

JAN 17 2025

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding six new sections to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§127A- National Incident Management System; Incident Command System; compliance. (a) The agency shall adopt the National Incident Management System as the standard for all incident management and emergency response operations within the State and counties to ensure compliance as a prerequisite for federal preparedness funding eligibility.

(b) The agency shall apply the Incident Command System framework for managing all emergencies and preplanned events. This application shall ensure standardized organization structures, action planning, chain of command, unity of command, and communication protocols that are in alignment with the National Incident Management Incident Command System principles.

(c) The agency shall designate a National Incident Management System coordinator to oversee implementation, serve



1 as a point of contact for local jurisdictions, and ensure  
2 interagency coordination within the State.

3 (d) All personnel involved in incident response shall  
4 complete National Incident Management System compliant training  
5 specific to their roles, including Incident Command System and  
6 resource management courses. The agency shall implement ongoing  
7 training to meet National Incident Management System standards,  
8 with periodic reviews and refresher courses to maintain  
9 proficiency.

10 (e) The agency shall maintain a comprehensive inventory of  
11 deployable resources using standardized National Incident  
12 Management System typing definitions, including developing  
13 mutual aid agreements and contracts with local and private  
14 entities, as applicable, to ensure resource availability and  
15 efficient resource deployment during incidents.

16 (f) The agency shall establish interoperable communication  
17 systems across agencies, employing National Incident Management  
18 System protocols for clear, plain language communications,  
19 facilitating effective interagency coordination during emergency  
20 responses.



1        (g) The agency shall conduct annual audits on National  
2 Incident Management System compliance, including training  
3 completion rates, resource management effectiveness, and system  
4 integration success. The results of the audit shall be  
5 published in an annual report, which shall be submitted to  
6 relevant federal and state oversight bodies, made available to  
7 the public, and posted to the agency's website.

8        **§127A- After-action review; publication; liability**  
9 **protection.** (a) The agency shall complete an after-action

10 review for all significant emergency incidents or exercises  
11 within six months following the emergency incident or exercise.  
12 Each after-action review shall include key findings, including:

13        (1) A detailed account of effective actions and areas for  
14 improvement; and

15        (2) Recommended actions to enhance future response  
16 capabilities with each action having an assigned  
17 responsible party, due date, and management oversight.

18        (b) The agency shall adhere to a structured timeline for  
19 drafting, reviewing, and finalizing each after-action review to  
20 ensure prompt availability. Finalized after-action reviews



1 shall be published on a dedicated public portal accessible  
2 through the agency's website.

3 (c) After-action reviews published by the agency or county  
4 emergency management agency shall be protected from use as  
5 evidence in civil litigation against the agency or its  
6 personnel, contingent upon the agency's demonstrated good-faith  
7 effort to document incidents accurately and fairly and place  
8 them into the public domain. Liability protection under this  
9 subsection shall be contingent on the agency's or county  
10 emergency management agency's adherence to good-faith efforts in  
11 recording factual incident assessments and proposed  
12 improvements, encouraging objective review without fear of legal  
13 exposure. Protections provided in this subsection shall align  
14 with public interest objectives, ensuring that after-action  
15 reviews serve as tools for transparency, accountability, and  
16 improvement.

17 **§127A- National Incident Management System compliant**  
18 **position task books; credentialing.** (a) The agency shall  
19 develop and manage position task books aligned with the National  
20 Qualification System of the National Incident Management System.  
21 Position task books shall encompass competencies, behaviors, and



1 tasks as per Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines to  
2 ensure compliance for Incident Command System Types 1, 2, and 3,  
3 including emergency operations center positions. Position task  
4 books shall:

5 (1) Be signed off by a qualified trainer;

6 (2) Align with national standards and match National  
7 Incident Management System requirements for Incident  
8 Command System roles and emergency operations centers  
9 skillsets to ensure the State's personnel are prepared  
10 for multi-jurisdictional deployment and  
11 interoperability with other states and federal  
12 systems; and

13 (3) Be designed for use in various emergency operations  
14 centers models, including Incident Command System-like  
15 structures, Incident Support Model, and departmental  
16 structures, allowing for flexible applications based  
17 on local emergency operations center's needs.

