
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 the
13 government, relevant agencies, and the community to recover from
14 the impacts of disasters by establishing the state disaster
15 recovery program as 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 report to the governor, oversee the state disaster recovery
7 program and framework, and shall:

8 (1) Establish and maintain recovery priorities and
9 strategy on behalf of the governor;

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

13 (3) Facilitate disaster recovery coordination and
14 collaboration between:

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

16 (B) The private sector; and

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

19 (4) Serve as the primary contact with the Federal Disaster
20 Recovery Coordinator of the Federal Emergency
21 Management Agency to address recovery needs;



1 (5) Promote a unified communications strategy with state
2 and local partners; and

3 (6) Develop and promulgate interagency coordination plans
4 to drive long-term recovery from disasters.

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

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

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

19 (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management
20 plan, which shall include a state disaster recovery
21 program and framework and be integrated into and



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



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



1 programs. This shall include a continuous training
2 program for agencies and individuals that will be
3 called on to perform key roles in state and local
4 post-disaster response and recovery efforts and for
5 local government personnel on federal and state post-
6 disaster response and recovery strategies and
7 procedures;

8 (9) Adopt standards and requirements for state agency
9 emergency operating procedures and periodically review
10 emergency operating procedures of state agencies and
11 recommend revisions as needed to ensure consistency
12 with the state comprehensive emergency management plan
13 and program; and

14 (10) Coordinate, in advance whenever possible, such
15 executive orders, proclamations, and rules for
16 issuance by the governor as are necessary or
17 appropriate for coping with emergencies and
18 disasters."

19 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

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

Description:

Establishes the framework of the Hawaii State Disaster Recovery
Program, as overseen by the State Disaster Recovery Coordinator.
Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

