

MAR 07 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND HAWAII STATE
CIVIL DEFENSE TO PROMOTE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS THROUGH
MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS AND INTEROPERABILITY PLANS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has experienced a range of climate and
2 hydrological hazards, seismic and geological hazards, and
3 technological hazards that have resulted in great costs to
4 lives, property, and the economy of the State; and
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6 WHEREAS, disasters such as tsunamis, hurricanes, volcanic
7 eruptions and ash, wildfires, flooding, and drought all have
8 serious implications for individual safety, health, livelihoods,
9 and the state economy; and
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11 WHEREAS, hazard mitigation is sustained action taken to
12 reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property
13 from hazards; and
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15 WHEREAS, hazard mitigation requires identifying risks and
16 vulnerabilities associated with emergencies, and developing
17 long-term strategies for protecting people and property from
18 future hazard events; and
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20 WHEREAS, hazard mitigation plans offer a strategy for
21 breaking the cycle of natural disaster damage, reconstruction,
22 and repeated damage, and a framework for developing feasible and
23 cost-effective mitigation projects; and
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25 WHEREAS, history shows that the physical, financial, and
26 emotional losses caused by disasters can be reduced
27 significantly through hazard mitigation planning; and
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29 WHEREAS, successful emergency response plans require
30 interoperability; and
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1 WHEREAS, interoperability is the ability of emergency
2 management and response personnel and their affiliated
3 organizations to communicate within and across disciplines and
4 jurisdictions via voice, data, or video to exchange information
5 with one another on demand and in real time, when needed; and
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7 WHEREAS, efficient emergency management and incident
8 response operations require the continuous flow of critical
9 information among jurisdictions, disciplines, organizations, and
10 agencies; and
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12 WHEREAS, the lack of interoperability leads to unnecessary
13 loss of lives, property, and environmental stability; and
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15 WHEREAS, interoperability plans should include
16 considerations of governance, standard operating procedures,
17 technology, training and exercises, and usage within the context
18 of the stress and chaos of a major response effort; and
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20 WHEREAS, the State demonstrated its commitment to reducing
21 the loss of life and minimizing property damage during disasters
22 by adopting the 2010 State of Hawaii Multi-Hazard Mitigation
23 Plan, which establishes criteria for developing local hazard
24 mitigation plans for the State and each county; and
25

26 WHEREAS, some state institutions such as the University of
27 Hawaii have already implemented multi-hazard mitigation plans;
28 and
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30 WHEREAS, high rise management associations should
31 effectuate emergency preparedness plans because of the high
32 volume of residents in such buildings; and
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34 WHEREAS, schools should be highly prepared for emergencies
35 to protect Hawaii's students; and
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37 WHEREAS, hospitals should have strong emergency
38 preparedness to ensure the safety and health of patients; and
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40 WHEREAS, it is important for assisted care facilities,
41 nursing homes, and all facilities that provide care for elderly
42 or disabled individuals to adequately prepare for emergencies
43 due to the vulnerable individuals that they house; now,
44 therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
4 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Department
5 of Defense and Hawaii State Civil Defense are encouraged to
6 promote emergency preparedness through multi-hazard mitigation
7 plans and interoperability plans; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Department of
10 Defense and Hawaii State Civil Defense are encouraged to ensure
11 that all high rise management associations, schools, hospitals,
12 assisted care facilities, nursing homes, and other facilities
13 that provide care for elderly or disabled individuals have
14 multi-hazard mitigation and interoperability plans in place; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General.
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OFFERED BY: Elizabeth Chun Oakland

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