18 (b) County emergency management agencies shall be  
19 responsible for overseeing, evaluating, and validating the  
20 position task books of their personnel. County emergency  
21 agencies shall ensure that personnel meet the position task book



1 criteria for their designated Incident Command System or  
2 emergency operations centers roles, following national standards  
3 in training and certification processes.

4 (c) The agency shall maintain a centralized, publicly  
5 accessible registry of all personnel certified under National  
6 Incident Management System position task books. This registry  
7 shall be available on the agency's website and list certified  
8 individuals from each county emergency management agency,  
9 organized by their certified positions and task level.

10 (d) The agency shall generate and maintain a position task  
11 book for type 1, 2, and 3 incidents for the following positions:

12 (1) Incident commander;

13 (2) Public information officer;

14 (3) Safety officer;

15 (4) Liaison officer;

16 (5) Operations section chief;

17 (6) Planning section chief;

18 (7) Logistics section chief;

19 (8) Finance or administration section chief;

20 (9) Operations branch director;

21 (10) Division or group supervisor;



- 1        (11) Strike team or task force leader;
- 2        (12) Resources unit leader;
- 3        (13) Situation unit leader;
- 4        (14) Documentation unit leader;
- 5        (15) Demobilization unit leader;
- 6        (16) Supply unit leader;
- 7        (17) Facilities unit leader;
- 8        (18) Ground support unit leader;
- 9        (19) Food unit leader;
- 10       (20) Communications unit leader;
- 11       (21) Medical unit leader;
- 12       (22) Time unit leader;
- 13       (23) Cost unit leader;
- 14       (24) Compensation or claims unit leader;
- 15       (25) Procurement unit leader;
- 16       (26) Air operations branch director; and
- 17       (27) Crew leader.
- 18       (e) The following position task books shall be sufficient
- 19 to cover coordination and leadership responsibilities in the
- 20 emergency operations center settings:
- 21       (1) Emergency operations center director;



- 1        (2) Emergency operations center manager;
- 2        (3) Operations section coordinator;
- 3        (4) Planning section coordinator;
- 4        (5) Logistics section coordinator;
- 5        (6) Finance or administration section coordinator;
- 6        (7) Situational awareness unit leader;
- 7        (8) Resource management and tracking specialist;
- 8        (9) Public information officer;
- 9        (10) Liaison officer;
- 10       (11) Safety officer;
- 11       (12) Documentation specialist;
- 12       (13) Communications or dispatch coordinator;
- 13       (14) Recovery operations coordinator;
- 14       (15) Hazardous materials coordinator;
- 15       (16) Public health and medical services coordinator;
- 16       (17) Critical infrastructure or key resources coordinator;
- 17       (18) Community and volunteer coordination specialist;
- 18       (19) Donations management specialist; and
- 19       (20) Debris management specialist.
- 20       **§127A- Standardized Incident Documentation; emergency**
- 21 **operations center coordination operations.**    (a) The agency





1 shall require the use of standardized Incident Command System  
2 forms for documenting incident response across all emergency  
3 operations center formats, including Incident Command System-  
4 like, Incident Support Model, and Departmental Model. These  
5 forms shall meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency's  
6 National Incident Management System documentation standards and  
7 be customizable to align with the unique needs of the State's  
8 emergency operations centers.

