

LATE

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Darryl J. Oliveira
Fire Chief

Glen P. I. Honda
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i

FIRE DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

January 27, 2011

TO : REPRESENTATIVE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON LABOR &
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

FROM : DARRYL OLIVEIRA, FIRE CHIEF, HAWAII FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: HB 268 RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS FOR COUNTY
EMPLOYEES
DATE/TIME OF HEARING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2011, 9:00 A.M.

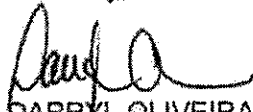
As the Fire Chief for the Hawaii Fire Department, I would like to ask for your support of HB 268 which proposes to allow criminal history record checks on prospective county fire department employees whose positions involve contact with children or dependent adults.

With the elimination of residency requirements for prospective fire department employment, the number of out-of-state applicants has increased, with no legal means to verify whether or not these individuals possess the necessary qualities for dealing with children or vulnerable adults.

Public trust must not be compromised when individuals are hired as emergency responders. The public expects and deserves the utmost quality and care from the people who are entrusted to provide emergency services and fire and life safety education presentations. Conducting criminal record checks is one way to ensure that prospective fire department employees have no criminal or abuse records.

On behalf of the Hawaii Fire Department, I request your committee's support on the passage of HB 268.

Sincerely,


DARRYL OLIVEIRA
Fire Chief

DO:lk



LATE

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
House of Representatives
Committees on Labor and Public Employment
January 28, 2011

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

H.B. No. 268 Relating to Criminal History Records Checks for County Employees

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. HFFA represents more than 2,800 active and retired professional fire fighters throughout the State and supports H.B. No. 268.

HFFA believes that H.B. No. 268 provides the employing fire department an additional tool during the recruitment process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. No. 286.