

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Kim Coco Iwamoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Mark J. Hashem	Rep. Justin H. Woodson
Rep. Linda Ichiyama	Rep. Garner M. Shimizu
Rep. Dee Morikawa	Rep. Kanani Souza
Rep. Mahina Poepoe	

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 6, 2026
TIME: 10:15 a.m.
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 411
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A

[HB 2290](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.
Establishes the Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency as the Deputy Director of Emergency Management within the Department of Defense, under the direction of the Adjutant General, and clarifies the position's reporting structure and duties. Requires the Commission on Salaries, pursuant to section 26-56, HRS, to include the Deputy Director of Emergency Management in its recommendations for executive branch salary levels.

PBS, LAB, FIN

[HB 2581](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.
Clarifies the types of events that constitute disasters and emergencies for the purposes of emergency management.

PBS, JHA, FIN



<u>HB 2554</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO SEARCH AND RESCUE. Establishes, within the Office of the Governor, the Office of the State Search and Rescue Coordinator to review, assess, coordinate, prepare, and manage plans and resources for search and rescue operations statewide. Sunsets on . Appropriates moneys.	PBS, JHA, FIN
<u>HB 2439</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO SEARCH AND RESCUE. Establishes the Office of the State Search and Rescue Coordinator within the Office of the Governor. Provides for the authority and duties of the State Search and Rescue Coordinator. Designates participating agencies and their duties with regard to state search and rescue operations and training. Establishes the Search and Rescue Special Fund. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.	PBS, JHA, FIN
<u>HB 2443</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO DISASTER SERVICES. Integrates the needs of individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs into emergency planning, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. Establishes a Disability Integration Specialist position, to be located in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, who shall provide programming support for disability community projects that promote accessibility, inclusion, and equity in disaster management. Appropriates funds.	PBS, FIN
<u>HB 2622</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS. Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to increase access to bilingual resources and services for residents with limited English proficiency.	PBS, FIN
<u>HB 2498</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO CARE HOMES. Requires and appropriates funds for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to establish a Central Oahu Care Home Community Resilience Pilot Program to assist eligible care home facilities to implement structural and operational resilience improvements. Requires a report to the Legislature.	PBS, HSH, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.



Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at (808) 586-9425. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-9425 ext. 69428.

Rep. Della Au Belatti
Chair

