFENSE DIVISION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENSE TO DESIGNATE A LEAD STAFF TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF  
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS.

1 WHEREAS, given the recent disasters, such as hurricanes  
2 Katrina and Rita of 2005, and more recently the earthquakes  
3 affecting Hawaii, the needs of individuals with disabilities and  
4 other special health needs became more apparent as a part of  
5 overall community emergency preparedness; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, an interagency workgroup was convened in October  
8 2005, to address these needs; and

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10 WHEREAS, the interagency workgroup developed a 2006  
11 Interagency Action Plan for the Emergency Preparedness of People  
12 with Disabilities and Special Health Needs; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the interagency work group took action on many of  
15 the goals and objectives during 2006 and subsequently updated  
16 the action plan in February 2007; and

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18 WHEREAS, the 2006 and 2007 interagency action plans  
19 identified preparedness planning, notification, sheltering, and  
20 transportation as the most pressing issues for individuals with  
21 disabilities and special health needs; and

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23 WHEREAS, the interagency action plan set forth the  
24 following goals:

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26 (1) All pre-designated locations used and managed as  
27 emergency evacuation shelters shall meet minimum  
28 requirements for facility access in the area of  
29 ingress and use of restroom (toilet) facilities to  
30 meet the needs of Level I individuals;  
31  
32 (2) The capacity of the community to "shelter-in-place"  
33 shall be increased;  
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- 1 (3) The number and dispersion of community emergency  
2 shelters as centers to provide augmented health  
3 support for Level II individuals shall be increased,  
4 with the long-term goal of having all community  
5 shelters able to support Level II individuals;  
6
- 7 (4) An accessible public and professional personal  
8 emergency readiness campaign shall be developed to  
9 assist everyone to make plans for themselves and their  
10 families in the event of an emergency;  
11
- 12 (5) Individuals with disabilities or special health needs  
13 shall have an emergency evacuation plan in place  
14 developed by themselves or by their caregivers to  
15 implement in the event of a notification of  
16 evacuation;  
17
- 18 (6) Education shall be provided to all health care  
19 providers in order that appropriate emergency  
20 evacuation plans for health care facilities or  
21 settings are in place;  
22
- 23 (7) Individuals with disabilities or special health needs  
24 shall receive notification of an evacuation through  
25 the State Civil Defense mechanisms in an accessible  
26 format; and  
27
- 28 (8) Each county shall have a plan for providing accessible  
29 transportation for individuals with disabilities and  
30 special health needs who have no transportation  
31 options or means to get to and from the emergency  
32 shelter; and  
33

34 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to expand and  
35 improve Hawaii's emergency management operations by supporting  
36 the equipping of emergency shelters and the establishment of a  
37 statewide coordinator to address and plan for the specific and  
38 specialized needs of individuals with disabilities and special  
39 health needs; and  
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41 WHEREAS, the Civil Defense Division of the State Department  
42 of Defense is the designated lead agency for the Emergency  
43 Management System in the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,  
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,  
 3 that the Civil Defense Division of the State Department of  
 4 Defense designate a lead staff person to address the disaster  
 5 preparedness needs of individuals with disabilities and special  
 6 health needs; and

7  
 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Department of Defense  
 9 is requested to report the designation of its lead staff person  
 10 to address the disaster preparedness needs of individuals with  
 11 disabilities and special health needs to the Legislature not  
 12 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008  
 13 Regular Session; and

14  
 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 16 Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General of the  
 17 Department of Defense, the Director and Vice-Director of the  
 18 Civil Defense Division, the Director of Health, the Director of  
 19 Human Services, the Chair and Executive Director of the  
 20 Disability and Communication Access Board, the Chair and  
 21 Executive Administrator of the State Council on Developmental  
 22 Disabilities, and each county Civil Defense or Emergency  
 23 Management Agency.  
 24  
 25  
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