
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

6 **§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

7 "Commission" means the disaster preparedness commission.

8 "Director" means the director of the office of disaster
9 preparedness.

10 "Disaster" means any natural or man-made catastrophe, the
11 occurrence of which is unanticipated or difficult to predict,
12 that results in significant property damage, hardship,
13 suffering, or loss of life within the state.

14 "Natural hazard" means hurricane, storm, flood, tsunami,
15 tidal wave, wind-driven water, earthquake, volcanic activity,
16 lava flow, rockslide, earthslide, fire, or other natural
17 disaster.



1 **§ -2 Office of the director of disaster preparedness**

2 **established.** There is established in the department of
3 accounting and general services the office of the director of
4 disaster preparedness. The director shall be nominated and, by
5 and with the advice and consent of the senate, appointed by the
6 governor. The director shall serve for a period of six years
7 and thereafter until a successor is appointed. The salary of
8 the director shall be set at a rate no greater than \$ a
9 year and shall not be diminished during the director's term of
10 office unless by general law applying to all salaried officers
11 of the State. If the director dies, resigns, becomes ineligible
12 to serve, or is removed or suspended from office, the first
13 assistant to the director shall become the acting director until
14 a new director is appointed for a full term.

15 **§ -3 Duties of the director.** (a) The director shall

16 develop a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan for the State
17 of Hawaii. The disaster preparedness plan shall include but not
18 be limited to:

- 19 (1) The identification of natural hazards;
- 20 (2) The designation of natural hazard impact zones;
- 21 (3) Priorities for natural hazard mitigation;



1 (4) Policies, requirements, and incentives to mitigate the
2 problems caused by natural hazards, such as county
3 building codes, land use policies, and retrofitting
4 incentives such as tax credits; and

5 (5) Plans for best responses to natural and other
6 disasters to minimize costs and protect the interests
7 of Hawaii's residents and their possessions and pets,
8 and visitors to the state, including plans ensuring
9 the reliability of communication networks and power
10 supplies for major state airports, health care
11 facilities, and other essential services.

12 (b) The director shall report annually to the governor and
13 the legislature no later than twenty days before the convening
14 of each regular session of the legislature on the status of the
15 disaster preparedness plan, and shall include any proposed
16 legislation.

17 § -3 **Disaster preparedness commission established;**
18 **selection of advisory committees.** (a) There is established a
19 disaster preparedness commission within the department of
20 accounting and general services for administrative purposes
21 only. The commission shall consist of eight members as follows:

22 (1) One member appointed by the governor;



1 (2) One member appointed by the speaker of the house of
2 representatives;

3 (3) One member appointed by the president of the senate;

4 (4) Four members appointed by the mayors of the counties
5 of Honolulu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, each of whom
6 shall appoint one member; and

7 (5) The director of civil defense or the director's
8 designee.

9 The director of civil defense shall serve as a non-voting member
10 of the commission. The commission shall select one of its
11 members to serve as chairperson. No member of the commission
12 shall receive any compensation for commission services; provided
13 that members shall be allowed necessary expenses incurred in the
14 performance of commission duties.

15 (b) The commission shall advise and assist the director in
16 developing a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan for the
17 State of Hawaii. The commission's duties in this regard shall
18 include but not be limited to:

19 (1) Gathering information about natural disasters that
20 have occurred in the past; and

21 (2) Establishing advisory committees to provide technical
22 and other support to the director."



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
 4 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 5 2008-2009 for the salary of the director of disaster
 6 preparedness and other current expenses, including those of the
 7 disaster preparedness commission.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 9 of budget and finance for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

11 *[Signature]* INTRODUCED BY: *[Signature]*

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Rida T. R. Cabanilla

Cindy Evans

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Benjamin

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Report Title:

Disaster Preparedness Plan; Natural Disasters

Description:

Establishes the Office of the Director of Disaster Preparedness and a Disaster Preparedness Commission to develop a disaster preparedness plan for Hawaii that includes the identification of hazards and hazard impact zones; disaster mitigation policies, requirements, and incentives; and best responses.

