

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
WATER AND LAND  
ON  
FEBRUARY 5, 2016

H.B. 2051

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Chair Yamane and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 2051. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of H.B. 2051.

We support the intent of this measure as the State Building Code Council (the Council) requires dedicated administrative support to achieve its objectives provided the appropriation of any general funds does not have a negative impact on the administration's executive supplemental budget and initiatives submitted for fiscal year 2017. The Council currently has no funding and administrative support is provided by volunteers.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK  
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
**STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

February 3, 2016

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
The House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 2051 Relating to the State Building Code Council (SBCC)

I am Socrates Bratakos, Chair of the SBCC, Administrator of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Assistant Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC has been a voting member of the SBCC since its formation in 2007. The SBCC, SFC and the HFD strongly support HB 2051.

The SBCC, which is administratively attached to the State of Hawaii's Department of Accounting and General Services, is comprised of subject matter experts, government agencies, and construction industry representatives with the authority to establish a comprehensive suite of codes applicable to all building construction in the State of Hawaii in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes § 107-24. The National, model codes and standards, which are updated every three years, establish minimum requirements to protect life, property, and the general welfare of our citizens for the built environment. The SBCC is responsible to establish statewide, uniform building standards for the following:

1. State Fire Code
2. State Plumbing Code
3. State Building Code
4. State Residential Code
5. State Electrical Code
6. Energy Efficiency and Conservation

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Page 2  
February 3, 2016

7. Additional codes and standards include, but are not limited to, elevators, mechanical systems, hurricane, flood and tsunami, existing buildings, and onsite sewage disposal.

The currently adopted State building, residential, electrical, plumbing and energy efficiency codes are in excess of 9 years from national standards. This negates the dedicated efforts of 11 unpaid volunteers who have individually expended hundreds of hours over the past 8 years. Since its inception in 2007, there has been no funding for the SBCC, which is needed for support staff or contracted services and related rule adoption expenses.

There are approximately 60,000 Hawaii homeowner flood insurance policies that could be jeopardized by the State failing to stay in compliance with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Moreover, the Federal Emergency Management Agency is not obligated to provide disaster assistance funds to any state that is not in compliance with the NFIP requirements, nor make available any disaster mitigation grants. Also, private insurance and re-insurance companies consider the building codes adopted by the state in determining natural hazard risks and insurance rate structures.

We anticipate the annual operating costs of the SBCC to be between \$100,000 and \$150,000 and we strongly urge your committees' support and passage of HB 2051.

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

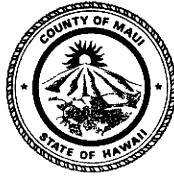
Sincerely,



SOCRATES BRATAKOS  
Chair, State Building Code Council

SB/EYS:clc

**ALAN M ARAKAWA**  
**MAYOR**



**JEFFREY MURRAY**  
**FIRE CHIEF**

**ROBERT SHIMADA**  
**DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF**

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

200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, HI 96732  
(808) 270-7561  
Fax (808) 270-7919

February 3, 2016

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Committee on Water and Land  
The House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
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The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair

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February 3, 2016

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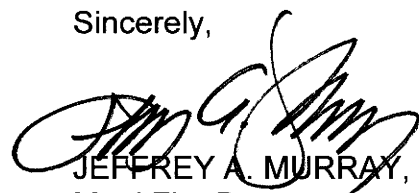
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We anticipate the annual operating costs of the SBCC to be between \$100,000 and \$150,000 and we strongly urge your committees' support and passage of HB 2051.

Should you have questions, please contact my office at (808) 270-7561 or by email at [fire.dept@mauicounty.gov](mailto:fire.dept@mauicounty.gov).

Sincerely,



JEFFREY A. MURRAY, Chief  
Maui Fire Department

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



**Robert F. Westerman**  
Fire Chief

**Nadine K. Nakamura**  
Managing Director

**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 3, 2016

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Water and Land  
The House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane:

**Subject: House Bill (HB) 2051 Relating to the State Building Code Council (SBCC)**

I am Robert F. Westerman, Vice-Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC has been a voting member of the SBCC since its formation in 2007. The SBCC, SFC and the KFD strongly support HB 2051.

The SBCC, which is administratively attached to the State of Hawaii's Department of Accounting and General Services, is comprised of subject matter experts, government agencies, and construction industry representatives with the authority to establish a comprehensive suite of codes applicable to all building construction in the State of Hawaii in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes § 107-24. The National, model codes and standards, which are updated every three years, establish minimum requirements to protect life, property, and the general welfare of our citizens for the built environment. The SBCC is responsible to establish statewide, uniform building standards for the following:

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The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair

Page 2

February 3, 2016

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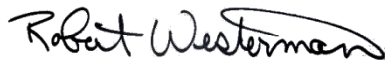
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We anticipate the annual operating costs of the SBCC to be between \$100,000 and \$150,000 and we strongly urge your committees' support and passage of HB 2051.