9 (b) Each emergency operations center format shall use the  
10 following forms, including but not limited to:

11 (1) Incident briefing and action plans: ICS Form 202  
12 (incident objectives) and ICS Form 203 (organization  
13 assignment list);

14 (2) Resource management: ICS Form 204 (assignment list),  
15 ICS Form 211 (check-in list), and ICS Form 215  
16 (operational planning worksheet);

17 (3) Situation reporting and updates: ICS Form 209  
18 (incident status summary) for regular status reporting  
19 and ICS Form 214 (activity log) for tracking  
20 significant events;



1       (4) Communications and coordination: ICS Form 205  
2           (incident radio communications plan) and ICS Form 205A  
3           (communications list) to ensure coordination across  
4           responding agencies; and

5       (5) Other forms: ICS 206 medical plan, ICS 208 safety  
6           plan, and ICS 200 air ops branch summary.

7       (c) The agency shall allow for the adjustment of forms  
8       usage based on each emergency operations center's operational  
9       structure.

10       (d) The agency shall provide ongoing training to county  
11       emergency operations center personnel on the effective use of  
12       Incident Command System Forms and make digital templates readily  
13       available.

14       (e) The agency shall retain all completed Incident Command  
15       System forms for significant incidents in a secure, accessible  
16       archive. These records shall be available upon request as  
17       provided in chapter 92F.

18       **§127A-       Accreditation; emergency management programs.**

19       (a) The agency and all county emergency management agencies  
20       shall pursue and maintain accreditation through the Emergency  
21       Management Accreditation Program, or a similar nationally



1 recognized emergency management accreditation standards.  
2 Accreditation shall be reviewed and renewed on a five year  
3 cycle, with agencies adhering to updated standards as required.

4 (b) The accreditation process shall require compliance  
5 with Emergency Management Accreditation Program standards, which  
6 cover:

7 (1) Program management and strategic planning: Includes  
8 development and implementation of a multi-year  
9 strategic plan outlining vision, mission, goals, and  
10 objectives;

11 (2) Hazard identification and risk analysis: Conducting  
12 risk assessments for natural and human-caused hazards  
13 that affect the jurisdiction, identifying  
14 vulnerabilities, and assessing community resilience;

15 (3) Resource management and mutual aid: Comprehensive  
16 management of resources and logistics, including  
17 mutual aid agreements;

18 (4) Training, exercises, and corrective actions:  
19 Establishing ongoing training, conducting exercises to  
20 test capabilities, and implementing corrective actions  
21 based on exercise findings; and



(5) Communications and public warning systems: Ensuring interoperable, reliable communication systems and public warning capabilities.

(c) All accredited agencies shall:

(1) Conduct an internal self-assessment;

(2) Submit documentation of compliance with standards; and

(3) Undergo peer-reviewed evaluations by Emergency Management Accreditation Program assessors.

Accreditation materials shall be maintained by the agency and be available for public review upon request as provided in chapter 92F.

(d) The agency shall submit a biennial report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session in the first year of each biennium summarizing:

(1) The status of accreditation;

(2) Improvements based on Emergency Management Accreditation Program standards; and

(3) Corrective actions taken.

County emergency management agencies shall submit annual updates to the agency on their compliance and accreditation status.



1        §127A-        Role definition; identification standards;

2        Incident Command System and emergency operations center

3        coordination operations.    (a)    Each designated position in all

4        Incident Command System and emergency operations center

5        coordination operations shall be clearly defined with specific

6        roles and responsibilities assigned to a single individual per

7        position. No Incident Command System or emergency operations

8        center role shall be held by more than one individual at any

9        time during active operations.

10        (b)    All Incident Command System Command Post and emergency

11        operations center personnel shall wear a visible vest, badge, or

12        other designated identification item displaying their position

13        title. The vest, badge, or other designated identification item

14        shall be standardized and color-coded for each role to ensure

15        quick recognition of personnel responsibilities during an

16        incident.

17        (c)    Each vest, badge, or other designated identification

18        item shall be assigned to a specific position and individual at

19        the outset of operations, with an accountability system in place

20        to track assignments throughout the incident. All personnel

21        shall relinquish their vest, badge, or other designated



1 identification item when handing over command or completing  
2 their duties.

