HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU



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

Phone: 808-723-7139

KENNETH G. SILVA FIRE CHIEF

AI VIN K. TOMITA DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 19, 2008

The Honorable Ron Menor, Chair Committee on Energy and Environment The State Senate State Capitol, Room 208 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair Committee on Health The State Senate State Capitol, Room 215 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Menor and Ige:

MUFI HANNEMANN

MAYOR

Subject: S.B. 3072 Relating to the Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act

I am Alvin K. Tomita, Acting Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports S.B. 3072, which proposes to clarify the Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act reporting requirements. As a first responder agency, it is imperative that our personnel know the risks and potential risks concerning hazardous materials that are present in a building or facility, especially under extreme hazardous fire or release conditions. Accurate information will be used as a planning tool prior to and during emergency conditions and can mean the difference between life and death. This information is also essential for facility owners to plan for the safety of its employees, who will be the first line of defense if or when emergency conditions arise.

The HFD urges your committees' support on the passage of S.B. 3072.

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

Sincerely,

ALVIN K. TOMITA Acting Fire Chief

Olera K. Tomite