

# HB 369, HD3, SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO FIRE SAFETY.

Report Title: Residential Kitchen Fire Task Force

Description: Establishes a Residential Kitchen Fire Task Force to develop plans to address the dangers of residential kitchen fires. Report to the 2014 Legislature. Effective July 1, 2050. (SD1)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: PSM, CPN

Introducer(s): YAMANE, AQUINO, CULLEN, ING, MCKELVEY



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310  
P.O. Box 541  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809  
Phone Number: 586-2850  
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[www.hawaii.gov/dcca](http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca)

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
Regular Session of 2013

Thursday, March 28, 2013  
9:30 a.m.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 369, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO FIRE SAFETY.**

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE:

My name is Gordon Ito, State Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”),  
testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
(“Department”). The Department supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to establish a residential kitchen fire task force (“Task  
Force”) to research and develop plans to address the dangers of residential kitchen  
fires.

The Department welcomes the opportunity to participate on the Task Force.  
We thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



DWIGHT TAKAMINE  
DIRECTOR

AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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March 25, 2013

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker:

Subject: H.B. 369 H.D. 3, S.D. 1 Relating to Fire Safety

I am Robert Westerman, Vice Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD support H.B. 369, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, which seeks to establish a residential kitchen fire task force to evaluate current and past fire incident data relating to residential kitchen fires in the state of Hawaii, identify possible incentives for voluntary installation of pre-mitigation systems as risk reduction measures, and review current regulations and licensing requirements for the installation of residential kitchen fire suppression systems.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking equipment-related fires are the leading cause of fire loss. During the five-year period of 2006-2010, cooking equipment was involved in 157,300 reported home structure fires, resulting in 380 civilian deaths, 4,920 civilian injuries, and \$794,000,000 in direct property damage per year. The Honolulu Fire Department reports for 2011, 45.24% of the residential structure fires were cooking fires with a total loss of \$842,755.00.

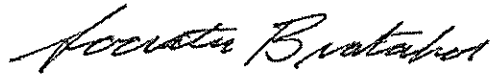
This bill seeks to establish a residential kitchen fire task force that will bring together major stakeholders in evaluating the issues and concerns relating to residential kitchen fire safety. It will seek to identify costs, possible incentives, and requirements to nationally recognized standards.

The SFC and the KFD urge your committee's support on the passage of H.B. 369, H.D. 3, S.D. 1.

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
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March 25, 2013

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



ROBERT WESTERMAN  
Vice Chair

RW/LR:cc



**HAWAII FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**  
636 South Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007  
Phone: (808) 723-7102 • Fax: (808) 723-7111

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

March 27, 2013

Dear Senator Baker,

On behalf of the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association I would like to request your support and passage of House Bill 369(HD3, SD1) relating to the establishment of a Kitchen Fire Task Force.

The Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association (HFCA) is a registered 501 (C) 3, non-profit corporation and professional association. The HFCA is an affiliate member organization of the Western Fire Chiefs Association (WFCA) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). Our Executive Board, Board of Directors, and membership are comprised of chief officers and members of every fire service organization in the State of Hawaii inclusive of County, State, Federal, and private industry fire protection departments and organizations. The primary mission and focus of the HFCA is the support of training, education, professional development, and advocacy for the fire service locally and abroad. As such, our engagement in the legislative process is to assist with the raising of awareness with fire safety issues and to support measures that will improve and enhance the safety of our community and the first responders.

As proposed, HB 369 will provide for the establishment of a Kitchen Fire Task Force to study and evaluate the impact of residential kitchen fires and the consideration of possible incentives for the voluntary installation of pre-mitigation devices. Currently there appears to be significant data to reflect that residential kitchen fires account for a large portion of the overall fire incidents, damages, and losses in the State of Hawaii. Through the establishment of the Kitchen Fire Task Force, this issue and impact may be further measured and qualified along with the benefit of incentives for the voluntary installation of pre-mitigation or early suppression devices such as sprinklers or hood systems. Therefore the HFCA respectfully requests your support and passage of HB 369(HD3, SD1) as written.

In closing I would like to thank you and the committee members for your support of Hawaii's fire and emergency service organizations and extend to you the commitment of the HFCA to work together to promote and insure the safety and welfare of our communities and first responders.

Sincerely,  
  
Darryl Oliveira, President

ALAN M. ARAKAWA  
MAYOR



JEFFREY A. MURRAY  
CHIEF

ROBERT M. SHIMADA  
DEPUTY CHIEF

**COUNTY OF MAUI**  
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732  
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March 25, 2013

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker:

Subject: H.B. 369 H.D. 3, S.D. 1 Relating to Fire Safety

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Fire Chief of the County of Maui, Department of Fire & Public Safety (MFD) and a member of the State Fire Council (SFC). The MFD and the SFC support H.B. 369, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, which seeks to establish a residential kitchen fire task force to evaluate current and past fire incident data relating to residential kitchen fires in the state of Hawaii, identify possible incentives for voluntary installation of pre-mitigation systems as risk reduction measures, and review current regulations and licensing requirements for the installation of residential kitchen fire suppression systems.

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The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
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March 25, 2013

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



JEFFREY A. MURRAY  
Fire Chief

**William P. Kenoi**  
Mayor



**Darren J. Rosario**  
Fire Chief

**Renwick J. Victorino**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**County of Hawai'i**  
**HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

March 27, 2013

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 230  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Baker:

**Subject: H.B. 369 H.D. 3, S.D. 1 Relating to Fire Safety**

I am Darren J. Rosario, Member of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support H.B. 369, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, which seeks to establish a residential kitchen fire task force to evaluate current and past fire incident data relating to residential kitchen fires in the state of Hawai'i, identify possible incentives for voluntary installation of pre-mitigation systems as risk reduction measures, and review current regulations and licensing requirements for the installation of residential kitchen fire suppression systems.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking equipment-related fires are the leading cause of fire loss. During the five-year period of 2006-2010, cooking equipment was involved in 157,300 reported home structure fires, resulting in 380 civilian deaths, 4,920 civilian injuries, and \$794,000,000 in direct property damage per year. The Honolulu Fire Department reports for 2011, 45.24% of the residential structure fires were cooking fires with a total loss of \$842,755.00.

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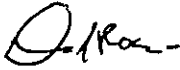


The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
March 27, 2013  
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The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of H.B. 369, H.D. 3, S.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Rosario".

DARREN J. ROSARIO  
Fire Chief, SFC Member