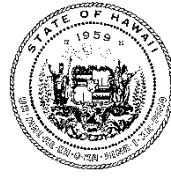


**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR



**DEAN H. SEKI**  
COMPTROLLER  
**MARIA E. ZIELINSKI**  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0119

WRITTEN COMMENTS  
OF  
DEAN H. SEKI, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
ON  
February 19, 2014

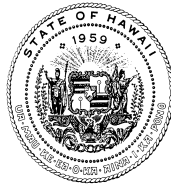
S.B. 2581, S.D. 1

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE

Chair Ige and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on S.B. 2581, S.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, which, among other things, allows the State Building Code Council to stagger the adoption of model building codes and provides for clarifying language. DAGS supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on this matter.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**  
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
<http://labor.hawaii.gov>

February 19, 2014

To: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair,  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2014

Time: 9:05 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

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

**Re: S.B. No. 2581 SD1 Relating to the State Building Code**

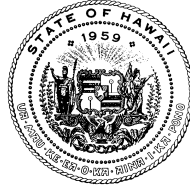
**COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

SB2581 SD1 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 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.



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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON**  
**WAYS AND MEANS**  
**S.B. 2581 SD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE**

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

**February 19, 2014**  
**9:05 a.m.**

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.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041  
DEPT. WEB SITE: [www.honolulu.dpp.org](http://www.honolulu.dpp.org) • CITY WEB SITE: [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



GEORGE I. ATTA, FAICP  
DIRECTOR

ARTHUR D. CHALLACOMBE  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 19, 2014

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on  
Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2581, SD1  
Relating to the State Building Code

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **supports** Senate Bill No. 2581, SD1, which modifies the composition, quorum, and duties of the Hawaii State Building Code Council, as well as other housekeeping language as appropriate. Most importantly, it appropriates funding to the Department of Accounting and General Services for the State Building Code Council to function in its mandated responsibilities.

As we testified before the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing, and Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs on February 3, 2014, the City strongly supports the State Building Code Council's mission to provide for the continued review and adoption of building codes to be used as the standard for building construction in the State of Hawaii, while preserving the home rule rights of the counties. This Council combines the resources of the State and four counties with members of the industry and the public to review and update the codes that regulate the building industry.

In 2009, the State Building Code Council adopted a series of State Building Codes, which provided uniformity in the application of codes throughout the State. Because of the lack of funding, there has been no update since this initial rule adoption. The appropriation contained in the Bill is needed for this effort to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to communicate our strong support of Senate Bill No. 2581, SD1.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George I. Atta".

George I. Atta, FAICP  
Director

GIA: cl  
SB2581SD1-th



**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](http://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  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
Wednesday, February 19, 2014  
9:05 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211  
in consideration of  
**SB 2581, SD1**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, 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.



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

200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732  
(808) 270-7561  
FAX (808) 270-7919  
EMAIL: fire.dept@mauicounty.gov

February 18, 2014

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige:

Subject: S.B. 2581, S.D. 1 Relating to the State Building Code

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the County of Maui, Department of Fire & Public Safety (MFD). The SFC and the MFD support S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, which proposes to clarify terminology, the code adoption process, and the staggering of code adoptions; modify the composition, quorum, and duties of the Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC); ensure laws governing building contractors do not conflict with Chapter 107, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS); and provide funding for SBCC staff and operating expenses.

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. Subsequent to its creation, each county adopted 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 and 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.

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
Page 2  
February 18, 2014

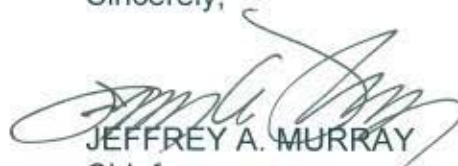
A staggered code adoption process would allow the SBCC to thoroughly review the model codes prior to its adoption and allow flexibility should the SBCC determine that the model code differences between editions are nonsubstantive. Adding that the adopted provisions shall not conflict with Chapter 444, HRS, will ensure that the focus will be strictly on codes and safety.

The SBCC supports adding building industry representatives to provide their 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 may still be requested.

The SFC and the MFD urge your committee's passage of S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, to meet its statutory responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



JEFFREY A. MURRAY  
Chief

**Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.**  
Mayor



**Robert F. Westerman**  
Fire Chief

**Nadine K. Nakamura**  
Managing Director

**John T. Blalock**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i**  
4444 Rice Street, Suite 315, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766  
TEL (808) 241-4980 FAX (808) 241-6508

February 18, 2014

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige:

**Subject: S.B. 2581, S.D. 1 Relating to the State Building Code**

I am Robert F. Westerman, Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD) and Vice Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC). The KFD and the SFC support S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, which proposes to clarify terminology, the code adoption process, and the staggering of code adoptions; modify the composition, quorum, and duties of the Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC); ensure laws governing building contractors do not conflict with Chapter 107, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS); and provide funding for SBCC staff and operating expenses.

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. Subsequent to its creation, each county adopted 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 and 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.



The Honorable David Ige, Chair

Page 2

February 18, 2014

A staggered code adoption process would allow the SBCC to thoroughly review the model codes prior to its adoption and allow flexibility should the SBCC determine that the model code differences between editions are non-substantive. Adding that the adopted provisions shall not conflict with Chapter 444, HRS, will ensure that the focus will be strictly on codes and safety.

The SBCC supports adding building industry representatives to provide their 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 may still be requested.

The KFD and the SFC urge your committee's passage of S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, to meet its statutory responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner.

Please call me at (808) 241-4975 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Westerman  
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

RFW/eld



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.hawaii.gov/labor](http://www.hawaii.gov/labor)  
Phone: (808) 586-8642 / Fax: (808) 586-9099  
Email: [dlir.director@hawaii.gov](mailto:dlir.director@hawaii.gov)

February 18, 2014

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige:

Subject: S.B. 2581, S.D. 1 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 S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, which proposes to clarify terminology, the code adoption process, and the staggering of code adoptions; modify the composition, quorum, and duties of the Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC); ensure laws governing building contractors do not conflict with Chapter 107, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS); and provide funding for SBCC staff and operating expenses.

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. Subsequent to its creation, each county adopted 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 and 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.

The Honorable David Ige, Chair  
Page 2  
February 18, 2014

A staggered code adoption process would allow the SBCC to thoroughly review the model codes prior to its adoption and allow flexibility should the SBCC determine that the model code differences between editions are nonsubstantive. Adding that the adopted provisions shall not conflict with Chapter 444, HRS, ensures that the focus will be strictly on codes and safety.

The SBCC supports adding building industry representatives to provide their 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 may still be requested.

The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's passage of S.B. 2581, S.D. 1, to meet its statutory responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair

MPN/LR:clc

1065 Ahua Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167  
Email: [info@gcawhawaii.org](mailto:info@gcawhawaii.org)  
Website: [www.gcawhawaii.org](http://www.gcawhawaii.org)



# GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

February 19, 2014

TO: HONORABLE DAVID IGE, CHAIR, HONORABLE MICHELLE KIDANI,  
VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS  
AND MEANS

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF S.B. 2581, SD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE.** Modifies the composition, quorum, and duties of the Hawaii State Building Code Council and revises the state building code, including clarifying terminology, the code adoption process, and the staggering of code adoptions. Ensures laws governing building contractors do not conflict with chapter 107, HRS. Appropriates funds to department of accounting and general services for council's operating costs, including staff salaries.

Decision Making

DATE: Wednesday, February 19, 2014  
TIME: 9:05 a.m.  
PLACE: Capitol Room 211

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani 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 S.B. 2581, SD1, 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 a viable appropriation be highly considered 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 Thielens**  
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 Senate Committees on Ways and Means

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

9:05 a.m.

State Capitol - Room 211

### SUBJECT: S.B. 2581 S.D. 1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE

Dear Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, 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 S.B. 2581 S.D.1. S.B. 2581 S.D. 1** 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.

S.B. 2581 S.D.1 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 25 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. We believe a cost-benefit analysis should have a place in new codes being adopted.

BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** S.B. 2581 S.D. 1, and urges your favorable approval.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you our views.



February 17, 2014

Senator David Ige, Chair, Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair and Committee Members  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: ICC Supports Passage of SB 2581 SD1

Dear Chair, Vice Chair 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 codes which have produced great benefits for the state.

ICC strongly supports and urges passage of SB 2581 SD1 because an adequately funded SBCC will allow the good work of the SBCC and the participating stakeholders to continue and 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 "Craig Stevenson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kraig Stevenson, CBO  
ICC Government Relations  
[kstevenson@iccsafe.org](mailto:kstevenson@iccsafe.org)  
562-201-9209

# Architectural Diagnostics Ltd.

Building Diagnostics · Failure Analysis · Remedial Architecture · Architecture

17 February 2014

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Honorable Senators David Y. Ige, Chair, Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair, and Members Suzanne Chun Oakland, Donovan M. Dela Cruz, J. Kalani English, Will Espero, Gilbert Kahele, Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Ronald D. Kouchi, Russell E. Ruderman, Laura H. Thielan, Jill N. Tokuda, Sam Slom

**SUBJECT: SB 2581**

Dear Chairman Ige And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

**I urge you to support SB 2581.**

I have been a practicing architect in Hawaii since 1970. I am also a member of the State Building Code Council, representing the Honolulu American Institute of Architects and a past president of that organization.

Senate Bill 2581 was drafted with input from the members of the State Building Code Council (the Council) to address several concerns:

1. To add representatives of the contractors and subcontractors to the Council.
2. To allow the adoption of staggered editions of the nationally recognized building codes.
3. To clarify certain terminology.
4. To provide funds to enable the Council to operate effectively.

The Building Code Council was established in 2007 to bring the building codes of all four counties into general consistency with one another and to review and adopt nationally recognized building codes while allowing each county the flexibility to deal with its unique conditions. The Council includes representatives of the four county building departments and of Hawaii's design professions.

The building codes adopted by each of Hawaii's counties are based on model codes drafted by the International Code Council (ICC), which revises its model codes every three years. While each new edition includes new issues, not all of the issues addressed are of concern for Hawaii and not all need to be addressed immediately. In order to minimize the number of changes to the code while addressing important new concerns as they are needed, the Council reviews the proposed changes by the ICC, discusses the potential impact with Hawaii's architects, engineers, contractors and subcontractors, and recommends changes to the counties.

This takes a great deal of work and requires a great deal of coordination with the various members of the construction industry. The contractors and subcontractors have been informal members of the Council since the beginning, providing their input into the initial stages of the discussions. Bringing them formally onto the Council is only common sense. Providing funds to hire a small staff to help with the paperwork and coordination is essential.

SB2581 has been developed with the input of all components of the construction industry and represents a good compromise to the various problems facing the Council. I urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Reinhardt  
Hawaii State Building Code Council Member

14.02.17-SB2581