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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

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2290  
RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

BY

MAJOR GENERAL STEPHEN F. LOGAN  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

February 04, 2026

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Iwamoto, and honorable members of the committee:

The Department of Defense provides written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **HB2290**.

This measure prioritizes the safety and resilience of Hawai'i's communities. As our State faces increasing threats from hurricanes, wildfires, flooding, and other natural and man-made disasters, a clear and effective emergency management structure is essential to protect lives and property. This bill strengthens readiness by establishing a clearly defined leadership role with responsibility and authority commensurate with statewide emergency management, and by aligning the organizational structure to support seamless response and coordination among state, county, and federal partners during disasters and emergencies.

Additionally, including this position in the Commission on Salaries' recommendations appropriately recognizes the critical nature of this executive position and supports the recruitment and retention of highly qualified leadership.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for your support with this measure.

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STATE OF HAWAII  
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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2290,  
RELATING TO HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
PUBLIC SAFETY

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS  
ADMINISTRATOR  
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

February 6, 2026

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **SUPPORT** testimony on House Bill 2290, which establishes the Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA) as the Deputy Director of Emergency Management within the Department of Defense.

House Bill 2290 will afford the Deputy Director with the appropriate levels of command and responsibility, which aligns with the Hawai'i Revised Statutes in 127A and the Department of Human Resources Development.

I respectfully urge your support for this essential measure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 2290.

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