

**PRESENTATION OF THE
BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS
AND PLUMBERS**

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2012

Wednesday, February 1, 2012
2:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2748, RELATING TO PROFESSIONS AND
OCCUPATIONS.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Charlene Tamanaha, Executive Officer of the Board of Electricians and Plumbers ("Board"). The Board has not met as a whole to discuss H.B. No. 2748, but will at its next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2012. As this bill proposes to license air conditioning pipefitters, fire sprinkler technicians, and solar technicians, there is a concern that these are new regulatory areas which would not fit within the regulatory scheme of Hawaii Revised Statutes, chapter 448E, and instead would require sunrise analysis and enactment of new regulatory chapters.

Respectfully, the Board asks that the Committee defer decision making on H.B. No. 2748, until after the Board has had the opportunity to meet as a whole to discuss and formulate positions on this measure. We would be happy to report to the Chair following the Board's meeting on February 14, 2012.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**PRESENTATION OF THE
CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD**

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION
& COMMERCE**

**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2012**

**Wednesday, February 1, 2012
2:00 p.m.**

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2748, RELATING TO PROFESSIONS AND
OCCUPATIONS.**

**TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:**

My name is Denny Sadowski, Chair of the Contractors License Board's Legislation Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on House Bill No. 2748, which creates three new license classifications under the Board of Electricians and Plumbers.

This bill also amends the Contractors License Board statute, Chapter 444, HRS, by prohibiting owner-builders from performing work under these new classifications (air conditioner pipefitter, fire sprinkler technician, and solar technician), and requiring one-to-one supervision of such work.

The Contractors License Board ("Board") questions the need for these provisions, as we are not aware of any reason these particular areas should be singled out for legislation, nor have we heard of any problems regarding these issues. Therefore, we do not feel that these amendments to our statute are warranted.

Testimony on H.B. No. 2748
February 1, 2012
Page 2

Furthermore, the bill is not clear on what is a "solar technician", and the new language in Section 2, (page 2, lines 8 – 9) does not conform to our contractor license classifications, as we do not have air conditioner pipefitter, fire sprinkler technician, or solar technician contractor license classifications.

Finally, we defer to the Board of Electricians and Plumbers on whether or not these license classifications should be established under Chapter 448E, HRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

PLUMBING & MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII



PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
OF HAWAII

TELEPHONE: (808) 597-1216
FAX: (808) 597-1409
1314 S. King Street, Suite 961
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

GREGG S. SERIKAKU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Via Email

January 31, 2012

Representative Robert N. Herkes, Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
House of Representatives
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, Regular Session of 2012

Chair Herkes, Vice Chair Yamane, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB2748 Relating to Professions and Occupations

My name is Gregg Serikaku. I am the Executive Director of the Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii. Our Association represents 40 major plumbing and mechanical contractors who employ over 1,000 mechanics, technicians, managerial staff, and administrative personnel here in Hawaii.

The Association for which I speak supports the intent of HB2748.

The mechanics and technicians who install air conditioning, fire sprinkler and solar systems require specialized training to insure that the customer is provided with a safe, cost effective, and trouble free system.

For example, the current apprenticeship curriculum for air conditioning and fire sprinkler mechanics requires that they undergo five years of schooling and 10,000 hours of work experience. This training covers issues such as proper installation, maintenance, safety, and the applicability of nationally recognized codes.

We propose that this committee work with the industry and licensing board to develop the appropriate standards for the licensing of air conditioning, fire sprinkler and solar mechanics.

We respectfully urge the committee to approve this bill.

Respectfully yours,

Gregg S. Serikaku
Executive Director