

JAN 25 2006

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 establishes the state fire council, which consists of the fire
3 chiefs of the counties. The functions of the state fire council
4 is to adopt the state fire code, and to coordinate applications
5 to the federal government for federal grant assistance for
6 fire-related projects and to administer those grants. The state
7 fire council also undertakes myriad other fire-prevention
8 duties, including fire inspection and prevention.

9 Current law does not provide for an administrator for the
10 state fire council. The legislature finds that an administrator
11 is needed to assist the council with its operations to enhance
12 the effectiveness and efficiency of the council.

13 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the state fire
14 council to employ an administrator and an administrative
15 assistant, and to specify the duties of the administrator.

16 SECTION 2. Section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:



1 "**§132-16 State fire council; composition; functions.** (a)

2 There is established a state fire council which shall be placed
3 within the department of labor and industrial relations for
4 administrative purposes. The state fire council shall consist
5 of the fire chiefs of the counties. The state fire council may
6 appoint an advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its
7 functions under this chapter. The advisory committee may
8 include the heads of the various county building departments, a
9 licensed architect recommended by the Hawaii Society of the
10 American Institute of Architects, a licensed electrical engineer
11 and a licensed mechanical engineer recommended by the Consulting
12 Engineers Council of Hawaii, a representative of the Hawaii
13 Rating Bureau, a representative of the Hawaii firefighters
14 association, representatives of the county fire departments, and
15 such other members of the public as the state fire council may
16 determine can best assist it. The state fire council shall
17 elect a chairperson from among its members.

18 (b) The state fire council may employ an administrator and
19 an administrative assistant, without regard to chapters 76 and
20 89, who shall hold their respective positions at the pleasure of
21 the council. The state fire council shall determine the amount
22 of compensation for the administrator and the administrative



1 assistant. The administrator shall have full power to
2 administer the affairs of the council, subject to the direction
3 and approval of the council, including all of the functions and
4 duties of the council as specified in this section.

5 [~~b~~] (c) In addition to adopting a state fire code
6 pursuant to section 132-3, the state fire council shall serve as
7 a focal point through which all applications to the federal
8 government for federal grant assistance for fire-related
9 projects shall be made. Upon the receipt of any such federal
10 grants, the state fire council shall administer those federal
11 grants.

12 [~~e~~] (d) The state fire council may also:

- 13 (1) Appoint advisory committees comprised of
14 representatives from each county fire department to
15 assist in drafting the state fire code and
16 coordinating statewide training, data collection, and
17 contingency planning needs for firefighters; and
- 18 (2) Advise and assist the county fire departments where
19 appropriate, may prescribe standard procedures and
20 forms relating to inspections, investigations, and
21 reporting of fires, may approve plans for cooperation
22 among the county fire departments, and may advise the



1 governor and the legislature with respect to fire
 2 prevention and protection, life safety, and any other
 3 functions or activities for which the various county
 4 fire departments are generally responsible."

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
 7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for
 8 the employment of an administrator and administrative assistant
 9 by the state fire council.

10 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
 11 department of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of
 12 this Act.

13 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
 16 provided that sections 3 and 4 shall take effect on
 17 July 1, 2006.

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SB. NO. 2198

Report Title:
Fire Protection

Description:
Authorizes the state fire council to employ an administrative assistant; makes appropriation.