3 (d) The agency shall provide training to all Incident  
4 Command System and emergency operations center personnel on role  
5 clarity and identification requirements. Compliance with this  
6 subsection shall be monitored as part of regular emergency  
7 management exercises."

8 SECTION 2. Section 127A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 1. By amending subsection (b) to read:

11 "(b) There shall be an administrator of emergency  
12 management who shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the  
13 director[, ~~and who shall have at least three years of experience~~  
14 ~~leading emergency management efforts at the local, state, or~~  
15 ~~federal level~~]. The administrator shall meet the following  
16 minimum qualifications:

17 (1) Training and education: Completion of at least sixty  
18 credit hours of training in business or public  
19 administration, business or public management, or  
20 emergency management or preparedness. A bachelor's



1           degree in a related field may substitute for the  
2           training requirements of this paragraph;

3           (2) Experience: A minimum of ten years of verifiable  
4           experience in comprehensive emergency management,  
5           which includes improving preparedness for emergency  
6           and disaster protection, prevention, mitigation,  
7           response, and recovery, including direct command or  
8           supervisory responsibility in responding to multiple  
9           complex emergencies or disasters; provided that a  
10          master's degree in emergency management, business or  
11          public administration, homeland security, public  
12          health, or a related field may substitute for two of  
13          the ten years of experience but shall not substitute  
14          for the required supervisory experience;

15          (3) Desired certifications: In addition to the training  
16          and education and experience requirements under  
17          paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively, the  
18          administrator should have or attain:

19          (A) A valid accreditation as a certified master  
20          exercise practitioner through the Federal  
21          Emergency Management Agency; or



1           (B) A valid accreditation as a certified emergency  
2           manager through the International Association of  
3           Emergency Managers;

4       (4) Emergency management training: Completion of the  
5       advanced professional series from the Federal  
6       Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Management  
7       Institute and completion of one hundred fifty hours in  
8       comprehensive emergency management training provided  
9       by, or approved by, the Federal Emergency Management  
10       Agency. The training required under this paragraph  
11       shall be completed or recertified within the ten years  
12       preceding the date of appointment; and

13       (5) Licensing: Possession of a valid driver's license  
14       within thirty days of appointment.

15       The administrator of emergency management shall be the  
16       civilian head of and responsible for the day-to-day operations  
17       of the agency[~~-~~], including ensuring integration with county  
18       emergency management plans, providing guidance and support to  
19       county agencies, and coordinating state resources during  
20       emergencies. The administrator of emergency management shall  
21       report to the director[~~-~~] and shall oversee compliance with





1 credentialing, training, and reporting standards as outlined in  
2 this chapter, establishing performance metrics and ensuring  
3 transparency in all agency operations. The administrator of  
4 emergency management shall, in the absence of the director, have  
5 all the duties and responsibilities of the director, and shall  
6 report directly to the governor. The administrator of emergency  
7 management shall not be subject to chapter 76."

8 2. By amending subsection (e) to read:

9 "(e) The agency shall perform emergency management  
10 functions within the territorial limits of the State. In  
11 performing its duties, the agency shall:

12 (1) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management  
13 plan, which shall be integrated into and coordinated  
14 with ~~[the]~~ federal emergency management plans ~~[of the~~  
15 ~~federal government.]~~ and programs. The plan shall be  
16 ~~[integrated by]~~ adopted as a rule and implemented  
17 through a continuous, integrated comprehensive  
18 emergency management program~~[- The plan shall contain~~  
19 ~~provisions]~~ to ensure that the State prepares for,  
20 mitigates against, responds to, and recovers from  
21 emergencies and minor, major, and catastrophic



1        disasters. ~~[In preparing and maintaining the plan,~~  
2        ~~the]~~ The agency shall [work] collaborate closely with  
3        ~~[agencies and organizations with emergency management~~  
4        ~~responsibilities;]~~ county governments, local emergency  
5        management organizations, and relevant public,  
6        private, and nonprofit agencies in preparing and  
7        maintaining the plan. The state comprehensive  
8        emergency management plan shall be operations-oriented  
9        and include the following:

