

MAR 09 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE TO STRENGTHEN ITS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BY
REPOSITIONING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLY CACHES FROM OAHU TO
THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that while it is cost-
2 efficient for the State to centralize emergency medical supply
3 caches on Oahu, this practice may leave Hawaii's neighbor
4 islands vulnerable in the event of a disaster on Oahu; and
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6 WHEREAS, the neighbor islands may not be able to
7 accommodate displaced residents from other islands if a disaster
8 decimated Oahu and prevented the transportation of medical
9 supply caches to the neighbor islands; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that federal funding
12 for the expansion and maintenance of existing medical supply
13 caches on the neighbor islands was cut earlier this year; and
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15 WHEREAS, if funding is not restored, these aging medical
16 supply caches will be off-line in 2018, leaving the State only
17 the immediate resources of individual healthcare providers and
18 the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team, a
21 response team that the federal government may mobilize during a
22 disaster to quickly set up and operate a mobile care facility,
23 has its federal equipment and supply cache on Oahu; and
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25 WHEREAS, while the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team
26 and its supply cache can be airlifted to any neighbor island in
27 an emergency, it remains unclear if any aircraft will be
28 available and functional to fly following a natural or man-made
29 disaster that disrupts electricity and damages electronic
30 equipment on Oahu; and



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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that the
 2 unavailability of large government supply caches and the small
 3 number of government medical assets weakens the State's
 4 emergency preparedness and response to possible disasters, such
 5 as major aircraft incidents, hurricanes, and tsunamis; and
 6

7 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State to have a
 8 contingency plan in the event a disaster decimates Oahu and
 9 prevents the transportation of emergency medical supply caches
 10 to the neighbor islands; now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
 14 that the State is requested to strengthen its emergency
 15 preparedness by repositioning portions of its emergency medical
 16 supply caches from Oahu to the neighbor islands; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional delegation;
 20 Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
 21 Governor of the State of Hawaii; Adjutant General; Administrator
 22 of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; the Mayor of
 23 Honolulu; the Mayor of Maui; the Mayor of Kauai; and the Mayor
 24 of Hawaii.
 25
 26
 27

OFFERED BY: *Rosely H. Baker*

