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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FEDERAL FUNDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read  
3 as follows:

4 "PART . JOINT LEGISLATIVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

5 COMMITTEE

6 §21-A Joint legislative emergency response and recovery  
7 committee established; purpose. The joint legislative emergency  
8 response and recovery committee is established. The committee  
9 shall conduct informational briefings, ascertain facts, and make  
10 recommendations to the legislature concerning matters relating  
11 to the emergency response of the State.

12 §21-B Membership. The joint legislative emergency  
13 response and recovery committee shall be composed of the  
14 following members:

15 (1) Three members of the house of representatives to be  
16 designated by the speaker of the house of  
17 representatives, of whom one member shall be



1 designated by the speaker of the house of  
2 representatives to serve as co-chair; provided that  
3 one member be a member of the minority, if a minority  
4 exists; and

5 (2) Three members of the senate to be designated by the  
6 senate president, of whom one member shall be  
7 designated by the senate president to serve as co-  
8 chair; provided that one member be a member of the  
9 minority, if a minority exists.

10 **§21-C Powers and duties.** (a) Any member of the joint  
11 legislative emergency response and recovery committee may ask  
12 any question of any state officer appearing before the joint  
13 legislative emergency response and recovery committee relating  
14 to the officer's respective department, the department's role in  
15 the emergency, and its emergency response.

16 (b) Any member of the joint legislative emergency response  
17 and recovery committee may also submit written inquiries to any  
18 state officer to obtain a response, including requests for  
19 documents and materials pertinent to any federal allocations and  
20 the intended or actual uses and outcomes of the funding.



1 (c) Any officer questioned in writing shall reply to any  
2 question no later than three business days after receipt of the  
3 request, unless otherwise specified or an extension is granted."

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
5 by designating sections 21-1 to 21-19 as part I, entitled  
6 "General Provisions".

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

10 "§127A- State of emergency; federal relief funds; joint  
11 legislative emergency response and recovery committee. (a)

12 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if the  
13 legislature is not in session when:

14 (1) The governor has called a state of emergency pursuant  
15 to this chapter; and

16 (2) The United States Congress has passed a financial  
17 relief package providing the State with an amount  
18 greater than \$25,000,000 due to an emergency,

19 then the joint legislative emergency response and recovery  
20 committee established pursuant to section 21-A may convene.



1        (b) If the legislature is not in session, the legislature  
2 may convene in a special session in accordance with the state  
3 constitution to act on the recommendations of the joint  
4 legislative emergency response and recovery committee."

5        SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by section  
6 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute  
7 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
8 the new sections in this Act.

9        SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

10       SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.



**Report Title:**

State of Emergency; Joint Legislative Emergency Response and Recovery Committee

**Description:**

Establishes the joint legislative emergency response and recovery committee. Allows the joint legislative emergency response and recovery committee, under certain circumstances, to convene and make recommendations to the legislature regarding federal funds. Provides the Legislature with the opportunity to convene in special session in accordance with the state constitution to act on the recommendations. (SD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

