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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that Hawaii faces  
2 perpetual risk from a variety of potential natural disasters and  
3 after-effects, including hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunami, and  
4 flooding. To help alleviate the State's vulnerability to  
5 natural disasters, the legislature intends to improve the  
6 State's disaster readiness to protect the safety of its citizens  
7 by increasing the number of public emergency shelters and  
8 strengthening state construction to withstand all categories of  
9 hurricanes.

10           The purpose of this Act is to require existing state  
11 buildings to be retrofitted, if necessary, to withstand category  
12 5 hurricanes and to be retrofitted and equipped for use as  
13 public emergency shelters.

14           SECTION 2. Chapter 128, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
16 and to read as follows:

17           "§128-       Public emergency shelters; retrofit of state  
18 government buildings. (a) Existing state government buildings



1 or structures designated by the comptroller as capable of being  
2 retrofitted shall be retrofitted to meet hurricane resistive  
3 criteria.

4 (b) Existing state government buildings designated by the  
5 comptroller as capable of being used as an emergency public  
6 shelter shall be retrofitted and equipped for use, in whole or  
7 part, as shelters for housing the public during an emergency, in  
8 accordance with hurricane resistive criteria.

9 (c) For the purposes of this section, "hurricane resistive  
10 criteria" means the design criteria for enhanced hurricane  
11 protection areas and capable of withstanding a five hundred-year  
12 hurricane event, including category 5 hurricanes, as developed  
13 by the department of defense for public emergency shelter and  
14 residential safe room design criteria pursuant to Act 5, Special  
15 Session Laws of Hawaii 2005."

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
19 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is  
20 appropriated for fiscal year 2008-2009, to carry out the  
21 purposes of this Act, including the hiring of necessary staff.



# H.B. NO. 756

1       The sums appropriated shall be expended by the comptroller  
2 for the purposes of this Act.

3       SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

4       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Kirk Caldwell

**JAN 19 2007**



**Report Title:**

Disaster Preparedness; Emergency Shelters

**Description:**

Requires existing state government buildings to be retrofitted to withstand category 5 hurricanes and be retrofitted and equipped to serve as public emergency shelters.