10        (A) An evacuation component, which shall contain  
11        specific regional and interregional planning  
12        provisions to ensure coordinated evacuation  
13        activities. At a minimum, this component shall  
14        consider communities with one road in and out and  
15        provide contingency plans for evacuation and  
16        include guidelines for:

17        (i) Coordinating evacuees being flown between  
18        islands;

19        (ii) Directing evacuees to safe shelters;



1           (iii) Providing sufficient fueling locations at  
2           reasonable costs along evacuation routes;  
3           and

4           (iv) Establishing policies for emergency medical  
5           evacuations;

6           (B) A shelter component, which shall establish model  
7           standards for shelter operations, including  
8           registration, inventory, power generation,  
9           information management, and staffing, and  
10          include:

11          (i) Provisions for sheltering coordination among  
12          public, private, and nonprofit sectors;

13          (ii) Strategies to ensure sufficient public  
14          shelter space statewide;

15          (iii) Plans for refuge-of-last-resort programs;

16          (iv) Staffing strategies for all shelters,  
17          including medical and security personnel;

18          (v) Guidelines for post-disaster communications  
19          in shelters; and

20          (vi) Policies for sheltering individuals with  
21          special needs;



1           (C) A post-disaster response and recovery component,  
2           which shall:

3           (i) Promote intergovernmental coordination for  
4           post-disaster response and recovery;

5           (ii) Establish a Unified Command structure for  
6           the State's post-disaster response  
7           organization, procedures for plan  
8           activation, and policies for post-disaster  
9           response;

10          (iii) Define command chains and roles for each  
11          participating agency using a single Incident  
12          ction Plan;

13          (iv) Include strategies for rapid impact  
14          assessments, urban search and rescue  
15          coordination, medical care and relief plans,  
16          and systems for volunteer coordination and  
17          distribution of donated resources;

18          (D) Additional preparedness provisions, which shall  
19          include any additional preparedness, response,  
20          recovery, and mitigation provisions deemed  
21          necessary by the agency;



1           (E) A resource development plan, which shall address  
2           procedures for the coordinated deployment of  
3           state resources and include provisions for pre-  
4           deployment of the Hawaii National Guard in the  
5           event of imminent disaster, and, where necessary,  
6           pre-deployment of the United States Armed Forces  
7           in cases of catastrophic disasters;

8           (F) A communications and warning systems plan, which  
9           shall establish, test, and maintain a  
10          comprehensive communications and warning system  
11          to provide timely notifications of developing  
12          emergencies, including public health threats, and  
13          to support coordination of emergency response  
14          actions;

15          (G) Annual exercise guidelines, which shall set  
16          guidelines and schedules for annual exercises  
17          that test the ability of state and county  
18          agencies to respond to disasters. These  
19          exercises shall be conducted with federal and  
20          county partners wherever feasible;



1        (H) An emergency support assignments plan, which  
2        shall assign lead and support responsibilities to  
3        state agencies and personnel for each Emergency  
4        Support Function and other necessary support  
5        activities; and

6        (I) A public health plan, which shall incorporate a  
7        public health emergency response strategy,  
8        developed in conjunction with the department of  
9        health, to address public health threats and  
10       coordinate responses statewide.

11       The state comprehensive emergency management plan  
12       shall be submitted to the governor, president of the  
13       senate, and speaker of the house of representatives by  
14       February 1 of each even-numbered year, with any  
15       updates as necessary to reflect changes in federal or  
16       state policies and priorities. All components of the  
17       state comprehensive emergency management plan and  
18       subsequent updates shall be made publicly accessible  
19       on the agency's website with a direct link to the  
20       current plan prominently displayed;



