



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
HAWAII HURRICANE RELIEF FUND
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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April 21, 2025

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole
Chair, Senate Committee on Conference
State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
senkeohokalole@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Scot Z. Matayoshi
Co-Chair, House Committee on Conference
State Capitol, Room 422
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
repmatayoshi@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki
Co-Chair, Senate Committee on
Conference
State Capitol, Room 215
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
senmoriwaki@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita
Co-Chair, House Committee on Conference
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: S.B. 1044, S.D.2, H.D.2, Relating to The Stabilization of Property Insurance

Dear Chair Keohokalole, and Co-Chairs Moriwaki, Matayoshi, and Yamashita:

The Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund (HHRF) supports the House version of S.B. 1044 (H.D. 2) as it provides the HHRF with the flexibility and adaptability necessary when issuing and servicing policies to condominium associations.

However, the HHRF respectfully requests to modify the language regarding the requirement that the existing funds in the HHRF fund be "expended" before the reimbursable general obligation bonds are deposited into the fund. Page 64, lines 2-4. The current language of this provision renders the general obligation bonds inaccessible, as the HHRF will not be able to meet this requirement absent a catastrophic event. The HHRF is statutorily mandated to adopt a plan of operation that ensures the solvency of the fund. See *Haw. Rev. Stat.* § 431P-7(a). As such, the HHRF cannot expend all its funds in its ordinary course of operations, and only a payout from a catastrophic event would allow the HHRF to access the general obligation bonds.

Therefore, the HHRF requests that the provision be amended to require that the existing funds be “committed,” rather than “expended,” so that the appropriated funds can be utilized to issue any additional policies as needed. The HHRF is committing its existing funds to begin offering hurricane insurance to residential associations, with a June 1, 2025 target date.

Additionally, if the Legislature intends to fund Hawaii Property Insurance Association (HPIA) through loans from HHRF, the HHRF requests that additional funds be provided in the bill for that purpose. Without additional funding, the HHRF will not be in a financially viable position to issue the loan to the HPIA, as the HHRF would need to tap into our own reserves, which would adversely affect our ability to effectively deliver relief to the local market.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to express the HHRF’s position on this measure. Please contact me at (808) 922-4152 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward Haik', with a stylized flourish at the end.

EDWARD HAIK
Chair, Board of Directors
Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund