

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

546

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 673  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred H.B. No. 673 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the Governor or a mayor from suspending requests for certain public records or vital records or statistics during a state of emergency;
- (2) Limit the authority of the Governor or a mayor to suspend laws during states of emergency; and
- (3) Allow the Legislature and county councils to terminate, by an affirmative two-thirds vote, a state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or a mayor, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Office of Information Practices.

2025-1324 HB673 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that this measure clarifies state and county emergency management authority, supports effective and adaptable emergency responses, and maintains accountability and checks and balances within the framework of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 673, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 673, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety,

*DELLA AU BELATTI*

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DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