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

# ***SAH - Subcontractors Association of Hawaii***

***1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003\*\*Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2938***

***Phone: (808) 537-5619 ✦ Fax: (808) 533-2739***

February 5, 2016

Testimony To: House Committee on Water & Land  
Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, President

Subject: H.B. 2051 - RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, President of the Subcontractors Association of Hawaii and we support this bill. The SAH represents the following nine separate and distinct contracting trade organizations.

HAWAII FLOORING ASSOCIATION

ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

HAWAII WALL AND CEILING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

TILE CONTRACTORS PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

SHEETMETAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

PAINTING AND DECORATING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

PACIFIC INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



The State Building Code Council performs a very valuable function in trying to harmonize the various code requirements as found in the building code. While it has had plenty of enthusiasm to do so, it has had virtually no resources to do so. In consideration of the importance and the purpose of the building code in making structures safe for human habitation, we think that giving the Council the appropriate resources is very necessary and essential.

Based on the above we highly recommend passage of this bill.

Thank you.



# HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 • (808) 84LECET (845-3238) • Fax: (808) 845-8300

February 4, 2016

## TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET CLYDE T. HAYASHI – DIRECTOR

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

### COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

### TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2051, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.

TO THE HONORABLE RYAN YAMANE, CHAIR, REPRESENTATIVE TY CULLEN, VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Clyde T. Hayashi, and I am the Director of Hawaii LECET. Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368, and its unionized contractors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of House Bill No. 2051.

The State Building Code Council works to establish current state codes through the adaption of national building codes, such as the International Building Code, and the Uniform Plumbing Code, to name a few. In addition, the Council consults with general building contractor associations and building trade associations to work together to adopt state model building codes.

It is imperative that these codes be kept current to meet international and national building code standards to ensure that buildings in Hawaii are safe and meet the necessary construction requirements and specifications. House Bill No. 2051 would appropriate much needed funds to provide staff to assist and support the Council in this important work. For these reasons, we strongly **support House Bill No. 2051.**

# BIA-HAWAII

**BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION**

THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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SERVCO HOME & APPLIANCE  
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## Testimony to the House Committee on Water & Land The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice-Chair Members of the Committee Friday, February 5, 2016

**LATE**

### **RE: H.B. 2051, Relating to the State Building Code Council**

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Chief Executive Officer 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, and affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** H.B. 2051, which provides an appropriation to the State Building Code Council (SBCC). We support the need to provide this body with the staff and resources to effectively review and implement revisions to the building codes for all of the counties.

Since building codes benefit the entire state population, utilizing general funds is the only appropriate way the SBCC should be funded.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

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



**GCA of Hawaii**  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII  
Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

February 5, 2016

**LATE**

TO: HONORABLE RYAN YAMANE, CHAIR, HONORABLE TY CULLEN, VICE CHAIR, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF H.B. 2051, RELATING TO STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.**  
Appropriates money to the state building code council.

**SUPPORT OF H.B. 2191, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.** Makes an appropriation to fund the State Building Code Council's administrative expenses. Requires the Council to develop plans and strategies to secure long-term dedicated funding for Council operations. Appropriates funds.

HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016  
TIME: 8:30 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Cullen and Members,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over five hundred seventy general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. 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 **supports** H.B. 2051, Relating to State Building Code & H.B. 2191, Relating to Public Safety, which both propose to fund the State Building Code Council, whom since its inception has not been funded. Yet, the members of the State Building Code Council continue to meet monthly and engage industry stakeholders and government agencies who are interested in addressing model building codes that govern how both public and private buildings are constructed.

In 2007, this body recognized its importance and memorialized such in a Committee report 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.

In order for the State Building Code Council to deliver on the adoption of uniform building codes -- it is imperative if they have administrative support to successfully complete their duties.

The GCA appreciates the Committee hearing this measure and thank you for the opportunity to share our support of this measure.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016



COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND  
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 05, 2016  
TIME: 8:30 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**RE: BILL NO. HB2051 RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL**

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the House Water and Land Committee:

My name is Gino Soquena, and I am the Government and Community Relations Director for The Laborers' International Union of North America Local 368 which represents almost 5,000 members throughout the State of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of Bill No. 2051 which would appropriate money to fund the State Building Code Council.

The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 has long supported efforts to conserve our most precious resource which is water. Over the last 2 years the Laborers Union Local 368 has hosted quarterly Non Potable Water Workshops which focuses on conserving water by recycling "grey" water. The workshop participants agreed to making funding the State Building Code Council a priority this legislative session because the State Building Code Council is the entity that adopts plumbing codes along with electrical codes, fire codes and building codes essential to achieving it's goals of water conservation.

Additionally, in the 2014 legislative session, Act 164 was passed with language appropriating money to fund the State Building Code Council but those moneys were never released and the State Building Code Council currently still remains unfunded.

For these reasons, The Laborers' Union Local 368 respectfully requests your favorable consideration for the passage of Bill No. 2051. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eugene "Gino" Soquena  
Government & Community Relations Director  
Laborers' International Union of North America Local 368