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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that disaster recovery is  
2 a complex and long-term process that involves a range of  
3 activities and many participants. Recovery operations begin  
4 shortly after a disaster occurs and can continue for many years.  
5 Disaster recovery involves short-term restoration of essential  
6 community functions and long-term recovery planning and  
7 coordination.

8           The legislature further finds that state, public, and  
9 private organizations share in providing for the public's health  
10 and safety. It is essential that the response, recovery, and  
11 mitigation activities of all parties be fully aligned.

12           The purpose of this Act is to enhance the capacity of  
13 government, relevant agencies, and the community to recover from  
14 the impacts of disasters by establishing the state disaster  
15 recovery program to be overseen by the state disaster recovery  
16 coordinator.



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

4 "§127A- State disaster recovery coordinator; duties and

5 powers. (a) The state disaster recovery coordinator shall:

6 (1) Report to the administrator;

7 (2) Oversee the state disaster recovery program and  
8 framework;

9 (3) Establish and maintain recovery priorities and  
10 strategy on behalf of the governor;

11 (4) Convene and provide executive level coordination for  
12 state agencies working on the state disaster recovery  
13 and reconstruction programs and alignment of funding;

14 (5) Facilitate disaster recovery coordination and  
15 collaboration between:

16 (A) The federal, state, and local governments;

17 (B) The private sector; and

18 (C) Voluntary, faith-based, and community  
19 organizations;



1       (6) Serve as the primary contact with the Federal Disaster  
2       Recovery Coordinator of the Federal Emergency  
3       Management Agency to address recovery needs;

4       (7) Promote a unified communications strategy with state  
5       and local partners; and

6       (8) Develop and adopt interagency coordination plans to  
7       drive long-term recovery from disasters.

8       (b) The state disaster recovery coordinator shall conduct  
9       a comprehensive review of recovery plans, policies, and  
10       decisions as required by this section and submit a report to the  
11       administrator and legislature no later than twenty days prior to  
12       the convening of the regular session of 2022 and every odd year  
13       thereafter. Each state or county agency having recovery  
14       responsibilities shall maintain and update recovery plans,  
15       including annexes and appendices, that are applicable to that  
16       agency."

17       SECTION 3. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18       amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

19       "(e) The agency shall perform emergency management  
20       functions within the territorial limits of the State. In  
21       performing its duties, the agency shall:



- 1 (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management  
2 plan, which shall include a state disaster recovery  
3 program and framework and be integrated into and  
4 coordinated with the emergency management plans of the  
5 federal government. The plan shall be integrated by a  
6 continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency  
7 management program. The plan shall contain provisions  
8 to ensure that the State is prepared for emergencies  
9 and minor, major, and catastrophic disasters. In  
10 preparing and maintaining the plan, the agency shall  
11 work closely with agencies and organizations with  
12 emergency management responsibilities;
- 13 (2) Assign lead and support responsibilities to state  
14 agencies and personnel for emergency functions and  
15 other support activities;
- 16 (3) Adopt standards and requirements for county emergency  
17 management plans. The standards and requirements  
18 shall ensure that county plans are coordinated and  
19 consistent with the state comprehensive emergency  
20 management plan;



- 1           (4) Make recommendations to the legislature, building code  
2           organizations, and counties for zoning, building, and  
3           other land use controls; and other preparedness,  
4           prevention, and mitigation measures designed to  
5           eliminate emergencies or reduce their impact;
- 6           (5) Anticipate trends and promote innovations that will  
7           enhance the emergency management system;
- 8           (6) Institute statewide public awareness programs. This  
9           shall include intensive public educational campaigns  
10          on emergency preparedness issues, including [~~but not~~  
11          ~~limited to~~] the personal responsibility of individual  
12          citizens to be self-sufficient for up to fourteen days  
13          following a natural or human-caused disaster;
- 14          (7) Coordinate federal, state, and local emergency  
15          management activities and take all other steps,  
16          including the partial or full mobilization of  
17          emergency management forces and organizations in  
18          advance of an actual emergency, to ensure the  
19          availability of adequately trained and equipped forces  
20          of emergency management personnel before, during, and  
21          after emergencies and disasters;



- 1 (8) Implement training programs to improve the ability of  
2 state and local emergency management personnel to  
3 prepare and implement emergency management plans and  
4 programs. This shall include a continuous training  
5 program for agencies and individuals that will be  
6 called on to perform key roles in state and local  
7 post-disaster response and recovery efforts and for  
8 local government personnel on federal and state post-  
9 disaster response and recovery strategies and  
10 procedures;
- 11 (9) Adopt standards and requirements for state agency  
12 emergency operating procedures and periodically review  
13 emergency operating procedures of state agencies and  
14 recommend revisions as needed to ensure consistency  
15 with the state comprehensive emergency management plan  
16 and program; and
- 17 (10) Coordinate, in advance whenever possible, such  
18 executive orders, proclamations, and rules for  
19 issuance by the governor as are necessary or  
20 appropriate for coping with emergencies and  
21 disasters."



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Disaster Recovery Program; State Disaster Recovery Coordinator;  
Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

**Description:**

Establishes the framework of the Hawaii state disaster recovery program, as overseen by the state disaster recovery coordinator. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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