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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 12:52 PM
To: CPCtestimony
Cc: ccarper@honolulu.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB637 on Feb 14, 2017 14:00PM

HB637

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for CPC on Feb 14, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol-Louise Carper	State Fire Council	Comments Only	No

Comments: The SFC and the HFD offer the following comments on HB 637, which proposes to expedite the review, update, and adoption of the most current Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) through amendments to the state building codes. The bill requires that the State Building Code Council (SBCC) review and adopt amendments to the UPC within one year after it is published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. Presently, the 2006 UPC is the adopted state plumbing code. Although the amendments to the 2012 UPC have been completed, funds have never been appropriated to the SBCC for staff to guide the UPC amendments through the administrative rule process and provide notice of public hearings. As a result, only the fire, energy, and elevator codes are on the most current edition, as they have dedicated staff in other state departments to accomplish this task. We hope this bill sheds light on the need for the state to fund the SBCC so all buildings codes can be updated to the most current edition.

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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LATE

February 13, 2017

The Honorable Angus McKelvey, Chair
Committee on Consumer Protection
and Commerce
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 320
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 637, House Draft (HD) 1 Relating to the State Building Codes

I am Robert F. Westerman, Vice-Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD offer the following comments on HB 637, HD 1, which proposes to expedite the review, update, and adoption of the most current Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) through amendments to the state building codes.

The bill requires that the State Building Code Council (SBCC) review and adopt amendments to the UPC within one year after it is published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

Presently, the 2006 UPC is the adopted state plumbing code. Although the amendments to the 2012 UPC have been completed, funds have never been appropriated to the SBCC for staff to guide the UPC amendments through the administrative rule process and provide notice of public hearings. As a result, only the fire, energy, and elevator codes are on the most current edition, as they have dedicated staff in other state departments to accomplish this task.

We hope this bill sheds light on the need for the state to fund the SBCC so all building codes can be updated to the most current edition.

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

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LATE

Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
2:00 pm
Conference Room 329

RE: HB 637 HD1 – Relating to State Building Codes

Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Ichiyama, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladys Quinto Marrone, CEO of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii.

S.B. 634 HD1, Relating to State Building Codes, would require the State Building Code Council to adopt provisions of an updated Uniform Plumbing Code within one year after it is published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. The bill would also require the various county councils to act within one year of the updated uniform plumbing code is adopted by the State Building Code Council. Current statutes allow the Council to review and adopt any changes as appropriate to new model building codes within eighteen months of publication by the various associations that review and adopt model codes.

BIA-Hawaii is opposed to the passage of this measure, as it will require the State Building Code Council (SBCC) to give preference to adoption of plumbing and water code amendments over any other pending reviews of other model codes. The SBCC has no staff or funding, and meets infrequently. The current review process of eighteen months is already short, given the number and complexity of codes that the SBCC reviews and adopts. Also, the SBCC has no staff or funding, and meets infrequently.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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Website: www.gcawhawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

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LATE

February 14, 2017

TO: HONORABLE ANGUS MCKELVEY, CHAIR HONORABLE LINDA
ICHIYAMA, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

SUBJECT: **OPPOSITION TO H.B. 637, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING
CODES.** Expedites the review, update, and adoption of the Uniform Plumbing
Code as it relates to the Hawaii State Building Codes. (HB637 HD1)

HEARING

DATE: February 14, 2017
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 329

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Ichiyama and Committee Members,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over five hundred 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.

H.B. 637, HD1, Relating To The State Building Codes would require the State Building Code Council to adopt provisions of the an updated Uniform Plumbing Code within one year after it is published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. The bill would also require the various county councils to act within one year of the updated Uniform Plumbing Code is adopted by the State Building Code Council. Current statutes allows the Council to review and adopt any changes as appropriate to new model building codes within eighteen months of publication by the various associations that review and adopt model codes.

The General Contractors Association is **opposed** to the passage of this measure as it will require the State Building Code Council to give preference to adoption of Plumbing and water code amendments over any other pending reviews of other model codes, such as the electrical code, fire code and building codes. The current review process of eighteen months is already tight, given the number and complexity of codes that the Council reviews and adopts. The Council composed of the county planning and building officials and various interested parties usually meets only once and has no staff and must rely on the staff of the Department of Accounting and General Services clerical and administrative support.

