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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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

1       SECTION 1. Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4       "§127A-       Local television stations; emergency  
5 information; closed or open captioning. (a) Each local  
6 television station shall make emergency information that is  
7 provided in the audio portion of its video programming  
8 accessible to persons with hearing disabilities by using a  
9 method of closed or open captioning.

10       (b) During an emergency, the agency shall monitor the  
11 video programming of each local television station. If a local  
12 television station that is broadcasting emergency information  
13 fails to comply with subsection (a), the agency shall  
14 immediately issue a warning to the station by telephone or other  
15 instantaneous means of communication and inform the station of  
16 its duty to comply. If the local television station fails to  
17 comply within       minutes, the agency shall subsequently assess



1 and collect a fine from the station in an amount and in a manner  
2 that complies with rules adopted by the governor pursuant to  
3 section 127A-25.

4 (c) For the purposes of this section:

5 "Broadcast station" and "television service" shall have the  
6 same meaning as in title 47 United States Code section 153, as  
7 amended.

8 "Closed captioning" and "video programming" shall have the  
9 same meaning as in title 47 Code of Federal Regulations section  
10 79.1(a).

11 "Emergency information" shall have the same meaning as in  
12 title 47 Code of Federal Regulations section 79.2(a).

13 "Local television station" means a broadcast station that  
14 is located in Hawaii and provides television service.

15 "Open captioning" shall have the same meaning as "closed  
16 captioning"; provided that the technology does not require a  
17 television viewer to use a closed caption decoder described in  
18 subpart B of 47 Code of Federal Regulations part 79 in order to  
19 read the captioned text."



1 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
3 begun before its effective date.

4 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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# H.B. NO. 2675

**Report Title:**

HEMA; Emergency Information; Closed or Open Captioning

**Description:**

Requires each local television station to make emergency information that is provided in the audio portion of its video programming accessible to persons with hearing disabilities by using a method of closed or open captioning.

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