

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1327

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 30 2021**

RE: S.R. No. 51

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and  
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.R. No. 51 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
AGENCY TO DEVELOP AN EVACUATION PLAN FOR THE AREAS WITHIN  
LAVA ZONES 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 6,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to develop an evacuation plan  
for the areas within lava zones 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6.

Your Committee did not receive any testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that Mauna Loa is the largest active  
volcano on Earth, rising approximately 13,680 feet above the  
Pacific Ocean and encompasses more than half the area of the  
island of Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that the Kilauea  
volcano is currently erupting with lava pouring into the lava lake  
within Halemaumau crater. There are numerous volcanic hazards  
associated with a Mauna Loa eruption and the active Kilauea  
volcano. Lava flows from Kilauea and Mauna Loa will interfere  
with human activity and infrastructure as development and  
communities increase around these active volcanos, including but  
not limited to the South Kona and Kau areas. Perhaps the greatest  
risk is the lack of a plan to evacuate the residents of these  
areas in the event of a lava flow. As such, it is critical that  
the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency be prepared to respond to



county requests for state assistance in the case of hazardous volcanic activity. This measure urges the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to develop an evacuation plan for the South Kona and Kau areas so that the residents can be quickly evacuated should volcanic activity become hazardous in those areas.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 51 and recommends its adoption.

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



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CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SR 51	PSM	3/23/2021		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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)	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)				/
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	/			
RIVIERE, Gil	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	—	—	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Clarence K. Nishihara</div>				
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes