

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 17, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 3230  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 3230 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BUILDING CODES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve the health, safety, and welfare of the general public through the adoption of statewide model building codes and standards.

The Hawaii Insurers Council and State Farm Insurance Companies supported this bill. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), Department of Defense, Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Financial Services Association, Hawaii Association of Realtors, and a concerned citizen supported the intent of this measure. The Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii, Plumbers and Fitters Union Local 675, and a concerned citizen opposed this bill. The University of Hawaii Environmental Center provided comments.

Your Committee has adopted the recommendation to amend this bill by inserting language that:

- (1) Creates a State Building Code Commission (Commission);
- (2) Gives the Commission responsibility for establishing a statewide building code (state code) by December 31, 2007, based on the latest editions of the International



Building, Residential, Mechanical, and Plumbing Codes and other nationally published codes for one- and two-family residential construction;


- (3) Allows the Commission to make changes to the international and national codes that are to be adopted as the state code;
- (4) Provides that if the Commission does not adopt a state code by the deadline, the state code shall consist of the latest editions of the International Building, Residential, Mechanical, and Plumbing Codes;
- (5) Provides that the state code that is adopted or automatically enacted is the building code for each county and supersedes county codes;
- (6) Allows the counties, before and after adoption of the state code, to petition the Commission for exemptions to the state code;
- (6) Requires the Commission to provide educational and technical training and administrative assistance services and grants to the state and county to implement and enforce the state and county codes; and
- (7) Appropriates funds to implement the Act.

Your Committee believes these amendments are in general compliance with the recommendations submitted by DAGS and the Uniform Statewide Building Code Task Force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3230, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 3230, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Consumer  
Protection & Commerce,



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ROBERT N. HERKES, Chair



