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STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 101
REQUESTING THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO ESTABLISH
A TWO-YEAR TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS KEY FINDINGS AND IMPLEMENT
RESILIENCE ENHANCEMENT OPTIONS FROM THE 2022 RESILIENCY
ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE HAWAII MARITIME TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL
RESILIENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PROJECT

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON **PUBLIC SAFETY AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

MARCH 24, 2023

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and members of the committee:

I am James Barros, Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA).

HI-EMA provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of SCR101.

SCR101 requests that the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with Department of Transportation's Harbors Division, establish a two-year task force to work with local, state, federal and private parties to address key findings validated by the July 2022 report of the Hawaii Maritime Transportation Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) project, and plan for related resiliency enhancements.

The Port of Honolulu is a vital link in Hawaii's statewide supply chain, accounting for roughly 90% of imported and exported goods and serving as a transfer hub for nearly all goods bound for the neighbor islands. Although Pearl Harbor and Daniel K. Inouye International Airport provide some supply-chain capacity, a natural disaster such as a hurricane landfall that damaged the Port of Honolulu would likely also damage those nearby alternative sites.

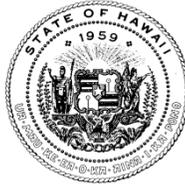
To provide resilience against such a critical failure, HI-EMA supports robust planning for port enhancements, alternative supply chain configurations, and other improvements to protect the people and property of Hawai'i. This resolution aligns closely with HI-EMA's vision of a path forward toward maritime transportation resiliency, and we enthusiastically support it.

We respectfully ask this committee to support SCR101 as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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TESTIMONY BY:
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March 31, 2023
3:01 P.M.

State Capitol, Room 225 & Videoconference

SCR 101/ SR 111
REQUESTING THAT THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
ESTABLISH A TWO-YEAR TASK FORCE TO ADDRESS KEY FINDINGS
VALIDATED BY THE 2022 RESILIENCY ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE HAWAII
MARITIME TRANSPORTATION REGIONAL RESILIENCY ASSESSMENT
PROGRAM PROJECT AND PLAN RESILIENCY ENHANCEMENTS.

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports these resolutions that establish a task force to act on findings in the Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) report from 2022.

DOT concurs and affirms that state's commercial harbors system is vital to the State's supply chains and is critical in providing goods to Hawai'i's residents. While the RRAP identified widely known risks, it is prudent to take further action to prepare action plans to address these risks. We look forward to working with other members of the task force to mitigate these risks and prevent prolonged interruption of port operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.