

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND

Monday, February 9, 2015
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 485
RELATING TO SMALL BOAT HARBORS.

House Bill 485 proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to develop individual emergency response plans for natural and non-natural emergencies that threaten small boat harbors under Department jurisdiction. **The Department does not feel this measure is necessary as there is already the Hawaii Boater's Hurricane and Tsunami Safety Manual which breaks down what a boater should expect and how to prepare for a natural disaster such as hurricanes and tsunamis.**

The original Hawaii Boaters Hurricane Safety Manual was published in 1998 for the Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) by the University of Hawaii Sea Grant program. Subsequently, in 2013, it was updated and produced under contract with Hawaii State Civil Defense and funded in part by a grant/cooperative agreement from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It is now titled Hawaii Boater's Hurricane and Tsunami Safety Manual (Manual).

As mentioned previously, the Manual breaks down what a boater should expect and how to prepare for a natural disaster such as hurricanes and tsunamis. The Manual also breaks down the emergency response plan for each of the small boat harbors under the Department's jurisdiction by the hour. The response plan can be adapted to fit non-natural emergencies on an as needed basis, for example, the recent jet fuel spill that occurred at the Keehi Small Boat Harbor, Oahu.

The Manual is available at all state small boat harbors, district offices, the administrative office, and on the DOBOR website. Copies of the Manual can be made available to the Committee upon request as well.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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