



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
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Email: dilr.director@hawaii.gov

March 16, 2011

The Honorable Henry Aquino, Chair
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 419
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Labor and Public Employment
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 326
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Aquino and Rhoads:

Subject: S.B. 742, S.D. 2 Relating to the State Fire Council

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. 742, S.D. 2, which proposes to allow the SFC to hire two full-time personnel to accomplish its responsibilities.

The SFC, which is comprised of the four county fire chiefs, was created in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's Office, which was a fully-funded state agency. Under the present organization, the SFC primarily uses county fire department personnel to accomplish its duties, thus depriving the county fire departments of the time and services of its members. These duties include amending and adopting the state fire code, applying for and administering federal fire-related grants, and implementing and administering a statewide reduced ignition propensity cigarette program.

The SFC staff consists of only one part-time person and is funded by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, to which the SFC is administratively attached. The SFC is a member of the State Building Code Council and participates in the state building code adoption process. The SFC also coordinates statewide training, data collection,

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The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
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and education and corresponds with national organizations on statewide fire issues. In addition, the SFC advises the Governor and the legislature on fire- and life-safety matters.

This bill would greatly increase the SFC's productivity and benefit communities and fire departments statewide.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committees' support on the passage of S.B. 742, S.D. 2.

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

Sincerely,



KENNETH G. SILVA
Chair

KGS/LR:cn

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Robert F. Westerman
Fire Chief

Gary K. Heu
Managing Director

John T. Blalock
Deputy Fire Chief

KAUAI FIRE DEPARTMENT
County of Kauai, State of Hawaii

3083 Akahi Street, Suite 101, Lihue, Hawaii 96766
TEL (808) 241-4980 FAX (808) 241-6508

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Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 419
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Labor and Public Employment
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 326
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Aquino and Rhoads:

Subject: S.B. 742, S.D. 2 Relating to the State Fire Council

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 S.B. 742, S.D. 2, which proposes to allow the SFC to hire two full-time personnel to accomplish its responsibilities.

The SFC, which is comprised of the four county fire chiefs, was created in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's Office, which was a fully-funded state agency. Under the present organization, the SFC primarily uses county fire department personnel to accomplish its duties, thus depriving the county fire departments of the time and services of its members. These duties include amending and adopting the state fire code, applying for and administering federal fire-related grants, and implementing and administering a statewide reduced ignition propensity cigarette program.

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This bill would greatly increase the SFC's productivity and benefit communities and fire departments statewide.

The SFC and the KFD urge your committees' support on the passage of S.B. 742, S.D. 2.

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

Sincerely,



Robert Westerman
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

RFW/eld

PBMtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 1:37 PM
To: PBMtestimony
Cc: roxanne.kinores-medeiros@mauicounty.gov
Subject: Testimony for SB742 on 3/22/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for PBM/LAB 3/22/2011 9:30:00 AM SB742

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jeffrey A. Murray
Organization: Maui Fire Department
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: roxanne.kinores-medeiros@mauicounty.gov
Submitted on: 3/16/2011

Comments: