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HB 1084
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE
COMPLETION OF THE STATEWIDE TSUNAMI INUNDATION AND EVACUATION PROJECT

Statement for
House Committee on
Judiciary
Public Hearing - February 19, 1991

By
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HB 1084 would provide funds to the State Department of Defense to implement the results and recommendations of a two year program of research related to the development of inundation and evacuation zone maps for use in tsunami or hurricane generated emergencies.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

Recent public notices on television have again pointed out the need to know what to do and where to go in cases of tsunami or hurricane emergencies. Over the past 2 years, researchers at the University, working with the State Civil Defense people, have compiled the historic and technical information required to update and re-design the evacuation zone maps to meet the emergency evacuation needs of the public. Funds are now needed to: implement the results of this 2 year study; to aid the county in siting specific locations for evacuation routes; to update the evacuation maps for some of the new coastal areas now under development and for which historic records are limited; and, perhaps most importantly, to organize the information from the research in such a way that future updates and revisions can be made on a timely basis, not every 25 years as is the present case. This latter task is especially important to protect residents of new coastal developments where historic inundation records are significantly lacking.

The funds that would be provided by HB 1084 are directly applicable to meeting these needs.