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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 127A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:  
3           "~~§~~127A-18 Mitigation of hazardous situations. (a)  
4 Even in the absence of an emergency or disaster, the governor  
5 may authorize designated state employees, agents, contractors,  
6 or representatives to enter private property at reasonable times  
7 to mitigate situations deemed by the governor to be hazardous to  
8 the health and safety of the public; provided that this section  
9 shall be applicable only to the following actions:  
10           (1) Cutting, trimming, or removing dangerous trees or  
11           branches that pose a hazard to other properties;  
12           (2) Stabilizing or removing unstable rock and soil  
13           hazards; or  
14           (3) Cleaning streams and waterways to mitigate or prevent  
15           flooding or other hazards;  
16 provided further that at least ten days' written notice shall be  
17 provided to the landowner and to the occupier of the private



1 property of the governor's intention to authorize designated  
2 state employees, agents, contractors, or representatives to  
3 enter the property to mitigate the hazardous situation; provided  
4 further that the landowner or occupier shall be given a  
5 reasonable opportunity to mitigate the hazardous situation  
6 without assistance of the State before designated state  
7 employees, agents, contractors, or representatives may enter the  
8 property.

9 (b) Written notice sent to the landowner's last known  
10 address by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt  
11 requested, shall be deemed sufficient notice. If land ownership  
12 cannot be determined, notice shall be given once in a daily or  
13 weekly publication of general circulation in the county in which  
14 any action or proposed action will be taken.

15 (c) If entry is refused, the governor may apply to the  
16 district court in the circuit in which the property is located  
17 for a warrant to enter the premises. The district court may  
18 issue a warrant directing the chief of the appropriate county  
19 police to assist the governor in gaining entry onto the premises  
20 during regular working hours or at other reasonable times.



1 (d) The governor may seek recovery and reimbursement, by  
2 appropriate proceedings, of all costs and expenses incurred in  
3 the mitigation of a hazardous situation under this section, and  
4 any costs and expenses imposed against any landowner shall be a  
5 lien upon the landowner's property.

6 (e) This section shall take effect only upon authorization  
7 and funding for personnel to administer the program.

8 (f) There is established in the state treasury the hazard  
9 mitigation special fund, into which shall be deposited:

10 (1) All revenues from any recovery or reimbursement  
11 pursuant to this section; and

12 (2) Appropriations made by the legislature for deposit  
13 into the fund.

14 (g) Moneys in the hazard mitigation special fund shall be  
15 used for personnel costs and operating and administrative costs  
16 deemed necessary by the agency to administer this section."

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be  
20 deposited into the hazard mitigation special fund established by  
21 section 127A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes.



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the hazard  
2 mitigation special fund the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much thereof  
3 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the purposes  
4 of this Act.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
6 emergency management agency.

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes and appropriates funds from the hazard mitigation special fund for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

