
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Current law relating to submission of building
2 plans for approval to the appropriate county fire chief was
3 enacted more than thirty years ago, based upon circumstances
4 relevant at that time. Building occupancies and classifications
5 have since changed, and each county fire chief's review
6 authority with respect to building plans varies depending upon
7 agreements with their respective building officials.

8 The purpose of this Act is to clarify and update the
9 authority of the county fire chief to review plans and
10 specifications for the construction, alteration, and other
11 installations for buildings or properties, as authorized by the
12 fire code of each county.

13 SECTION 2. Section 132-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "**§132-9 Submission of building plans for approval.**

16 ~~[Before work commences upon the construction of any building of~~
17 ~~the types hereinafter enumerated, or upon an alteration or~~
18 ~~addition to any building, the plans and specifications for the~~



1 ~~work shall be submitted to the county fire chief. Neither the~~
2 ~~person causing the construction, alteration, or addition to be~~
3 ~~made, nor the person's architect or agent, shall authorize,~~
4 ~~order, or permit the work thereon to start and no contractor,~~
5 ~~builder, or other person may start the work, before approval of~~
6 ~~the plans and specifications by the county fire chief.~~

7 ~~The foregoing provisions shall be applicable to buildings,~~
8 ~~the whole or any part of which are being, or intended to be,~~
9 ~~used as:~~

- 10 ~~(1) Hospitals, sanitariums, asylums, children's nurseries,~~
11 ~~and other such institutions;~~
- 12 ~~(2) Hotels, apartment houses, rooming houses, and tenement~~
13 ~~houses; provided that when any such building to be~~
14 ~~constructed or upon which alterations or additions are~~
15 ~~to be made, is only one story high, with living~~
16 ~~accommodations permanently designated and intended for~~
17 ~~less than twenty five persons, this section shall not~~
18 ~~apply;~~
- 19 ~~(3) Schools, churches, auditoriums, halls, gymnasiums,~~
20 ~~dance halls, nightclubs, factories, office buildings,~~
21 ~~stores, and all other such buildings where persons~~
22 ~~work, congregate, or assemble, provided that when any~~



1 ~~such building to be constructed, or upon which~~
2 ~~alterations or additions are to be made, is only one~~
3 ~~story high, and is permanently designated and intended~~
4 ~~for a total accommodation at any one time of less than~~
5 ~~one hundred persons, this section shall not apply.]~~

6 The county fire chief shall be authorized, within the respective
7 chief's county, to require plans, documentation, or both, to
8 demonstrate compliance with the fire code and fire and life
9 safety standards for:

- 10 (1) Construction, alteration, rehabilitation, or addition
11 to any building, structure, or facility;
12 (2) Change in use of buildings or structures; and
13 (3) Installation or alteration of any procedures,
14 equipment, property, or structure for any life safety
15 or fire protection systems.

16 No work shall commence without the necessary permits issued by
17 the jurisdiction having authority.

18 This section shall be applicable to the State and the
19 counties, and other municipal subdivisions, and their officers,
20 as well as to private persons."

21 SECTION 3. This Act shall apply to any building plans
22 submitted for approval after the effective date of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Fire Chiefs; Fire Code; Fire and Life Safety Standards;
Construction

Description:

Authorizes the county fire chiefs to require that various types of construction comply with the fire code and the fire and life safety standards. (HB345 HD1)

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