

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2397
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2397 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FIRE SPRINKLERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit
counties from requiring installation or retrofitting of automatic
fire sprinklers in new or existing one- or two-family dwelling
units used only for residential purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Building Industry Association; Complete Construction
Services Corp.; The Pacific Resource Partnership; Alan Shintani
Inc.; Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation; The Gentry Companies; RMA
Sales; Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association; and one
individual. Testimony in opposition was received from the State
Fire Council, Honolulu Fire Department, Maui Fire Department,
Kaua'i Fire Department, National Fire Protection Association,
Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii, and The
Plumbers and Fitters Union, Local 675.

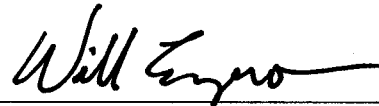
Your Committee finds that the mandatory installation of
automatic fire sprinklers is unnecessary at this time because new
homes are built with better fire safety measures; fire sprinklers
are not cost-effective; targeted fire safety education programs
work; fire sprinklers have not been proven to enhance the safety
of occupants; and if a homeowner wants to install a fire
sprinkler, that option should be left to the homeowner.



Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to January 1, 2025, to ensure further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2397, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2397, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Water, Land, and Housing.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and
Military Affairs,



WILL ESPERO, Chair



