



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE
Monday, February 10, 2014
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325
in consideration of
HB 1633
RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism offers comments on this bill, which modifies the composition of the Hawaii building code council and funds an executive director's position. We support the intent of this bill, but caution that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

To be more effective, an executive director with appropriate technical credentials in the administrative rule process must oversee and facilitate the work of the Council. Proposed new members of the council include construction industry specialists with expertise on industry practices and the practicality and cost effectiveness of proposed codes.

An expected outcome of the bill's passage would be expedited adoption of the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code. The code provisions should measurably reduce energy use in homes and buildings and move Hawaii closer to its goal of energy independence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



DWIGHT Y. TAKAMINE
DIRECTOR

JADE T. BUTAY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

<http://labor.hawaii.gov>

February 10, 2014

To: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair,
The Honorable Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Date: Monday, February 10, 2014

Time: 2:45 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

From: Dwight Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 1633 Relating to the State Building Code

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB 2581 proposes to reconfigure the membership of the State Building Code Council (SBCC), modifies the Hawaii State Building Codes, and staggers the adoption of codes among other provisions. A representative (Thaddeus Tomei) from the Elevator Section of the DLIR's Hawaii Occupational Safety & Health Division (HIOSH) sits on the SBCC.

The DLIR supports the housekeeping amendment to 107-22(3), which changes the DLIR representative to one with significant experience in elevator safety and eliminates "or fire safety". This is consistent with the department's expertise, especially as the State Fire Council also has a member serving on the Council, which is administratively attached to the DLIR.

The DLIR defers to other entities on the other specific, substantive portions of the proposal. The department is in the process of updating the Elevator Standards and has actively participated in the deliberations of the Council. The DLIR strongly supports the Council's efforts to serve as a clearinghouse to help affected parties navigate the various state and county codes and agencies.

The construction and related industries are often left in the dark to try to make sense of how the various codes relate to each other. The Council serves an important role

S.B. 2581
February 3, 2014
Page 2

in trying to improve the compatibility and interrelationship of the codes by serving as a forum where there can be a meeting of the minds.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

CPC
2:45 pm

February 10, 2014

Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Re: **House Bill 1633**
Relating to the State Building Code

Dear Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee,

My name is Daniel Chun, President of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Hawaii State Council, speaking in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1633.

Volunteers cannot fulfill all the legislative mandate of the State Building Code Council

AIA was one of the original supporters of the State Building Code Council (SBCC). Architects continue to offer significant volunteer efforts to update Hawaii's building codes. Other design professional societies and construction industry trade groups also volunteer needed time and expertise. The four counties volunteer the services of their building chiefs. However, the SBCC cannot fulfill its legislative mandate without staffing services to coordinate volunteer efforts and manage the Hawaii administrative rule making process.

AIA prefers the language of Senate Bill 2581 SD1 with respect to House Bill 1633 Page 6 lines 7-9

AIA helped draft the original statute. AIA is an active voting member of the Council. Architects are strongly connected to the process of reviewing and updating Hawaii's building codes. We support the current 18-month deadline for review of the latest published national codes upon which the State Building code is based.

Thank you for this opportunity to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** House Bill 1633.



February 8, 2014

Representative Angus Mc Kelvey, Chairman and Committee Members
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

RE: ICC Supports strongly the passage of HB 1633 with following comments

Dear Chairman and Committee Members:

The International Code Council is a 50,000 member, non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe, sustainable, energy-efficient and affordable construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process by state and local governments including the State of Hawaii and its Counties.

The Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC) was conceived by the Legislature in 2007 as a mechanism for the State and Hawaii's Counties to maintain a consistent set of up-to-date regulations for building, fire, life-safety, energy-efficiency and sustainable practices as uniform construction code requirements applicable statewide.

The many stakeholders from the design professions, the construction trades, the state and its regulatory agencies and local government officials participate in the SBCC process, and have come to rely on it as a forum to discuss construction and code related applications and to adopt uniform code statewide, codes which have produced great benefits for the state.

