



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
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March 23, 2011

The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran:

Subject: S.B. 172, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 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 support S.B. 172, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, which amends provisions of the fireworks code and imposes new definitions and permitting, importation, labeling, and inspection requirements. It also authorizes the Fire Chief to revoke or suspend permits for enumerated reasons. This bill will promote the effective enforcement and administration of fireworks permit and license requirements.

The SFC and the HFD also offer the following comments:

1. We support the statewide ban of consumer fireworks, except for special events and professional public fireworks displays.
2. We believe each county should continue to determine the potential hazards of fireworks and the benefit to their community by further restricting fireworks use from the state law based on each county's needs and resources.
3. We support measures that make the arrest and prosecution for the illegal purchase, possession, selling off, igniting, or discharging of fireworks easier and increase the penalties and consequences for convictions of fireworks violations.

The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Page 2
March 23, 2011

4. We support measures that clarify the current Fireworks Control Law (Chapter 132D, Hawaii Revised Statutes) and promote the effective enforcement and administration of fireworks permits and licenses for regulatory agencies.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 172, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please call SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151.

Sincerely,



KENNETH G. SILVA
Chair

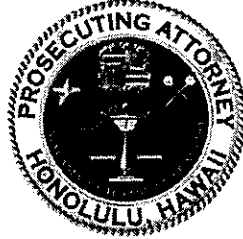
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DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
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KEITH M. KANESHIRO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ARMINA A. CHING
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



THE HONORABLE GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Twenty-sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawai'i

March 24, 2011

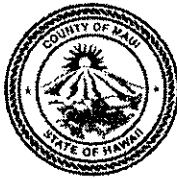
RE: S.B. 172, S.D. 2; RELATING TO FIREWORKS.

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoades and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu supports S.B. 172, S.D. 2.

The purpose of S.B. 172, S.D. 2 is to amend Chapter 132D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to create new definitions and provisions regarding the permitting, importation, labeling and inspection of fireworks. The Department believes that such amendments would facilitate better monitoring of fireworks sales and activity in Hawaii, and better enable our local fire departments to enforce the same.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports S.B. 172, S.D. 2. Thank for you the opportunity to testify on this matter.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



JEFFREY A. MURRAY
CHIEF

ROBERT M. SHIMADA
DEPUTY CHIEF

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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March 23, 2011

The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran:

Subject: S.B. 172, S.D. 2 Relating to Fireworks

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Fire Chief of the County of Maui, Department of Fire & Public Safety (MFD) and a member of the State Fire Council (SFC). The MFD and the SFC support S.B. 172, S.D. 2, which amends provisions of the fireworks code and imposes new definitions and permitting, importation, labeling, and inspection requirements. It also authorizes the Fire Chief to revoke or suspend permits for enumerated reasons. This bill will promote the effective enforcement and administration of fireworks permit and license requirements.

The MFD and the SFC also offer the following comments:

1. We support the statewide ban of consumer fireworks, except for special events and professional public fireworks displays.
2. We believe each county should continue to determine the potential hazards of fireworks and the benefit to their community by further restricting fireworks use from the state law based on each county's needs and resources.
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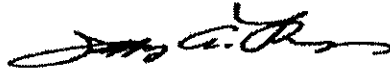
The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair
Page 2
March 23, 2011

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The MFD and the SFC urge your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 172, S.D. 2.

Should you have any questions, please call SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151.

Sincerely,



JEFFREY A. MURRAY
Fire Chief