

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE 'AKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA 'OIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1033 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
ADJUTANT GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AND HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR

MARCH 13, 2023

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and members of the committee:

I am MG Kenneth S. Hara, Adjutant General, Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Advisor, State of Hawaii, Department of Defense.

The Department of Defense provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1033.

Adding a HI-EMA representative on the State Building Code Council (SBCC) would provide that body with expertise on how to update building codes to make Hawaii more resilient to future disasters and hazards, and make the state more competitive in securing federal mitigation grants. Additionally, SBCC's mission aligns with many HI-EMA functions, including reviewing, implementing, and addressing hazard mitigation strategies for many of the hazards the State faces, such as hurricanes, floods, winds, tsunamis, earthquakes, and landslides.

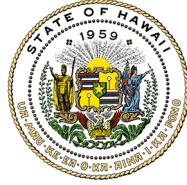
Federal Emergency Management Agency grant monies are available to help communities with mitigation projects to reduce risks from natural and human-caused hazards and threats. However, Hawaii has not been able to successfully compete for and obtain those funds, in large part as a result of the significant obstacle of the State's building code. The State's code allows considerable variation from county to county. None of Hawaii's counties meet the most current national standards, nor is Hawaii rated by a designated national group as having a high commitment to building code enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

MG Kenneth S. Hara: kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov; 808-672-1001

James Barros: james.barros@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KENNETH S. HARA
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAI'I EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1033 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON **PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

BY

JAMES DS. BARROS
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

MARCH 13, 2023

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, and members of the committee:

I am James Barros, Administrator of the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA).

HI-EMA provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1033.

Hawai'i has been unable to successfully compete for certain Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds that are available to help communities with mitigation projects to reduce risks from hazards and threats. This leaves the State more vulnerable.

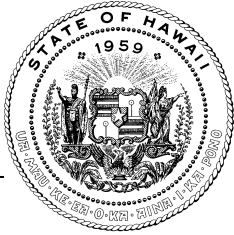
The hurdle in obtaining grant funds is due in large part to the significant obstacle posed by the State's building code, which allows considerable variation from county to county. None of Hawaii's counties meets the most current national standards. Hawai'i also is not rated -- by any national group that has been designated by FEMA to conduct such assessments -- as having a high commitment to building code enforcement.

Adding a HI-EMA representative on the State Building Code Council (SBCC) would provide that body with expertise on how to update building codes to make Hawaii more resilient to future disasters and hazards and more competitive in securing federal mitigation grants. In addition, SBCC's mission aligns with many HI-EMA functions, including reviewing, implementing, and addressing hazard mitigation strategies for many of the hazards the State faces: hurricanes, floods, winds, tsunami, earthquakes, and landslides.

We support this bill and respectfully request that the committee support it.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

James Barros: james.barros@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Wednesday, March 15, 2023
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
HB 1033, HD1

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 1033, HD1, which adds to the State Building Code Council (SBCC) one member who represents the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA).

The expertise provided by a representative of HI-EMA would add a valuable and important perspective. Also, the addition of HI-EMA to the council could assist the State in obtaining disaster mitigation funding, possibly including funding to support the timely adoption of building codes. The Federal Emergency Management Agency uses timely code adoption as a criterion in its funding for disaster mitigation, resilience, and recovery projects.

The SBCC was established in 2007 by Act 82 and codified as Part II, *State Building Code and Design Standards*, in Chapter 107 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS). HRS 107-23 reads in part, "The council shall appoint... an executive director, who shall serve at the pleasure of the council, and who shall have administrative abilities and experience with the building industry. The council shall also appoint... an executive assistant, who shall have experience in statutory and administrative

rulemaking..." However, repeated attempts to secure funding for these positions or to support the work of the SBCC have not been successful.

HSEO's comments are guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1033-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 3:02:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2023 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Z. Arakawa	Testifying for Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Land Use Reserach Foundaiton of Hawaii (LURF) supports HB 1033, HD1 (adding HIEMA); WITH A PROPOSED AMENDMENT to ADD the State Housing Officer or designee to the State Building Code Council (SBCC) to represent all of the State Housing projects that are impacted by State building codes.

The Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) is on the SBCC, and represents the State's interest in reaching 100% renewable energy by 2045. In the past, hSEO has proposed new building codes that are in excess of the International code and Mainland state codes for residential homes. The HSEO proposals would have increased the cost of one dwelling unit by almost \$20,000, and have not been adopted by the SBCC. LURF members lead the State in renewable energy generation, research, technology and installations, so we appreciate HSEO's work and mission - - however, some balance between State departments is needed and the costs of affordable hosuing should be taken into account..

Thus, we are proposing that HB 1033 be amended to add the State Housing Officer as a member of the State Building Code Council.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this amendment.