A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PLANNING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that disaster recovery efforts need to be carried out quickly and efficiently to ensure that damaged infrastructure and interrupted services are restored as soon as possible. Prudent pre-disaster planning, as well as post-disaster responses that seek to make the State less vulnerable in future disasters, can expedite responses that anticipate future needs. For example, if a road is destroyed by an ocean wave surge caused by a hurricane, it may be best to build the replacement road further inland, where it is less vulnerable. These types of scenarios should be evaluated before an actual disaster strikes.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the State and counties to incorporate predictions of sea level rise and other climate change hazards and mitigation opportunities into applicable plans, strategies, and mapping, in order to increase our State's resiliency and ability to properly respond to natural disasters.
SECTION 2. Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§127A- Climate change hazards and mitigation planning; required. The State and each county shall incorporate evaluations, predictions, and recommendations pertaining to climate change hazards and mitigation into their respective multi-hazard mitigation plans. Those plans shall, at a minimum, incorporate findings of the "Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report" prepared by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission."

SECTION 3. In devising pre-disaster planning and post-disaster recovery strategies, the State and each county shall develop and establish comprehensive frameworks addressing sea level rise adaptation strategies.

SECTION 4. Beginning on the effective date of this Act, all floodplain mapping supported by state or county funding shall include modeling that anticipates sea level rise and floodplains in terms of a hundred-year coastal flood benchmark.

SECTION 5. Each county shall participate in the community rating system developed by the national flood insurance program.
SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

[Signatures]

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Report Title: Disasters; Planning; Recovery; Climate Change

Description: Requires the State and counties to incorporate predictions of sea level rise and other climate change hazards and mitigation opportunities into applicable plans, strategies, and mapping.

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