

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2019

RE: S.B. No. 346

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 346 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to identify certain evacuation routes;
- (2) Prohibit the planting of large trees along evacuation routes;
- (3) Require the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to identify existing large trees along evacuation routes and trim, spray, or remove the trees if the trees have the potential to obstruct the evacuation route; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.



Your Committee finds that in preparation for a natural disaster, every second of potential evacuation time makes a difference in protecting the lives of the State's residents. Your Committee further finds that large trees along evacuation routes have the potential to obstruct these roads for residents during an evacuation and prevent emergency response vehicles and personnel from returning to an evacuation zone following a disaster. This measure ensures that evacuation routes are clear and free of obstruction to allow for quick evacuation and response in case of an emergency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "evacuation route" to specify that only highways under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation may be identified as evacuation routes; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 346, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 346, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs,



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 346	Committee Referral: PSM, WAM	Date: 2/7/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye/	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes