



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

April 7, 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 Study on Control Measures for Emissions from Paint Spray Booths**

I am Robert F. Westerman, Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD) and a member of the State Fire Council (SFC). The SFC and the KFD 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 the cooperative effort to work with the mentioned agencies to develop solutions to reducing 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 and life safety and property protection from the hazards of fire, explosion and dangerous conditions. The fire code evolves over time in reaction to 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 KFD urge your committee's support on the passage of H.C.R 187, H.R. 153 and we look forward to this opportunity to improving our community environment and safety.

Please call me at (808) 241-4980 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Westerman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Robert Westerman  
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

RFW/eld