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Office of Senator William A. Parkinson, 38th Guam Legislature
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SUBJECT: Written Testimony, Resolution No. 7-38 (COR) - Relative to urging the United States Federal Government to fully fund the construction and maintenance of air raid shelters and other civil defense infrastructure on Guam in light of heightened geopolitical tensions and the threat of regional conflict.

Håfa Adai Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding Resolution No. 7-38 (COR).

As the legislature considers this resolution, several critical questions regarding location and construction need to be addressed to fully understand its implications and potential implementation challenges:

- What criteria would be used to determine shelter locations across the island?
- Which agency would oversee site selection and construction?
- How would these facilities integrate with existing critical infrastructure?

The recent Comprehensive Analysis on EIAMD implementation highlights that 72% of residents express concerns about emergency resource allocation, and 65% report concerns about project transparency. These statistics underscore the need for clear communication about how new shelter resources would be distributed equitably across our communities.

Regarding operational considerations, the following questions require attention:

- What specific types of civil defense infrastructure beyond shelters are being proposed?
- How would these facilities be staffed and maintained?
- What would be the ongoing operational costs beyond initial construction?

Our current GHS/OCD emergency management protocols emphasize sheltering in place as our primary response strategy. This well-established approach includes:

- Immediate household protection during the first 72 hours of an emergency
- Family emergency communication plans
- Household preparedness kits with essential supplies
- Hardened residential safe rooms where applicable
- Community-based support networks
- Rapid damage assessment protocols that don't require population movement

This shelter-in-place strategy has proven effective because it:

- Keeps families together in familiar surroundings
- Eliminates the risks associated with mass transportation during emergencies
- Leverages existing household preparations and resources
- Reduces strain on emergency response personnel
- Allows for more efficient distribution of emergency resources
- Minimizes exposure to hazards during population movement

The EIAMD analysis indicates a projected 40-60% increase in emergency management demands during implementation of new systems. Adding shelter facilities would further strain these resources through:

- Additional security personnel requirements
- Increased maintenance and supply chain demands
- New training requirements for emergency staff
- Complex logistics for shelter activation and population movement

- Additional communication system requirements
- Expanded medical support needs
- Greater demand on utilities and basic services

Before proceeding, we need to carefully examine how these proposed shelters would:

1. Complement or potentially conflict with existing shelter-in-place protocols
2. Impact our current emergency resource allocation
3. Affect our ability to maintain existing emergency response capabilities
4. Integrate with our current emergency communication systems

Additionally, as noted in the EIAMD report, any new emergency management initiatives require:

- Establishment of integrated command structures
- Development of unified communication protocols
- Creation of standardized response procedures
- Implementation of robust training programs
- Deployment of multi-layered security protocols
- Enhanced cybersecurity measures for new facilities

The resolution's goals merit serious consideration, but I strongly encourage the legislature to seek answers to these fundamental questions before proceeding. We must ensure any new civil defense infrastructure enhances rather than complicates our existing emergency response capabilities, which have been carefully developed and refined over many years.

I value being able to offer these insights and remain available to answer any questions the committee may have regarding these matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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