

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



KENNETH G. SILVA
FIRE CHIEF

EMMIT A. KANE
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 27, 2012

The Honorable David Ige, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 215
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige:

Subject: S.B. 2877 Relating to Harbors Fireboat

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports the intent of S.B. 2877, which proposes to abolish the statutory requirements to reimburse the City and County of Honolulu for operating and maintaining the fireboat and allow for broader flexibility in its management by the State Department of Transportation (DOT).

The HFD currently provides operational fire fighting personnel for the Fireboat Moku Ahi, including vessel and fire station maintenance. The Fireboat Moku Ahi is an important fire protection component of Honolulu Harbor, and we are not opposed to the DOT exploring management alternatives to fireboat operations.

The HFD participated in preliminary discussions with the DOT regarding some of these issues and is open to future meetings. Prior to a decision to transfer fireboat services from the HFD, we require a cooperative exit strategy for transitioning HFD personnel to other assignments.

The HFD requests your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 2877.

Should you have any questions, please contact Battalion Chief Socrates Bratakos of our Fire Prevention Bureau at 723-7151 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth G. Silva".

KENNETH G. SILVA
Fire Chief

KGS/LR:cn