



**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. 2724 Relating to Public Safety

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. 2724, which would appropriate funds to conduct a feasibility study for a statewide public safety and emergency response training facility.

It is imperative that Hawaii's first responders be adequately trained and prepared to respond to natural and manmade disasters. The proposed study would develop a needs assessment, operations plan, cost benefit analysis, and site requirements that would benefit first responders statewide. It will also host specialized training not currently provided by county departments, which may possibly include urban search and rescue operations, hazardous materials, weapons of mass destruction, and terrorism combat.

The SFC and the HFD request your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 2724.

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

Sincerely,

KENNETH G. SILVA  
Chair

KGS/LR:cn