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BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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*"Building Better Communities"*

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2013**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Capitol, Room 229**

**RE: S.B. 1293, Relating to Contractors**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Galuteria, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Director of Government Relations for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), 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, affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii is **opposed** to S.B. 1293, Relating to Contractors, which would require that any person applying for a license as an electrical contractor, pole and line contractor, high voltage electrical contractor, or electronic systems contractor possess a trade license to perform electrical work in the State. These additional guidelines are unnecessary.

Once again, the intent behind this bill is unclear. Contractors are governed under Chapter 444, HRS, and a journey worker is governed under Chapter 448E, HRS, yet the bill seems to assume these licensure requirements are reciprocal. This vagueness will only lead to further confusion and unnecessary regulation of the contractor license application process.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views.



February 26, 2013

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

HAWAII STATE SENATE  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

HEARING: Tuesday, February 26, 2013  
10:00 AM  
Conference Room 229

**Re: CEDIA's opposition to Senate Bill 1293 in its current form**

Dear Senator Baker, Senator Galuteria, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Custom Electronic Design & Installation Association (CEDIA), thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide written testimony opposing Hawaii Senate Bill 1293 in its current form, legislation requiring any person applying for a license as an electrical contractor, pole and line contractor, high voltage electrical contractor, or electronic systems contractor to possess a trade license to perform electrical work in the state.

CEDIA raises concern with the additional layer of regulation Senate Bill 1293 would place on contractors doing business in Hawaii, specifically electronic systems contractors.

CEDIA is the professional trade association representing companies that specialize in planning and installing electronic systems for the home. These systems include residential networking, home automation / communication, media rooms, home theaters, single / multi-room entertainment, and integrated whole-house subsystems providing control over lighting, security, and heating, ventilation & air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

CEDIA represents six member companies who work in the residential electronic systems industry in Hawaii. All of these companies are electronic systems contractors (ESCs), many of which are independent retailers and installers representing a vital part of small business in Hawaii.

Senate Bill 1293 would create an additional licensing requirement to those already in place. Hawaii's licensing requirements for a Journey Worker Specialty Electrician license already addresses the needs of this specialty trade. Senate Bill 1293 would create an additional layer of regulation and add to the challenges already faced by ESCs working in Hawaii, including but not limited to finding qualified technicians to work within the specific trade of electronic systems.

On behalf of CEDIA, thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns on Hawaii Senate Bill 1293 in its current form. CEDIA looks forward to working with members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection and other industry stakeholders on this important issue to Hawaii and the residential electronic systems industry. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darren Reaman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Darren Reaman  
Director of Public Policy  
Custom Electronic Design & Installation Association (CEDIA)  
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