- 1       (2) Assign lead and support responsibilities to state  
2       agencies and personnel for emergency management  
3       functions, and other support activities;
- 4       (3) Adopt standards and requirements for county emergency  
5       management plans. The standards and requirements  
6       shall ensure that county plans are coordinated and  
7       consistent with the state comprehensive emergency  
8       management plan;
- 9       (4) Make recommendations to the legislature, building code  
10      organizations, and counties for zoning, building, and  
11      other land use controls; and other preparedness,  
12      prevention, and mitigation measures designed to  
13      eliminate emergencies or reduce their impact;
- 14      (5) Anticipate trends and promote innovations that will  
15      enhance the emergency management system;
- 16      (6) Institute statewide public awareness programs. This  
17      shall include intensive public educational campaigns  
18      on emergency preparedness issues, including but not  
19      limited to the personal responsibility of individual  
20      citizens to be self-sufficient for up to fourteen days  
21      following a natural or human-caused disaster;



1       (7) Coordinate federal, state, and local emergency  
2       management activities and take all other steps,  
3       including the partial or full mobilization of  
4       emergency management forces and organizations in  
5       advance of an actual emergency, to ensure the  
6       availability of adequately trained and equipped forces  
7       of emergency management personnel before, during, and  
8       after emergencies and disasters;

9       (8) Implement training programs to improve the ability of  
10      state and local emergency management personnel to  
11      prepare and implement emergency management plans and  
12      programs. This shall include a continuous training  
13      program for agencies and individuals that will be  
14      called on to perform key roles in state and local  
15      post-disaster response and recovery efforts and for  
16      local government personnel on federal and state post-  
17      disaster response and recovery strategies and  
18      procedures;

19      (9) Adopt standards and requirements for state agency  
20      emergency operating procedures and periodically review  
21      emergency operating procedures of state agencies and





1           recommend revisions as needed to ensure consistency  
2           with the state comprehensive emergency management plan  
3           and program; and

4       (10) Coordinate, in advance whenever possible, such  
5           executive orders, proclamations, and rules for  
6           issuance by the governor as are necessary or  
7           appropriate for coping with emergencies and  
8           disasters."

9       SECTION 3. Section 127A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10      amended to read as follows:

11       "**§127A-5 County emergency management agency.** (a) The  
12      mayor of each county shall have direct responsibility for  
13      emergency management within the county, including the  
14      organization, administration, and operation of a county  
15      emergency management agency.

16       (b) Each county emergency management agency shall perform  
17      emergency management functions within the territorial limits of  
18      the county within which it is organized, coordinate all  
19      emergency management plans within the county, and cooperate as  
20      closely as possible with the agency and emergency management



1 agencies in the other counties in all aspects of emergency  
2 management.

3 (c) Each county shall be responsible for the  
4 establishment, naming, and operation of a county emergency  
5 management agency under the mayor's direction, and shall enact  
6 ordinances to establish the county emergency management agency  
7 and ensure that the mayor and the county's emergency management  
8 agency have the powers necessary to receive state and federal  
9 funds and carry out the functions of this chapter at the county  
10 level. The ordinances shall comply with powers established  
11 under sections 127A-12 and 127A-13.

12 (d) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall make  
13 appropriations and authorize expenditures for the purposes of  
14 this chapter, including for use as matching funds for federal  
15 aid, out of the normal revenues or fund balances or surpluses of  
16 the counties, notwithstanding any legal restrictions upon the  
17 purposes for which the funds may be expended, except that  
18 pension and retirement funds, funds set aside for the redemption  
19 of bonds or the payment of interest thereon, trust funds, loan  
20 funds, and funds received from the federal government or from  
21 any person for specific purposes shall not be affected.



1 (e) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall  
2 provide a county-level administrator or director of the county  
3 emergency management agency, and technical, administrative, and  
4 other personnel; office space; furniture; equipment; supplies;  
5 and funds necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.  
6 The county-level administrator or director of the county  
7 emergency management agency shall be the civilian head of and  
8 responsible for the day-to-day operations of the county  
9 emergency management agency. The county-level administrator or  
10 director of the county emergency management shall report to the  
11 mayor and provide regular updates on emergency preparedness,  
12 response activities, and strategic initiatives.

