




To: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Members, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Gov't Operations, & Military Affairs  
From: Trisha Y. Nakamura, Esq. Policy and Advocacy Director   
Date: January 31, 2011  
Hrg: PGM Cmte; February 1, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.; Rm 224  
Re: **Support the intent of SB742, Relating to the State Fire Council**

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of the intent of SB 742 which allows the State Fire Council to hire a full-time administrator and assistant to aid the State Fire Council in administering the requirements of the reduced ignition propensity cigarettes law (Act 218 of the 2008 Session Laws of Hawaii).

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii (Coalition) is the only independent organization in Hawaii whose sole mission is to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy. The Coalition provides leadership for the tobacco control community, develops networks, helps coordinate tobacco control programs and builds community awareness.

In 2008, the Coalition testified in support of the measure that became the reduced ignition propensity cigarettes law. Reduced ignition propensity cigarettes will reduce harms caused by cigarette-smoking. Here, a reduction in the number of cigarette fires which are the leading causes of fire deaths and property damage in the United States.

The Coalition appreciates the Legislature's current effort to ensure thorough and appropriate implementation of the reduced ignition propensity cigarettes law by the State Fire Council. This measure provides the State Fire Council the ability and staff resources to conduct activities pursuant to existing requirements regarding reduced-ignition cigarettes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.