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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AWARDED FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY HAZARD  
MITIGATION GRANT.

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

1           SECTION 1. In 2007, the state building code council was  
2 created to review and adopt current, nationally-recognized  
3 building codes and standards to ensure compliance with  
4 requirements of building safety, the National Flood Insurance  
5 Program, hurricane and earthquake resiliency standards, energy  
6 efficiency, fire safety, and technological advances in building  
7 materials and methods.

8           The legislature finds that since funding was never provided  
9 to the state building code council for staff and operational  
10 expenses, the effectiveness of the council's eleven voting  
11 members has been limited.

12           The state building code council applied for federal funds  
13 that were available through the Federal Emergency Management  
14 Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to fund the adoption of  
15 the hurricane and earthquake resiliency standards in the 2012  
16 international building code and Hawaii-specific amendments  
17 approved by the council.



1 In November 2016, the department of accounting and general  
2 services received notification that the Federal Emergency  
3 Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program awarded the  
4 State a reimbursement grant for a project entitled "Hawaii state  
5 building code administrative rules to implement updated  
6 statewide standards for hurricane mitigation". Under terms of  
7 the reimbursement grant, the department of accounting and  
8 general services is required to use its operating funds to  
9 accomplish the project and, after a review, the Federal  
10 Emergency Management Agency will reimburse the State up to  
11 \$75,000. The \$75,000 award amount comprises:

- 12 (1) \$60,000 for a consultant to provide services to assist  
13 the state building code council with the timely  
14 performance of all tasks required to complete the  
15 Hawaii rulemaking process under chapter 91, Hawaii  
16 Revised Statutes, including publication and  
17 advertising costs required for a public hearing; and
- 18 (2) \$15,000 for management of the consultant contract by  
19 the department of accounting and general services.

20 The volunteer members of the state building code council  
21 will also provide an additional in-kind soft match of \$25,000



1 for the State. The Federal Emergency Management Agency hazard  
2 mitigation grant will enable the state building code council to  
3 fulfill its statutory obligation to update the state building  
4 code once every six years. The latest update occurred in 2010  
5 and was based on the 2006 international building code, which is  
6 four versions behind the latest version. Hawaii is among the  
7 last few states using an obsolete building code that is  
8 considered inadequate by the Federal Emergency Management Agency  
9 and this situation jeopardizes timely, Federal Emergency  
10 Management Agency post-disaster aid to Hawaii.

11 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
12 state building code council to update the state building code  
13 standards for hurricane mitigation and secure a reimbursement  
14 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard  
15 Mitigation Grant Program.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$75,000 or so much  
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for the  
19 state building code council to update the state building code  
20 standards for hurricane mitigation and secure a reimbursement  
21 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard



1 Mitigation Grant Program; provided that all reimbursements from  
2 the Federal Emergency Management Agency grant described in this  
3 section for any portion of the sum appropriated under this  
4 section shall be deposited into the general fund.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
6 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.



**Report Title:**

Emergency Mitigation; Federal Emergency Management Agency Reimbursement Grant; Updated Statewide Standards for Hurricane Mitigation; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Department of Accounting and General Services to update statewide standards for hurricane mitigation and secure a reimbursement grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. (HB1436 CD1)

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