H.B. NO. ⁹⁹⁰ H.D. 1 S.D. 1

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 human-caused catastrophe,
11	the occurrence of which is unanticipated or difficult to
12	predict, that results in significant property damage,
13	agricultural loss, hardship, suffering, psychological disorders,
14	medical difficulties, or loss of life within the state.
15	"Natural hazard" means hurricane, storm, flood, tsunami,
16	tidal wave, wind-driven water, earthquake, volcanic activity,
17	volcanic smog or vog, lava flow, rockslide, earthslide, fire, or
18	other natural disaster. HB990 SD1.DOC *HB990 SD1.DOC* *HB990 SD1.DOC*

Page 2

H.B. NO. ⁹⁹⁰ H.D. 1 S.D. 1

1 "Vog" means the substance created when sulfur dioxide and 2 other volcanic gases combine and interact chemically in the 3 atmosphere with oxygen, moisture, dust, and sunlight over a 4 period of time to form a visible haze consisting of gas and a 5 suspended mixture of tiny liquid and solid particles.

6 S -2 Office of disaster preparedness established. There 7 is established in the department of the office of 8 disaster preparedness. The director of the office of disaster 9 preparedness shall be nominated and with the advice and consent 10 of the senate, appointed by the governor. The director shall 11 serve for a period of six years and thereafter until a successor 12 is appointed. The salary of the director shall be set at a rate 13 a year and shall not be diminished no greater than \$ 14 during the director's term of office unless by general law 15 applying to all salaried officers of the State. If the director 16 dies, resigns, becomes ineligible to serve, or is removed or 17 suspended from office, the first assistant to the director shall 18 become the acting director until a new director is appointed for 19 a full term.

20 § -3 Duties of the director. (a) The director shall 21 develop a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan for the 22 State. The disaster preparedness plan shall include: HB990 SD1.DOC *HB990 SD1.DOC* *HB990 SD1.DOC*



3

1	(1)	The identification of natural hazards;
2	(2)	The designation of natural hazard impact zones;
3	(3)	Priorities for natural hazard mitigation;
4	(4)	Policies, requirements, and incentives to mitigate the
5		problems caused by natural hazards, to be incorporated
6		into rules such as county building codes, land use
7		policies, and retrofitting incentives such as tax
8		credits; and
9	(5)	Plans for best responses to disasters to minimize
10		costs and protect the interests of residents, their
11		possessions, and pets, and visitors to the state,
12		including plans ensuring the reliability of
13		communication networks and power supplies for major
14		state airports, health care facilities, disaster
15		shelters, and other essential services.
16	(b)	The director shall report annually to the governor and
17	the legis	lature no later than twenty days before the convening
18	of each r	egular session of the legislature on the status of the
19	disaster	preparedness plan and shall include any necessary
20	proposed	legislation.
21	S	-4 Disaster preparedness commission established;

22 selection of advisory committees. (a) There is established a
HB990 SD1.DOC
HB990 SD1.DOC
HB990 SD1.DOC

H.B. NO. ⁹⁹⁰ H.D. 1 S.D. 1

4

1	disaster	preparedness commission within the department of
2		for administrative purposes only. The commission
3	shall cor	nsist of seven members as follows:
4	(1)	One member appointed by the governor;
5	(2)	One member appointed by the speaker of the house of
6		representatives;
7	(3)	One member appointed by the president of the senate;
8	(4)	Four members appointed by the mayors of the counties
9		of Honolulu, Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, each of whom
10		shall appoint one member; and
11	(5)	One member to represent the Judiciary, as selected by
12		the chief justice.
13	The commi	ission shall select one of its members to serve as
14	chairpers	son. No member of the commission shall receive any
15	compensat	tion for commission services; provided that members
16	shall be	allowed necessary expenses, including travel expenses,
17	incurred	in the performance of their official duties. The
18	members o	of the commission shall be appointed pursuant to section
19	26-34, ex	cept as provided in this chapter.
20	(b)	The commission shall advise and assist the director in

developing a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan for the

HB990 SD1.DOC *HB990 SD1.DOC* *HB990 SD1.DOC*

21

H.B. NO. 990 H.D. 1 S.D. 1

5

1	State of Hawaii. The commission's duties in this regard shall
2	include but not be limited to:
3	(1) Gathering information about disasters that have
4	occurred in the past; and
5	(2) Establishing advisory committees to provide technical
6	and other support to the director."
7	SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
9	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 and
10	the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
11	year 2010-2011 for the office of the director of disaster
12	preparedness and the disaster preparedness commission, including
13	the hiring of necessary staff.
14	The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
15	of for the purposes of this Act.
16	SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

H.B. NO. 990 H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Report Title:

Disaster Preparedness Plan; Natural Disasters

Description:

Establishes the office 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. Appropriates funds. Effective July 1, 2050. (SD1)