

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
  
AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**  
**OF**  
**CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
**TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON**  
**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020, 2:45 P.M.**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 225**

**S.B. 2080**

**RELATING TO STATE BUILDINGS.**

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2080.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of the bill, to improve and enhance the ability of evacuating people with mobility limitations during an emergency and offers the following comment for the committee's consideration.

The DAGS has responsibility for less than 5% of all State-owned facilities and does not have direct jurisdiction or management rights over all other State-owned facilities. The DAGS recommends that the installation and maintenance of the evacuation chairs be the responsibility of the agency that each facility has been assigned.

The DAGS facilities on Oahu will require the installation of about 100 evacuation chairs; statewide, the DAGS may be required to install about 150. The estimated purchase cost of each evacuation chair is between \$1,000 to \$5,000, with an estimated installation cost of \$200 per evacuation chair. A number of locations will require construction modifications to install evacuation chairs in compliance with State fire codes (we estimate an additional construction cost of \$10,000 for each evacuation chair installation that require modification). Required

funding may exceed \$5,000,000, for the installation of the chairs, with a required additional funding of about \$7,500,000 for construction for modifications required at some locations.

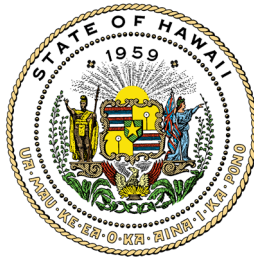
The DAGS estimates the annual, statewide maintenance cost of the installed evacuation chairs at \$225,000.

Prior to the installation of the evacuation chairs, studies should be performed to identify the model of chair that should be installed, ensure that the evacuation chair that is installed will work for each location, and identify locations that require modifications and what modifications are required, and to design the modification work. This effort may require \$2,000,000 or more.

The installation of evacuation chairs is not currently a code requirement for new construction.

The installation of evacuation chairs may increase the State's liability if, at the time of need, the installed chair does not operate correctly.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.



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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

The Honorable Laura H. Thielen, Chair  
The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair

Testimony of the Office of the Auditor on  
**S.B. NO. 2080, RELATING TO STATE BUILDINGS**

Hearing: Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 2:45 p.m.

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The Office of the Auditor offers the following testimony in **strong support** of S.B. No. 2080.

The bill requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to purchase, distribute, and install, emergency evacuation chairs in state buildings having two or more floors.

The Office is located on the fourth and fifth floors of the Kekūanaʻōʻa Building. The building is serviced by a single elevator and we are unable to accommodate users when the elevator is out of order. While we are able to make arrangements when we have advance notice of scheduled repairs, we are required to rely on emergency services for unscheduled outages and other emergency situations.

We believe an evacuation chair is important not only for the safety and welfare of our employees, but for members of the public conducting business in the Kekūanaʻōʻa Building as well.

Thank you for considering our testimony related to S.B. No. 2080.



## DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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January 28, 2020

### TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

#### Senate Bill 2080 Relating to State Buildings

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) offers comments on Senate Bill 2080 Relating to State Buildings. The purpose of the bill is to have the Department of Accounting and General Services purchase, distribute, and install, at minimum, one emergency evacuation chair at or near one stairwell on each floor in every multi-story State public building.

Senate Bill 2080 Section 1 (d)(1)(2) indicates the following:

- (d) The disability and communication access board with the department of accounting and general services, shall:
  - (1) Conduct annual training to explain the purpose and appropriate safe use of emergency evacuation chairs for relevant personnel from each state building in which at least one emergency evacuation chair is installed; and
  - (2) Produce informational material describing the purpose, placement, and appropriate use of emergency evacuation chairs for distribution to the occupants of each state building in which an emergency evacuation chair is installed pursuant to this section.

While DCAB supports the installation of emergency evacuation chairs at State buildings, DCAB does not have the expertise on the use or placement of emergency evacuation chairs. DCAB strongly recommends having the manufacturer of the equipment provide any necessary training and instructions.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRBY L. SHAW  
Executive Director