We urge strongly the passage of HB 1633 with the recommendation that page 6, line 7 through 9 of the bill remove the strikeout language and retain the original statute language so HB 1633 is consistent with SB 2581. Moreover, an adequately funded SBCC will allow the good work of the SBCC and the participating stakeholders to continue to the benefit of the State, its counties and citizens.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kraig Stevenson", is written over a horizontal line.

Kraig Stevenson, CBO
ICC Government Relations
kstevenson@iccsafe.org
562-201-9209



February 8, 2014

To: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey
Members, House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

From: Tim Shestek
Senior Director, State Affairs

RE: **HB 1633 – OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose HB 1633, legislation that would allow for a six year period between adoption, amendments and updates to the state building code.

ACC member companies manufacture the raw materials for a myriad of industries, including products that help make buildings and homes more energy efficient. The business of chemistry employs over 800,000 workers, making it one of the largest US industries in terms of employment. We have been an active supporter of the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC), a collective effort of business interests, architects, affordable housing advocates, utilities and environmental organizations working together promote energy efficiency building codes.

ACC advocates for the adoption of the latest energy efficiency codes for both residential and commercial construction. Energy savings resulting from the up-front investment in energy efficient technology benefits the homebuyer monetarily from the moment they move into their home. Homeowners promptly recoup their investment as the realized savings on their energy bills quickly offsets any additional construction costs related to the installation of energy efficient products.

Under HB 1633, the update process for state building codes, including the energy conservation code, could be delayed by up to six years, creating a significant lag time between building code updates. Today, most states update their building codes every three years to ensure that the most up-to-date safety practices, innovations in energy efficiency and other practical advances in construction are built into homes, offices, schools and government buildings. Hawaii's Building Code Council approved the adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in February 2012, but to date only Kauai County has implemented this update. Under the language in this bill, it is not clear whether the state of Hawaii could even consider updating the state building code again until 2018 edition. Moreover, HB 1633 removes the current statute's reference to the "latest edition" of these important codes, which calls into question whether more recent codes would be considered at all.

A new home is likely the biggest financial investment for families. Studies show that families can save thousands in energy costs during the years they live in an energy-efficient home, while safety improvements can reduce homeowners' insurance premiums. According to a report by the U.S. Department of Energy, adopting the 2012 energy code would **save homeowners in Hawaii 16.8 percent on their energy bills every year**, which translates into **\$541 in average annual energy savings**. The report also found that moving from the 2009 to the 2012 IECC would result in **\$8,860 in net savings (including both the costs of the improvements and the resulting energy savings) for Hawaii homeowners on average, over the first 30 years of the building's useful life**¹. Hawaii homeowners would fail to realize these significant energy

¹ See U.S. Department of Energy, *Hawaii Energy and Cost Savings for New Single- and Multifamily Homes* (September 2012) available at <http://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/documents/HawaiiResidentialCostEffectiveness.pdf>



savings from the adoption of the 2012 IECC since under this bill the state may not even consider updating the state's building code until 2018, and even then, it is not clear which edition of the building code would be considered.

Under this legislation, Hawaii's homes and buildings would fall behind in critical technology changes that enhance energy efficiency, save taxpayers money and protect public safety, leading to increased energy costs for Hawaii homeowners. This misguided legislation, while claiming to save money, would also waste state and local tax dollars by delaying implementation of the latest efficiency technologies that cut energy bills for public buildings, protect them from damage due to natural disasters, reduce maintenance costs and insurance claims, and lower insurance premiums for safer buildings.

For these reasons, we urge you to support Hawaii families, energy savings, and lower energy bills and to oppose HB 1633. Thank you in advance for considering our views. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or ACC's Hawaii based representatives Red Morris and/or John Radcliffe at 808-531-4551.





HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

1617 Palama Street • Honolulu, HI 96817 • Phone: 808-845-3238 • Fax: 808-845-8300 • URL: hilecet.org

TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET PETER H. M. LEE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2014
TIME: 2:45 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1633, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS MCKELVY, CHAIR; DEREK KAWAKAMI, VICE CHAIR; AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Peter H. M. Lee, and I am the Construction Compliance Officer of Hawaii Laborer-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust (LECET). Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368, and its unionized contractors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of House Bill No. 1633, which modifies the composition of the Hawaii state building code council and requires the council to report annually to the governor on its activities. It also allows for the staggering of the code adoption time frame; defines and clarifies terminology; and requires that the Hawaii state building codes do not conflict with the laws governing building contractors. Lastly, it appropriates funds for FY 2014-2015 for the operations of the council.

The State Building Code Council (SBCC) was created in 2007 to review and adopt comprehensive suites of national building codes and standards for the State of Hawaii. This unfunded group has been meeting monthly but its effectiveness has been hampered without a dedicated staff to create of Admin Rules. In addition, the current makeup of the council does not include any stakeholders from the construction industry...this measure will fix this oversight. Lastly, we would like to add an amendment to this measure that will bring it in line with SB 2581...which is to restore the proposed strike out on page 6, lines 7 to 9.

The council shall review and adopt, as appropriate, new model building codes within eighteen months of the official publication date.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of House Bill No. 1633 with our amendment.

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
Email: info@gcahawaii.org
Website: www.gcahawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

February 10, 2014

TO: HONORABLE ANGUS MCKELVEY, CHAIR, HONORABLE DEREK KAWAKAMI, VICE CHAIR AND COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF H.B. 1633, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE.**
Modifies the composition of the Hawaii state building code council. Requires the council to report annually to the governor on its activities. Allows for the staggering of the code adoption time frame. Defines and clarifies terminology. Requires that the Hawaii state building codes do not conflict with the laws governing building contractors. Appropriates funds for FY 2014-2015 for the operations of the council.

HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 10, 2014
TIME: 2:45 p.m.
PLACE: Capitol Room 325

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kawakami and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of approximately six hundred (600) general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

GCA is in **support** of H.B. 1633, Relating to the State Building Code, which proposes, among other things, to modify the composition, quorum and duties of the Code Council, clarifies the code adoption process and ensures there are no conflicts with Chapter 444, HRS. Particularly, the measure proposes to amend the membership of the Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC) to increase the representation of members of the construction industry and also proposes an appropriation to assist with the administration of the SBCC.

In 2007, the Senate Ways and Means committee recognized the importance of the formation of the State Building Code Council when it said,

[t]he adoption of a uniform set of statewide building codes applicable to one and two family dwellings, all other residential uses, commercial and industrial buildings, and state buildings would make it possible for building owners, designers, contractors, and code enforcers within the State to apply a consistent standard. The health and safety considerations

related to the codes are of statewide interest, especially relating to emergency disaster preparedness. Hawaii State Legislature. S. Comm. Rpt. 784, March 2, 2007.

Last session the Senate Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Ways and Means recognized the importance of the construction industry's involvement in the State Building Code Council in the Standing Committee Report of H.B. 763, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2013) when it said,

[y]our committees find that representatives from the construction industry should be included on the Council because they will provide valuable input regarding the impacts of code changes on construction projects, costs, and whether materials to meet the new requirements are available in Hawaii. Hawaii State Legislature. S. Comm. Rpt. 1311, April 5, 2013.

The GCA believes that by involving the building industry technical experts on the SBCC, it will expedite the implementation of the codes once they are approved because the people who actually have to construct with the new codes would have been involved in the entire adoption process and are able to bring up any constructability issues from the start. Thus, by adding the builders onto the council, these constructability issues can be addressed while the codes are still being discussed. GCA members have been actively participating on the State Building Code Council and recognize its importance in bringing private industry and government entities together to discuss uniform building codes and regulations, especially if any conflicts may arise.

GCA remains willing to participate on the Hawaii State Building Code Council and requests that an appropriation be allowed in this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to support this measure.

BIA-HAWAII

BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

2014 Officers

President

Brian K. Adachi
BKA Builders, Inc.

President-Elect

Richard Hobson, Jr.
Gentry Homes, Ltd.

