



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
**State Fire Council**  
830 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 4, 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: S.B. 2720 Relating to the State Fire Council

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support S.B. 2720, which creates two administrative positions for the SFC to enable it to meet its statutory responsibilities under Chapter 132 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and to identify the funding source for said positions.

The SFC was created in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's Office, which was a fully-funded state agency. Under the present organization, the SFC has had difficulty in amending the state fire code, pursuing and administering federal grants, and coordinating statewide training, data collection, and other council duties because such work must be performed by county fire department personnel, thus depriving the county fire departments of the services of its members.

This bill would greatly increase the productivity of the SFC and benefit fire departments statewide.

The HFD and the SFC request your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 2720.

Should you have any questions, please call SFC Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7173.

Sincerely,

KENNETH G. SILVA  
Chair