13 (f) The administrator or director of the county emergency  
14 management agency shall not be subject to chapter 76[?] and may  
15 be appointed or removed at the discretion of the mayor.

16 (g) The county-level administrator or director shall meet  
17 the following minimum qualifications:

- 18 (1) Experience: A minimum of seven years in senior  
19 emergency management roles, including direct  
20 supervisory responsibilities over multi-jurisdictional  
21 disaster response, recovery, preparedness, and



1        mitigation efforts, with at least one complex  
2        emergency or disaster response incident with direct  
3        incident command or interagency coordination  
4        responsibility; provided that a master's degree in  
5        emergency management, public administration, homeland  
6        security, or a related field may substitute up to two  
7        years of the seven-year requirement;

8        (2) Training and education: Completion of sixty credit  
9        hours in public or emergency management, which may be  
10       substituted by a bachelor's degree in emergency  
11       management, public administration, or a related field;  
12       and

13       (3) Certification:

14       (A) Possession of a current certification that is in  
15       good standing as a certified emergency manager  
16       through the International Association of  
17       Emergency Managers or a Federal Emergency  
18       Management Agency recognized equivalent; and

19       (B) Completion of one hundred fifty hours in  
20       training, covering planning, coordination, and  
21       response skills, in courses approved by the



1                   Federal Emergency Management Agency within the  
2                   last ten years.

3           (h) The county-level administrator or director of  
4 emergency management shall:

5           (1) Be accountable for implementing the National Incident  
6 Management System standards and Incident Command  
7 System response protocols and emergency operations  
8 center coordination operations within the county and  
9 ensure compliance with all state guidelines on  
10 training, documentation, and resource management;

11          (2) Be responsible for certifying local emergency  
12 management personnel, maintaining up-to-date position  
13 task books, and coordinating with the agency to  
14 integrate county response capabilities with state-  
15 level emergency operations; and

16          (3) Ensure that personnel under their command meet ongoing  
17 training and certification requirements and maintain  
18 records of all certifications, including position task  
19 book completions, within the county's emergency  
20 management system. Records required by this paragraph  
21 shall be reported to the agency annually for public



1           access and statewide consistency in emergency  
2           management competency.

3           ~~[(g)]~~ (i) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall,  
4 in order to ensure continuity of government during an emergency  
5 period, establish a procedure for the appointment and  
6 designation of stand-by officers for the mayor and the county  
7 legislative body during an emergency period, who shall serve in  
8 the event of the unavailability of the officers for whom they  
9 are standing-by.

10          ~~[(h)]~~ (j) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall  
11 establish and maintain an emergency operations center, as the  
12 place from where emergencies and disasters shall be managed, and  
13 staff it appropriately.

14          ~~[(i)]~~ (k) Each county, under the mayor's direction, shall  
15 coordinate, develop, and implement a comprehensive emergency  
16 management plan for the county and submit annual reports to the  
17 administrator on the status and updates of the plan.

18          (l) Each county emergency management agency shall develop  
19 and maintain a comprehensive evacuation plan as part of its  
20 local emergency response procedures. The plan shall coordinate



1 with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and  
2 include the following protocols:

3 (1) Evacuation decision-making and triggers: Counties  
4 shall establish specific criteria and conditions that  
5 warrant evacuation orders, such as imminent natural  
6 disasters, fire risk levels, or public health  
7 emergencies. Evacuation orders shall be issued by the  
8 county-level administrator or director of emergency  
9 management, with situational updates provided to the  
10 agency for statewide coordination;

11 (2) Evacuation route designation and management: Counties  
12 shall:

13 (A) Identify and annually update primary and  
14 secondary evacuation routes, considering traffic  
15 flow, geographic constraints, and available  
16 infrastructure;

