



LATE TESTIMONY

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

April 8, 2009

The Honorable Robert Herkes, Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 320
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Herkes:

Subject: H.C.R. 187, H.R. 153 Requesting a Study on Control Measures for Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Paint Spray Booths Used by Auto Body Refinishers

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 H.C.R. 187, H.R. 153, which requests a study on control measures for volatile organic compound emissions from paint spray booths used by auto body refinishers. We will support a cooperative effort to work with the mentioned agencies to develop solutions to reduce emissions from spray booth businesses that create health issues for neighboring residents.

The fire code prescribes minimum requirements necessary to establish a reasonable level of fire, life-safety, and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion, and dangerous conditions. The fire code evolves as a result of advances in building material technology and the lessons learned from fires involving injury and deaths to minimize the devastating results that may occur.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of H.C.R. 187, H.R. 153. We look forward to this opportunity to improve our community environment and safety.

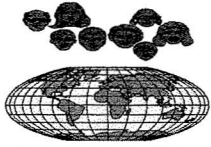
Should you have any questions, please call HFD Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K.G. Silva".

KENNETH G. SILVA
Chair

KGS/LR:bh



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April 8, 2009

Testimony supporting the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 187 " REQUESTING A STUDY ON CONTROL MEASURES FOR VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND EMISSIONS FROM PAINT SPRAY BOOTHS USED BY AUTO BODY REFINISHERS" before the Hawaii State House of Representative Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee.

Thank you, Chairman Herkes and members of the committee (CPC).

Probably the most important nonconformity created by rezoning will be the use nonconformity. Industrial and residential activities in rezoned areas are an example that may present problems with yard encroachment, height and use. The intent of zoning powers of land use managers is to insure the separation of noncompatible uses. Over the years the practice of rezoning has resulted in many instances of nonconformities and noncompatible uses as witnessed by the tenants of 1731 Homerule Street in Kalihi are currently experiencing.

The population of the tenants consist of families w/ (8) Children, (7) elderly which includes handicap and (3)in wheelchairs. On numerous occasions the tenants of this apartment building experienced the presence of strong odors and over spray from an auto body repair shop that is situated next to their apartment building. These incidents have resulted in some of the tenants being sickened by the fumes and over spray, requiring medical attention from emergency response crews.

No single agency can address the adverse impacts these zoning issues present. The passage of this measure is a good start and will aid our land use managers and other agencies in avoiding repeated instances such as the one existing at 1731 Homerule Street in Kalihi.

Thank you,

Carroll Cox, President