

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

**THIRD PROCLAMATION RELATING TO
THE MAY 22, 2026, KONA EARTHQUAKE**

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine, designate and proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, at approximately 9:46 p.m. on May 22, 2026, a magnitude-6.0 earthquake struck the Kona region in the County of Hawai'i;

WHEREAS, the earthquake and associated aftershocks caused extensive damage to homes, potable and non-potable water systems, government facilities, and other property throughout the districts of Ka'u, North Kona, and South Kona;

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2026, Mayor C. Kimo Alameda declared a local state of emergency in the County of Hawai'i;

WHEREAS, additional damage reports and assessments indicate that State support is also required to respond to and recover from the earthquake;

WHEREAS, it is critical that the State be prepared to rapidly deploy personnel and resources such as the National Guard to assist the County and people in response to and recovery from the earthquake; and

WHEREAS, it is also critical that the Major Disaster Fund be readily available to fund response and recovery operations, including damage assessments;

WHEREAS, on June 5 and August 3, 2026, I issued my initial and Second Proclamations Relating to the May 22, 2026, Kona Earthquake, respectively, which must be supplemented to allow continued and additional response and recovery related to the earthquake;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH GREEN, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine that an emergency or disaster contemplated by section 127A-14, HRS, has occurred and is occurring in the County of Hawai'i, and to allow maximum flexibility in the use of State resources to respond to and recover from the earthquake, authorize and invoke the following emergency provisions, if not already in effect upon this declaration of an emergency:

I. Invocation of Laws

Section 121-30, HRS. I authorize and direct the Adjutant General to activate such units of the Hawai'i National Guard as necessary to assist civilian authorities in emergency response and recovery and in averting any imminent public danger and threat and to ensure compliance with the civil laws of the State of Hawai'i.

Subsection 127A-12(b)(16), HRS. I direct all state agencies and officers to cooperate and extend their services, materials, and facilities as may be required to assist in emergency response and recovery efforts.

Section 127A-16, HRS. I activate the Major Disaster Fund.

Under section 127A-25, HRS, I hereby adopt the attached Rules Relating to Housing Relief Programs. These rules shall have the force and effect of law.

II. Suspension of Laws

I suspend the following specific provisions of law under subsections 127A-12(b)(8) and 127A-13(a)(3), HRS, to the extent that the law impedes or tends to impede or is detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of, or conflicts with, emergency functions, including laws which by this chapter specifically are made applicable to emergency personnel:

Subsection 127A-16(a)(2), HRS, **major disaster fund**, only to suspend the \$10,000,000 limit on expenditures for a single emergency or disaster.

Section 127A-25(c), HRS, **rules and orders**, to suspend the requirement to publish rules adopted under chapter 127A, HRS, in a newspaper of general circulation in the State, considering that posting the rules on the applicable state or county government website and other official announcement under this section brings the rules' contents to the attention of the general public.

Section 127A-30, HRS, **rental or sale of essential commodities during a state of emergency; prohibition against price increases**, because the automatic application of this provision is not needed for this emergency. The invocations and suspensions of section 127A-30, HRS, contained in any other emergency proclamations are not affected by this Proclamation.

Chapter 103D, HRS, **Hawaii public procurement code**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays involved in meeting procurement

requirements for selecting contractors in a timely manner to respond to and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 103F, HRS, **purchases of health and human services**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays involved in meeting procurement requirements for selecting contractors in a timely manner to respond to and recover from the emergency.

III. Severability

If any provision of this Proclamation is rendered or declared illegal for any reason, or shall be invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall be modified or deleted, and the remainder of this Proclamation and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby but shall be enforced to the greatest extent permitted by applicable law.

IV. Enforcement

No provision of this Proclamation, or any rule or regulation hereunder, shall be construed as authorizing any private right of action to enforce any requirement of this Proclamation, or of any rule or regulation. Unless the Governor, Director of Emergency Management, or their designee issues an express order to a non-judicial public officer, no provision of this Proclamation, or any rule or regulation hereunder, shall be construed as imposing any ministerial duty upon any non-judicial public officer and shall not bind the officer to any specific course of action or planning in response to the emergency or interfere with the officer's authority to utilize his or her discretion.

