

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that predictive emergency
2 modeling allows authorities to identify disasters before they
3 occur. First responders should not be forced into dangerous
4 rescues when lawful evacuation orders are ignored. The purpose
5 of this Act is to establish legal protections for first
6 responders and encourage public compliance with warnings.

7 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
8 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
9 as follows:

10 "CHAPTER EMERGENCY RESPONDER PREDICTIVE EVACUATION AND KNOWN
11 DANGER IMMUNITY ACT

12 **§ -1 Definitions.** When used in this chapter, unless the
13 context otherwise requires:

14 "First responder" means any firefighter, EMT, police, or
15 authorized emergency worker.

16 "Predictive evacuation order" means an evacuation issued
17 based on credible threat modeling.



1 "Willful non-compliance" means knowingly remaining in an
2 evacuation zone after an evacuation order has been issued.

3 "Active hazard period" means when disaster conditions make
4 rescue unsafe.

5 **§ -2 Immunity; evacuation.** First responders and
6 agencies are immune from liability for issuing predictive
7 evacuation orders or not conducting rescues when individuals
8 exhibit willful non-compliance during an active hazard period.
9 Any person who exhibits willful non-compliance by ignoring
10 evacuation orders assumes risk and waives any liability claims.

11 **§ -3 Duty; Priorities.** No responder is required to
12 enter a danger zone during an active hazard period once a
13 predictive evacuation order has been issued and hazards are
14 present. Responders shall prioritize stabilization and recovery
15 after hazards subside.

16 **§ -4 Exceptions.** This chapter does not apply if an
17 individual lacked sufficient notice or ability to evacuate."

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 28 2026



H.B. NO. 2480

Report Title:

Evacuation; Immunity; Assumption of Risk; Emergency Responder

Description:

Protects emergency responders from liability during periods of evacuation. Provides that individuals who willfully fail to comply with the evacuation assume the risk and waive liability.

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