



COUNTY OF KAUAI  
**Fire Department**  
Mo'ikeha Building  
4444 Rice Street, Suite 295  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawaii 96766

April 3, 2008

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 201  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Inouye:

Subject: H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1 Supporting the Installation and Use of Smoke  
Detectors in Every Home by 2010

I am Robert F. Westerman, Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The KFD supports the intent of H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1, which would support the installation and use of smoke detectors in every Hawaii home by 2010. The KFD provides fire safety education for households through various media venues and group presentations. Practicing a family escape plan to ensure that everyone knows exactly what to do when a smoke alarm sounds also contributes to surviving a fire.

Smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing deaths and injuries from fire and have contributed to an almost 50% decrease in fire deaths since the late 1970s. The KFD is a strong advocate for the use and maintenance of smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are an early warning device that alerts occupants of a fire condition and allows time to evacuate the premises before conditions become untenable. Designating a day to remind Hawaii residents to replace the batteries in their smoke detectors to ensure they operate properly is an excellent component of this resolution. Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms save lives and protect against injury and loss due to fire.

The KFD requests your committee's support on the passage of H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please call me at (808) 241-6500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Westerman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

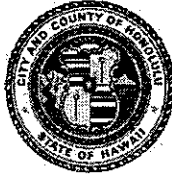
Robert Westerman  
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

RFW/eld

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

636 South Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007  
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: www.honolulu.gov/hfd

MUFU HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



KENNETH G. SILVA  
FIRE CHIEF

ALVIN K. TOMITA  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

April 8, 2008

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 201  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Inouye:

Subject: H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1 Supporting the Installation and Use of Smoke Detectors in Every Home by 2010

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports the intent of H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1, which would support the installation and use of smoke detectors in every Hawaii home by 2010. The HFD provides fire safety education for households through various media venues and group presentations. Via grant funds, we are presently developing a smoke alarm installation program targeting senior citizens. Senior citizens are an identified at-risk group for fire tragedies, along with young children and persons with disabilities. Practicing a family escape plan to ensure that everyone knows exactly what to do when a smoke alarm sounds also contributes to surviving a fire. The HFD is willing to explore the possibility of donating and distributing smoke alarms to low-income families.

Smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing deaths and injuries from fire and have contributed to an almost 50% decrease in fire deaths since the late 1970s. The HFD is a strong advocate for the use and maintenance of smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are an early warning device that alerts occupants of a fire condition and allows time to evacuate the premises before conditions become untenable. Designating a day to remind Hawaii residents to replace the batteries in their smoke detectors to ensure they operate properly is an excellent component of this resolution. Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms save lives and protect against injury and loss due to fire.

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
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The HFD recommends the following revision to the last paragraph:

"Be it FURTHER RESOVLED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to all county fire chiefs, the Chair of the State Fire Council, the President of the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association, Chairperson of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Director of the Executive Office on Aging, and President of AARP Hawaii."

The Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association has members not affiliated with the county fire chiefs.

The HFD requests your committee's support on the passage of H.C.R. 147, H.D. 1, as amended.

Should you have any questions, please call HFD Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely,



KENNETH G. SILVA  
Fire Chief

KGS/LR:bh