

LATE TESTIMONY

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

EGH/PSM
2:50 pm

February 3, 2014

Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee Economic Development, government Operations & Housing

Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Senate Committee Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

Re: **Senate Bill 2581**
Relating to the State Building Code

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Espero 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 SB 2581.

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 supports statutory modifications detailed in Senate Bill 2581

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 proposed revisions detailed in the bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to **STRONGLY SUPPORT** SB 2581.

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2581
A BILL RELATING TO STATE BUILDING CODE

PRESENTATION TO
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND
THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING

BY

DOUG MAYNE
VICE DIRECTOR OF STATE CIVIL DEFENSE
February 3, 2014

Chair Espero, Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing.

I am Doug Mayne, the Vice Director of State Civil Defense. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 2581.

Modern building codes are necessary to protect the Hawaii ohana by providing safer places for people during earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes.

This bill will strengthen the building code council by:

- Adding members from the State Energy Office, the building industry or general contractors' associations and the subcontractors' association.
- Provide funding so the building code council can continue its work in ensuring Hawaii's building codes support survivability and resilience during disasters. Without this funding, there is no mechanism for the council to update the codes and conduct research and rule making. It is most critical for our future safety and resilience to fund the needs of the council.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB 2581.



LATE

January 31, 2014

To: The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing

From: Tim Shestek
Senior Director, State Affairs

RE: **SB 2581 – OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose SB 2581, 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 SB 2581, 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, SB 2581 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 life¹. Hawaii homeowners would fail to realize these significant energy 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 SB 2581. Thank you in advance for considering our views. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or ACC's Hawaii based representatives Red Morris and/or John Radcliffe at 808-531-4551.

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>



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2014 11:25 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: tony@rmasalesco.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2581 on Feb 3, 2014 14:50PM

LATE

SB2581

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for PSM/EGH on Feb 3, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony B. Borge	RMA Sales	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chairs Espero and Dela Cruz, Vice-Chairs Baker and Slom, and members of the committees We strongly support S.B. 2581 that would provide for an operating budget for the State Building Codes Council as well reconfigure the board by including a representative from the construction industry. A member from the construction industry will add a practical, cost benefit perspective as to the code changes being considered that ultimately impacts the cost of construction. Thank you. Respectfully Submitted by: Anthony Borge

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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