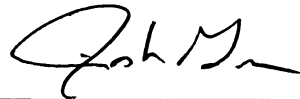
///

///

///

I FURTHER DECLARE that the disaster emergency relief period shall commence immediately and continue through Saturday, November 28, 2026, unless terminated or superseded by separate proclamation, whichever shall occur first. Following the termination of a disaster emergency relief period, any contracts, agreements, procurements, programs, or employment of personnel entered into, started, amended, or continued by reason of the provisions of the proclamation relating to this emergency shall continue in full force and effect to the extent allowed by law.

Done at the State Capitol, this
29th day of September 2026



JOSH GREEN M.D.,
Governor of Hawai'i

APPROVED:

Anne E. Lopez

ANNE E. LOPEZ
Attorney General
State of Hawai'i

Rules Related to Housing Relief Programs

- §1 Purpose and Authority
- §2 Grant Standards for Rental Assistance Program
- §3 Grant Standards for Home Repair Program
- §4 Grant Standards for General Disaster Assistance Program

§1 Purpose and Authority. These rules are adopted under sections 127A-9, 11, 12, 13, and 25, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to respond to the May 22, 2026, Kona Earthquake. The following rule is necessary to establish standards for the issuance of grants by the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency for its Housing Relief Programs. These rules have the force and effect of law. Neither these rules nor programs shall create any property interest or entitlement for any person to receive a grant award.

§2 Grant Standards for Rental Assistance Program. Applications for rental assistance grants shall be submitted to the Provider contracted by the State and shall contain information as necessary and required for the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to administer the Program. At a minimum, the applicant shall:

- (1) Be a Hawai'i resident whose housing was impacted as a direct result of the earthquake covered by the Third Proclamation Relating to the May 22, 2026, Kona Earthquake;
- (2) Be a household that rented or owned a primary home that suffered damage or loss and:
 - a. Who is ineligible for federal disaster assistance under the FEMA Individual Assistance (IA) program;
 - b. Who was denied federal disaster assistance under the FEMA IA program; or
 - c. Who has exhausted IA assistance that FEMA awarded and has a remaining unmet housing need;
- (3) Be a household that can independently secure a lease for a residential unit that will serve as a primary home;
- (4) Agree to use State funds exclusively for the purposes authorized under this Program; and

- (5) Receive no more than twelve (12) months lease rent based on eligible area fair market value, as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, from the Program.

§3 Grant Standards for Home Repair Program. Applications for home repair grants shall be submitted to the Provider contracted by the State and shall contain information as necessary and required for the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to administer the Program. At a minimum, the applicant shall:

- (1) Be a Hawai'i resident whose housing was impacted as a direct result of the earthquake covered by the Third Proclamation Relating to the May 22, 2026, Kona Earthquake;
- (2) Be a household that owned a primary home, or in limited circumstances rented a housing unit and was responsible for the repair and maintenance of such unit, that suffered damage or loss and:
 - a. Who is ineligible for federal disaster assistance under the FEMA IA program;
 - b. Who was denied federal disaster assistance under the FEMA IA program; or
 - c. Who has exhausted IA assistance that FEMA awarded and has a remaining unmet housing need;
- (3) Be a household that can undertake repairs that restore a primary home to a habitable condition;
- (4) Agree to use State funds exclusively for the purposes authorized under this Program; and
- (5) Receive no more than one (1) grant of up to \$25,000.00 from the Program.

§4 Grant Standards for General Disaster Assistance Program. Applications for general disaster assistance grants shall be submitted to the Provider contracted by the State and shall contain information as necessary and required for the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to administer the Program. At a minimum, the applicant shall:

- (1) Be a Hawai'i resident whose housing was impacted as a direct result of the earthquake covered by the Third Proclamation Relating to the May 22, 2026, Kona Earthquake;
- (2) Be a household whose primary home suffered damage or loss and:
 - a. Who is ineligible for federal disaster assistance under the FEMA IA program;
 - b. Who was denied federal disaster assistance under the FEMA IA program; or
 - c. Who has exhausted IA assistance that FEMA awarded and has a remaining unmet housing need;
- (3) Be a household that is not otherwise eligible for any other housing relief program provided for in these rules;
- (4) Agree to use State funds exclusively for the purposes authorized under this Program; and
- (5) Receive no more than one (1) grant of up to \$5,000.00 from the Program as follows:
 - a. A minimum award of \$2,000 per eligible household; and
 - b. An additional \$500 per household member for households consisting of 3 or more individuals up to a maximum of \$5,000 for the entire household.