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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CIVIL DEFENSE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the October 2006,  
2   6.7 magnitude earthquake in Hawaii illuminated the strengths, as  
3   well as the areas needing improvement, in Hawaii's civil defense  
4   network. Hawaii's diverse ethnic population is an additional  
5   component that needs to be addressed in the civil defense system  
6   during disasters and emergency.

7           In addition to ensuring statewide dissemination of  
8   information in a timely manner, it is also imperative that the  
9   information be provided in a format that is accessible and  
10   understandable by everyone. A review in the aftermath of the  
11   October 2006, earthquake and subsequent statewide power outage  
12   brought forth many recommendations, including recommendation  
13   number eleven of the final report of the Governor's  
14   Comprehensive Communications Review Committee which states:  
15   "Work with the Hawaii consular corps so they can inform foreign  
16   citizens about the nature of the emergency. KZOO (Japanese) and  
17   KNDI (all other foreign languages) will broadcast the emergency  
18   messages to non-English speaking residents and visitors in the



1 State. KZOO and KNDI will be assisted in their efforts to  
2 establish backup power generators." This recommendation  
3 supports the need for infrastructure improvements to further  
4 support the State's civil defense system in the event of an  
5 emergency.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
7 Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii to assist in disseminating  
8 information to a broader range of the State's population in the  
9 event of a disaster or emergency.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to the  
13 Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
14 organization, for generators to meet power capacity needs to  
15 ensure service in emergency situations.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
17 defense for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to the  
21 Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
22 organization, for other infrastructure improvements and



1 educational programs administered by the Hawaii State civil  
 2 defense to promote awareness of emergency procedures and  
 3 contacts to non-English speaking and English-as-a-second-  
 4 language populations in the state.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 6 defense for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.  
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INTRODUCED BY:

*[Signature]*  
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**Report Title:**

Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii; Civil Defense;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii for emergency and disaster response services and infrastructure improvements.

