
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 26-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) The department of defense shall be headed by a single
4 executive to be known as the adjutant general. The adjutant
5 general shall also be [~~the director of the Hawaii emergency
6 management agency as established in section 127A-3 and~~] the
7 director of homeland security.

8 The department shall be responsible for the defense of the
9 State and its people from mass violence, originating from either
10 human or natural causes.

11 The devolution of command of the military forces in the
12 absence of the adjutant general shall be within the military
13 establishment. The devolution of command of the Hawaii
14 emergency management agency in the absence of the adjutant
15 general, as director of the agency, shall be within the agency."

16 SECTION 2. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:



1 "(a) There is established [~~within the department of~~
2 ~~defense~~] the Hawaii emergency management agency[~~-~~], to be placed
3 within the department of defense for administrative purposes
4 only. The [~~adjutant general~~] administrator of emergency
5 management shall serve as the director of Hawaii emergency
6 management and, subject to the direction and control of the
7 governor, shall oversee the agency.

8 (b) There shall be an administrator of emergency
9 management who shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the
10 [~~director,~~] governor, and who shall have at least three years of
11 experience leading emergency management efforts at the local,
12 state, or federal level. The appointment shall not be subject
13 to the advice and consent of the senate. The administrator of
14 emergency management shall be the civilian head of and
15 responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency. The
16 administrator of emergency management shall report to the
17 [~~director. The administrator of emergency management shall, in~~
18 ~~the absence of the director, have all the duties and~~
19 ~~responsibilities of the director, and shall report directly to~~
20 ~~the~~] governor. The administrator of emergency management shall
21 not be subject to chapter 76."



1 SECTION 3. The administrator of the Hawaii emergency
2 management agency serving on the effective date of this Act
3 shall remain as administrator until a time as an administrator
4 is appointed by the governor pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Department of Defense;
Administrator; Appointment

Description:

Specifies that the Hawaii emergency management agency is established within the Department of Defense for administrative purposes only. Makes the administrator of emergency management the director of the Hawaii emergency management agency and requires the administrator to report directly to the governor. Requires the governor to appoint the administrator of the Hawaii emergency management agency. Effective 7/1/2022. (SD1)

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