

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18-01

By the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawaii, in order to provide alerts, response, and relief for emergencies, damages, losses, and suffering, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawaii, hereby determine and order as follows:

WHEREAS, Hawaii, with a population of approximately 1.4 million residents across eight inhabited islands, are susceptible to a myriad of natural and man-made hazards; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is located in the most remote location on Earth separated by great distances and travel time from the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's location in the Pacific makes it a highly strategic location for government and military interests which necessitates additional emergency management coordination and preparation; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's location and vulnerability to multiple hazards has helped Hawaii continue to develop an emergency management system intended to protect the public from all natural and man-made hazards; and

WHEREAS, as part of Hawaii's preemptive and protective measures, Hawaii officials have been actively working on warning and response plans that include alerting the public as early as possible in order to maximize preemptive and protective actions to protect the public; and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2018, an emergency warning of an actual ballistic missile launch was inadvertently issued during a shift change drill conducted by the State Warning Point; and

WHEREAS, this false alarm resulted in significant response actions at all levels and sectors in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, while Hawaii's emergency management system is highly evolved, this recent false alarm reinforces the need for continued improvement of all emergency management plans and operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawaii, pursuant to the powers delegated to me by the Constitution and the applicable laws of the State of Hawaii, including chapter 127A and section 121-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, hereby authorize and direct Brigadier General, Kenneth S. Hara, currently serving as the Deputy Adjutant General of the State of Hawaii, Department of Defense, to review the current emergency response system, including notifications and warnings, and make recommendations for improvement with such review to include:

1. Facilitating efforts to identify capability and resource gaps and develop an action plan that recommends prioritization for resources required to enhance resilience, preparedness, and response capabilities.
2. Identifying actions to strengthen and expand government, private, and public partnerships for preparedness for all hazards.
3. Revising and recommending emergency notification procedures to ensure immediate notification, confirmation, or cancellation of threats
4. Strengthening information sharing, collaboration, and communication.
5. Improving public education to help the public know what to do when an alert goes out.
6. Produce an initial action plan no later than 30 days of this executive order, a final report no later than 60 days of this executive order, and identify any portions of these documents that should not be released to the public for security or other legal reasons.

Done at the State Capitol, this 15th day of January, 2018.



DAVID Y. IGE,
Governor of Hawaii

APPROVED:



DOUGLAS S. CHIN
*Attorney General
State of Hawaii*