

JAN 28 2015

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE MAJOR DISASTER FUND.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State is  
2 vulnerable to a wide range of natural and man-made hazards,  
3 which may result in emergencies or disasters that: threaten the  
4 life, health, and safety of its people; damage and destroy  
5 property; disrupt everyday services, business, and recreational  
6 activities; and impede economic development. Last year,  
7 tropical storm Iselle alone cost the State \$1,300,000 in  
8 response costs and has a reported \$13,200,000 in damage and  
9 debris expenses. According to county officials, as of October  
10 2014, the Puna lava flow on the island of Hawaii has caused  
11 \$14,500,000 in damages, primarily because of construction costs  
12 for emergency access roads. The latest project, reopening Chain  
13 of Craters road, could cost between \$12,000,000 and \$15,500,000.  
14           The purpose of this Act is to adequately prepare Hawaii for  
15 the next major disaster by increasing the expenditure ceiling on  
16 major disaster fund moneys.



1 SECTION 2. Section 127A-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "[+]§127A-16[+] **Major disaster fund.** (a) The director  
4 shall submit requests to the legislature to appropriate from the  
5 general revenues of the State sufficient moneys as may be  
6 necessary for expenditure by or under the direction of the  
7 governor for immediate relief in response to an emergency or  
8 disaster in any part of the State; provided that:

9 (1) The governor has issued a proclamation of a state of  
10 emergency;

11 (2) The governor may not expend in excess of [~~\$2,000,000~~]  
12 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for immediate relief as a result of any  
13 single emergency or disaster; and

14 (3) In addition to the funds in paragraph (2), an  
15 additional [~~\$2,000,000~~] \$ \_\_\_\_\_ may be made  
16 available solely for the purpose of matching federal  
17 disaster relief funds when these funds become  
18 available to the State following a presidential  
19 disaster declaration.

20 In expending the moneys, the governor may allot any portion  
21 thereof to any agency, office, or employee of the State or a



1 county for the most efficient relief for the population.  
 2 Notwithstanding this subsection, the only exception to  
 3 [+]paragraphs (1), [+](2), and (3) is that the director may use  
 4 up to \$100,000 per year to support emergency reserve corps  
 5 training.

6 (b) No later than one month after any allotment by the  
 7 governor or the expenditure of any fund moneys, the director  
 8 shall report to the legislature on the purpose of the allotment  
 9 or expenditure.

10 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) Federal reimbursement moneys for disaster relief  
 11 shall be deemed to be trust moneys and may be deposited into a  
 12 trust account with and under the control of the department of  
 13 defense. These moneys and any interest earned thereon shall be  
 14 used for the purpose identified in subsection (a) and shall not  
 15 lapse to the general fund."

16 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1211

Paul E. Puffer



# S.B. NO. 1211

**Report Title:**

Major Disaster Fund; Expenditure Ceiling; Increase; Reports

**Description:**

Increases the expenditure ceiling on major disaster fund moneys. Requires the adjutant general to report any allotment of fund moneys or any expenditure of fund moneys to the legislature within one month of the allotment or expenditure.

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