

Linda Lingle
Governor



LATE TESTIMONY

Darwin L.D. Ching
Director

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

February 3, 2010

The Honorable J. Kalani English, Chair
Committee on Transportation, International and
Intergovernmental Affairs
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 207
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs English and Espero:

Subject: S.B. 2550 Relating to Fireworks

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 offer the following comments:

1. We support the statewide ban of consumer fireworks, with the exception of special events and professional public fireworks displays.
2. We believe each county should determine the potential hazards of fireworks and the benefit to their community by further restricting fireworks use based on each county's needs and resources. Chapter 132D-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes states that no county may enact stricter laws or rules relating to the present fireworks law.
3. We support measures that make the arrest and prosecution for illegal purchase, possession, setting off, igniting, or discharging of fireworks