Vice President

Craig Washofsky
Servco Home & Appliance Distribution

Treasurer

Guy J. Shindo
First Hawaiian Bank

Secretary

Evan Fujimoto
Graham Builders, Inc.

Special Appointee-Builder

Paul D. Silen
Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co., Inc.

Special Appointee-Builder

Mark Kennedy
HASEKO Construction Management
Group, Inc.

Special Appointee-Associate

Dean Uchida
SSFM International, Inc.

Immediate Past President

Greg Thielen
Complete Construction Services Corp.

Chief Executive Officer

Karen T. Nakamura
BIA-Hawaii

2014 Directors

Anthony Borge

RMA Sales

Carleton Ching

Castle & Cooke Hawaii, Inc.

Chris Cheung

CC Engineering & Construction, Inc.

Clifton Crawford

C&J Contracting, Inc.

Eric Bass

D.R. Horton, Schuler Division

Gary T. Okimoto

Honolulu Wood Treating

Lili Shintani

Alan Shintani, Inc.

Mark Hertel

Inter-Island Solar Supply, Oahu-Maui-
Hawaii-Kauai

Marshall Hickox

Homeworks Construction, Inc.

Michael Watanabe

JW, Inc.

Ryan Engle

Bays Lung Rose & Holma

Stephen Hanson

simplicityHR by ALTRES

Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Monday, February 10, 2014

2:45 P.M.

State Capitol - Room 325

SUBJECT: H.B. 1633, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kawakami, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). BIA-Hawaii is the voice of the construction industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit, professional trade organization chartered in 1955, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii strongly supports H.B. 1633, with an amendment.

We request this Committee **restore the proposed strike out** on page 6, lines 7 to 9.

[(e) The council shall review and adopt, as appropriate, new model building codes within eighteen months of the official publication date.]

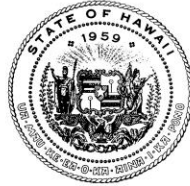
This will align H.B. 1633 with S.B. 2581, which just passed out of committee in the Senate, and is the version that has been worked on and agreed to by all current voting members of the State Building Code Council (SBCC).

Since its creation in 2007, the SBCC has been operating with no funding. \$250,000 was originally appropriated but was never released. The role of the SBCC is significant to the public health and safety of Hawaii's residents, as well as to provide a forum for all stakeholders to review national codes and discuss and approve those provisions that benefit, and are appropriate for, Hawaii. Funding is critical for the continuance of the SBCC.

H.B. 1633 also reconfigures the composition of the voting members of the SBCC by adding representatives from the construction industry. According to the International Code Council, at least 45 state building code councils nationwide include representation from the construction industry. The construction industry would offer real guidance on what practically works and what does not, as well as input on the cost of code changes, which can have a tremendous impact on the cost of construction. BIA-Hawaii would never compromise the protection of the public's health and safety in code adoption, but we also believe a cost-benefit analysis should have a place in new codes being adopted.

BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** H.B. 1633 and urges your favorable approval.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you our views.



LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE
AND FINANCE**

H.B. 1633, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE

**Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Deputy Director, Environmental Health Administration**

**February 10, 2014
2:45 pm**

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (Department) strongly supports this measure.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The Department supports the removal of the member representing
4 the Department of Health from the state building code council. The majority of the topics that are
5 discussed in the state building code council meetings do not require the Department's participation.

6 However, the Department is committed to supporting the state building code council and will
7 remain as advisors by participating in relevant subcommittees to prevent conflicts with our State
8 regulated programs.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

10

11

12



Testimony of Glenn Ida
Representing
The Plumbers and Fitters United Association, Local 675
1109 Bethel St. Lower Level
Honolulu, Hi. 96813

Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Rep. Angus McKlvey, Chair
Rep. Nicole Lowen, Vice-Chair
Monday, 2-10-2014
2:45 PM, Room 325

Re: Opposition of HB1633, Relating to the State Building Codes Council

Aloha Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee,

My name is Glenn Ida representing the 2000 active members and retirees of the Plumbers and Fitters UA, Local 675. Local 675 is an affiliate of the Hawaii Building and Construction Trades Council.