Given the critical and often technical nature of the work required to review and evaluate changes proposed in revised model codes, the GCA believes that the review and adoption process is already short and that the Council should be given the discretion as to how and when the various

reviews should proceed. The Council also needs time to insure that all interested parties have a chance to comment.

For the above reasons, the GCA recommends that this measure not be passed by the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.



Wai Maoli

HAWAII FRESH WATER INITIATIVE

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HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org



Fresh Water Council Members

- William Aila
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- Michael Buck
- Suzanne Case
- Reginald Castanares
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- Ka'eo Duarte
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- David Taylor
- Dennis Teranishi
- Barry Usagawa

*US Geological Survey
Liaison/Scientific Advisor to HCF

**Testimony of the
Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative
on
H.B. 637 HD1
Relating to the State Building Codes
House Committee on Consumer Protection
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Conference Room 329**

The Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative strongly supports H.B. 637 HD 1, which encourages the conservation and efficient use of water resources by expediting updates of the Uniform Plumbing Code.

The Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative was launched in 2013 and gathered a diverse Fresh Water Council to develop a forward-thinking and consensus-based strategy to increase water security for Hawaii. The blue ribbon panel of water stakeholders jointly and unanimously recommend key strategies and policies with an ultimate goal of creating 100 million gallons per day (mgd) in additional, reliable fresh water capacity by 2030. One of the key strategies to achieve the statewide water conservation goal of 40 mgd is to increase the use of non-potable water for irrigation and other non-potable uses.

The Uniform Plumbing Code establishes the minimum requirements and standards for the erection, installation, alteration, repair, relocation, replacement, addition to, use, or maintenance of plumbing systems, for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare.

Under the current law:

- The State Building Code Council is required to review and adopt the new Code within 18 months of its publication by the Association; and
- The county is required to adopt the updated code and standards not later than 2 years after the Code is adopted by the State Building Code Council (which can be up to 42 months after the updated Code is published by the Association).

H.B. 637 HD 1 requires:

- The State Building Code Council to review and adopt the amendments to the Uniform Plumbing Code within one year of publication by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials; and
- The counties to adopt the amendments made to the Uniform Plumbing Code within one year after they adopted by the Council.
- H.B. 637 provides that if the amendments to the Uniform Plumbing Code are not adopted by a county in the one-year, the Code shall become the applicable as an interim county building code.

H.B. 637 HD 1 will expedite the adoption of the revisions to the Uniform Plumbing Code published by International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and help advance Hawai'i's water security goals.

For these reasons, we strongly support H.B. 637 HD 1 and urge its passage.



HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



LATE

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Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals and serve as a model for integrated green growth

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**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of HB637 HD1 Relating to State Building Codes
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
14 February 2017, 2:00 pm, Room 329**

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports HB637 HD1 to review and reform plumbing codes, which will support fresh water conservation and recharge.

The quantity and quality of fresh water directly impacts the health, welfare and quality of life of Hawai'i's residents and the affects the economy. Based on global climate disruption, increasingly severe weather and natural disasters, and projected long-term decline of rainfall, there is an urgency to invest in Hawai'i's freshwater supplies. Water conservation is among the least expensive and most efficient ways to increase the available supply of fresh water.

Hawai'i Green Growth partners agreed that fresh water security, including **HB637 HD1**, is an important priority to support implementation on Hawaii's *Aloha+ Challenge 2030* sustainability goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a joint leadership commitment launched by the State Legislature (SCR69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners. This statewide framework outlines six ambitious 2030 sustainability goals in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resource management, solid waste, smart sustainable communities, and green education and workforce. The Aloha+ Challenge has been recognized nationally and internationally as model that can be scaled to support the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

With leadership and support from the State Legislature, Hawai'i hosted the first U.S. held IUCN World Conservation Congress with over 10,000 global partners from 190 countries in 2016. This bill is an opportunity to continue important local action on sustainable development and resiliency.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **HB637 HD1** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.