



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
*Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kāla*  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND WATER AND LAND  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 3064

**February 7, 2024**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Room 225 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO FUNDS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) supports this Administration Proposal, BUF-4(24).

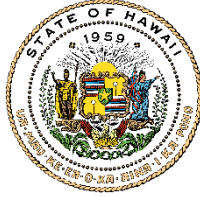
Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 3064 reinstates the Governor's authority to transfer funds: 1) in the case of a natural disaster; 2) for operating purposes; and 3) to supplement the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Firefighter's Contingency Fund.

B&F strongly supports S.B. No. 3064 that allows the Executive Branch flexibility to better meet operational and emergency needs as they arise during the course of a fiscal year.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE  
FIRST DEPUTY

DEAN D. UYENO  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES  
ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Testimony of  
DAWN N. S. CHANG  
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
and  
WATER AND LAND

Wednesday, February 7, 2024  
3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and Via Videoconference

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 3064  
RELATING TO FUNDS

Senate Bill 3064 proposes to reinstate the Governor's authority to transfer funds to cope with the effects of natural disasters, for operating purposes, or to supplement the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Fire Fighter's Contingency Fund. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department supports the Governor's ability to respond rapidly to a natural disaster and transfer funds to the Department to fund its emergency response operations. The Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife is the primary responder for wildfires on 26% of the land area in Hawai'i and has approximately 150 staff trained to respond to not only fire but to support other departments in their response to natural disasters, such as flooding and hurricanes. While the Department's wildfire suppression budget has increased to meet its ten-year rolling average of expenditures, there is the possibility of an extreme wildfire season or other prolonged disaster response, such as a catastrophic hurricane or volcanic eruption, that would require additional funds to support continued emergency operations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA  
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

JAMES DS. BARROS  
ADMINISTRATOR OF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA**  
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
4204 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD  
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4420



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

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3064,  
RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS  
ADMINISTRATOR  
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony to **SUPPORT** SB 3064.

The Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency is expressing its **support** for Senate Bill 3064, which grants the Governor the necessary flexibility to respond swiftly and effectively to natural disasters or unexpected emergencies. This bill ensures that resources can be directed where they are most needed during critical times and in a timely manner, ensuring that other state programs are supplemented to aid with prevention, control, and mitigation of disasters within the State.

The requirements for the Governor to promptly inform the legislature and submit an annual report ensures earnest accountability in the use of these funds. This openness also allows for public input and oversight, strengthening trust between the government and its citizens.

HI-EMA is in **support** of this measure, which promotes responsible governance and ensures transparency and accountability in the use of reallocated funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of Senate Bill 3064.

James Barros: [james.barros@hawaii.gov](mailto:james.barros@hawaii.gov); 808-733-4300