Local 675 opposes. HB1633 on the update process for state building codes, because it could be delayed by up to six years, creating a significant lag time between building code updates. Most states update their building codes every three years to ensure that the most up-to-date safety practices, innovations and other practical advances in construction are built into homes, Offices, schools and government buildings.

Hawaii's Building Code Council approved the adoption of the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) in February 2012, but to date only Kauai County has implemented this update. Under the language in this bill, it is not clear whether the state of Hawaii could even consider not updating the state building code again until 2018 edition. What will happen to the Licensed Crafts when it comes time for renewal? The UPC, UMC are published by IATMO every three years what test will they take if the codes are staggard by six years?

This Bill removes the current statute's reference to the "latest edition" of these important codes, which calls into question whether more recent codes would be considered at all.

Therefore Local 675 Opposes HB1633.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Glenn Ida
808-295-1280



HAWAII CHAPTER
U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

LATE

February 6, 2014

House Committee on Consumer Protections & Commerce

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1633 by USGBC—Hawaii Chapter

Dear Chair McKelvey,

The US Green Building Council Hawaii Chapter **strongly supports** HB1633. We believe responsible and sustainable building practices come with the implementation of the latest model codes such as the International Green Construction Code (IgCC). The USGBC Hawaii Chapter is committed to working with the State Building Code Council (SBCC) to acknowledge the need for implementing codes and standards that promote sustainable construction in the islands.

Since its creation in 2007, the SBCC has been operating with no funding. \$250,000 was originally appropriated but was never released. The role of the SBCC is significant to the public health and safety of Hawaii's residents, as well as to provide a forum for all stakeholders to review national codes such as the IgCC and discuss and approve those provisions that benefit, and are appropriate for, Hawaii. Funding is critical for the continuance of the SBCC. Therefore, the USGBC strongly supports HB1633 and urges it's passage out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sherman Wong".

Sherman Wong
Chairman, Advocacy Committee
USGBC Hawaii Chapter

LATE



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dir.director@hawaii.gov

February 10, 2014

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection
and Commerce
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 320
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

Subject: H.B. 1633 Relating to the State Building Code

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support H.B. 1633, which proposes to clarify terminology, modify the composition of the Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC), allow staggering of code adoptions, and provide funding for staff and operating expenses of the SBCC.

However, we recommend that the deletion on page 6, lines 7-9, item (c) be removed. This is needed in order to keep the timely review and adoption of new model building codes current and justify the request for staff and operating expenses appropriation.

The SFC has been a voting member of the SBCC since its inception in 2007. The SBCC is administratively attached to the State Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), whose duties include establishing a comprehensive set of current national codes and standards for design and construction. Previous to its creation, each county adopted their ordinances that required codes and standards for its jurisdiction. Consequently, each county had different editions of the building codes that created challenges for designers and builders.

The SBCC seeks to create a more comprehensive composition of voting members to benefit the integrity of the code adoption process. An executive director and assistant are needed to oversee and facilitate the work of the SBCC to effectuate outcomes and

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair
Page 2
February 10, 2014

maintain the administrative rule-making process with provisions for public input. Funding would be administered through the DAGS to eliminate the impact to their staff and resources. A staggered code adoption process allows the SBCC flexibility and enough time to thoroughly review the model codes prior to their adoption should the SBCC determine that the model code differences between editions are nonsubstantive. Adding that adopted provisions shall not conflict with Chapter 444, Hawaii Revised Statutes, ensures that the focus will be strictly on codes and safety.

The SBCC supports adding building industry representatives to provide expertise on industry practices and the practicality and cost effectiveness of the proposed codes. The addition of a representative from the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism would provide expertise on industry development, economic diversification, energy efficiency, and conservation. Eliminating a representative from the Department of Health (DOH) will keep the SBCC membership to a manageable level, although input from the DOH can still be requested.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's passage of H.B. 1633 with the recommended revision.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. P. Neves', with a stylized flourish at the end.

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

MPN/LR:clc