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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE INSTALLATION AND USE OF SMOKE DETECTORS IN EVERY  
HAWAII HOME BY 2010.

1           WHEREAS, fire safety in the State and the safety of its  
2 citizens are of great concern to every legislator, public  
3 servant, and first responder; and  
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5           WHEREAS, after prevention, smoke detectors are the first  
6 line of defense against fire and can cut the risk of death in a  
7 home fire nearly in half; and  
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9           WHEREAS, in recent years, approximately three-fifths of  
10 home fire deaths occurred in homes without smoke detectors; and  
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12           WHEREAS, in 2006, a total of 2,580 people died in 412,500  
13 home fires that resulted in more than \$11,000,000,000 in  
14 property damage; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the Honolulu Fire Department, the sixteenth  
17 largest fire department in the nation, responds to over ten  
18 thousand fires annually; and  
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20           WHEREAS, with a home fire occurring in this country every  
21 eighty-six seconds, the diligence, determination, and devotion  
22 of Hawaii's firefighters can be augmented by a smoke detector in  
23 every Hawaii home; and  
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25           WHEREAS, inexpensive household smoke detectors can mean the  
26 difference between life and death by sounding an early warning  
27 in the event of a fire and waking people before they are  
28 overcome by smoke and other poisonous gases; and  
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30           WHEREAS, most low-income families in Hawaii cannot afford  
31 home smoke detectors; and  
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33           WHEREAS, low-income families are defined as families  
34 qualifying for the State's general assistance program or the  
35 federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children program; and



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WHEREAS, low-income families in Hawaii deserve the protection that smoke detectors can provide; and

WHEREAS, in states that observe daylight savings time the day used to convert to daylight savings time is also used to check smoke detector batteries and insure the safe operation of smoke detectors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Legislature supports the installation and use of smoke detectors in every Hawaii home by 2010; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that fire departments throughout Hawaii are urged to designate April 15 as the day to remind Hawaii's residents to check the batteries in their smoke detectors and to make sure they operate effectively; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association and Hawaii State Fire Council are requested to investigate the possibility of donating and distributing smoke detectors to low-income families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local fire departments are requested to consider implementation of a program to provide free smoke detectors in exchange for a free on-site fire safety inspection of low-income family homes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is requested to consider installing smoke detectors in all public housing projects in Hawaii and requiring a working smoke detector as a requirement of residency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to all county fire chiefs, the Chair of the State Fire Council, and the Chairperson of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

  
OFFERED BY: Cindy Evans  
By 2 Jan