17 (B) Implement traffic management protocols, including  
18 lane reversals and prioritized access for  
19 emergency vehicles, in collaboration with local  
20 law enforcement and transportation departments;  
21 and



1           (C) Designate and communicate fuel, medical support,  
2           and essential service points along evacuation  
3           routes to aid evacuees;

4       (3) Evacuation communication and public notification:  
5       Counties shall:

6           (A) Provide immediate, clear, and accessible  
7           notifications on evacuation routes, shelter  
8           locations, road closures, and other vital  
9           information via multiple channels, including text  
10          alerts, social media, local radio, and  
11          television; and

12          (B) Ensure that all evacuation alerts are accessible  
13          to diverse populations, including those with  
14          disabilities and limited English proficiency;

15       (4) Vulnerable population evacuation assistance: Counties  
16       shall:

17          (A) Identify and develop targeted evacuation support  
18          for vulnerable populations, such as elderly  
19          residents, individuals with disabilities, and  
20          those without personal transportation; and





- 1           (B) Establish transportation programs, including  
2           buses, para-transit services, and contracted  
3           vehicles, to ensure all residents can evacuate  
4           safely;
- 5       (5) Shelter coordination and availability: Counties  
6       shall:
  - 7           (A) Designate sufficient general and special needs  
8           shelters to accommodate evacuees, coordinating  
9           with local partners for staffing, medical  
10           resources, and supplies; and
  - 11           (B) Where feasible, designate pet-friendly shelters  
12           and communicate their availability to the public;
- 13       (6) Interagency coordination for resource allocation:  
14       Counties shall:
  - 15           (A) Develop coordination protocols among federal,  
16           state, and county agencies for resource sharing  
17           and evacuation logistics; and
  - 18           (B) Establish mutual aid agreements and conduct  
19           annual interagency evacuation drills to ensure  
20           readiness;



1        (7) Reentry protocols and post-evacuation procedures:

2        Counties shall:

3        (A) Establish criteria for safe reentry after an  
4        evacuation, considering environmental,  
5        infrastructure, and health assessments, with  
6        continuous coordination with state agencies; and

7        (B) Communicate reentry updates and timelines to the  
8        public, ensuring clarity and safety in the return  
9        process;

10       (8) Annual review and community preparedness programs:

11       Each county emergency management agency shall:

12       (A) Review and update the evacuation plan annually,  
13       incorporating feedback from exercises and  
14       incident after-action reviews; and

15       (B) Conduct annual community preparedness campaigns,  
16       including public evacuation drills and  
17       educational outreach, to raise awareness and  
18       readiness among residents; and

19       (9) Public transparency: All components of the county's  
20       comprehensive emergency management plan and subsequent  
21       updates shall be made publicly accessible on the



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1           county's emergency management agency's website and the  
2           agency's website. A direct link to the current plan  
3           shall be prominently displayed on both website's  
4           homepage to ensure ease of access for all residents."

5           SECTION 4. A county-level administrator or director of the  
6 county emergency management agency who is currently serving in  
7 such capacity before the effective date of this Act shall  
8 continue to be subject to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
9 until a county-level administrator or director appointed  
10 pursuant to section 3 of this Act assumes the position.

11           SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

14  
INTRODUCED BY:

Keith M. Rector



# S.B. NO. 1110

**Report Title:**

Emergency Management; Standards; Accreditation; National Incident Management System; Incident Command System

**Description:**

Requires the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to: (1) Adopt the National Incident Management System as the standard for all incident management and emergency response operations; (2) Complete an after-action review for all significant emergency incidents or exercises; (3) Develop and manage position task books; (4) require the use of standardized Incident Command System forms; (5) Maintain accreditation through the Emergency Management Accreditation Program; and (6) Define specific roles and responsibilities for all Incident Command System and emergency operations center positions. Expands training and education qualifications and responsibilities for the Administrator of Emergency Management and county-level administrators or directors of emergency management. Amends the contents of the state comprehensive emergency management plan.

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

