



**HAWAII CHAPTER**  
U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

March 29, 2017

2016-2017

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**Mailing Address**

1050 Bishop Street

#345

Honolulu, HI 96813

[www.usgbc-hawaii.org](http://www.usgbc-hawaii.org)

[info@usgbc-hawaii.org](mailto:info@usgbc-hawaii.org)

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS AND COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

**SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 637 HD2 SD 1**

**LATE**

Dear Chairs: Sen. Tokuda, Sen. Dela Cruz, Sen. Baker and Sen. Nishihara

The US Green Building Council Hawaii Chapter is a 501 c3 membership organization that educates, motivates, provides resources and advocated for industry transformation to build and maintain sustainable communities. USGBC-Hawaii Chapter is part of a network of approximately 65 USGBC Chapters throughout the United States which represent USGBC in their respective regions. The USGBC Hawaii Chapter has over 1300 registered Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) professionals and includes 250 local Hawaii organizations in both the private and public sectors.

The USGBC Hawaii Chapter **supports HB 637 HD2 SD1**. We believe responsible and sustainable water management is a key component of sustainable development, protecting resources and public health and providing resiliency and security. As Hawaii continues to develop, there is expected to be increased demands on our precious water supplies and, moreover, research regarding the impacts of climate change in the Hawaiian Islands suggest a significant decline in participation over the next decades. It is imperative that we support water conservation efforts such as through the adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Codes that importantly includes the adoption of the non-potable water plumbing codes for buildings to maximize water resource efficiency, by allowing for the capture and (re)use of non-potable resources for use back inside buildings. However, we also strongly support funding the State Building Code Council so that the continued adoption of the plumbing codes is feasible, sustainable and consistent across all counties.

We'd also like to acknowledge that these bills uphold the Hawaii State Constitution by helping to protect water resources for the benefit of the people and Hawaii's native ecosystems that rely on clean water. We strongly support HB 637 HD2 SD1!

Sincerely,

Lauren C. Roth Venu  
Chair  
USGBC Hawaii Chapter Advocacy Committee  
808-781-7583  
[lauren@rothecological.com](mailto:lauren@rothecological.com)



# LIUNA!

# LATE

## TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LABORERS UNION LOCAL 368 PETER GANABAN – BUSINESS MANAGER

**PETER A. GANABAN**  
*Business Manager/  
Secretary-Treasurer*

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

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*President*

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

**JOBY NORTH II**  
*Vice President*

### NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

**TONI FIGUEROA**  
*Recording Secretary*

DATE: March 30, 2017  
TIME: 9:30 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 211

**JAMES DRUMGOLD JR.**  
*Executive Board*

### TESTIMONY ON HB637, HD2, SD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODES

**ORLANDO PAESTE**  
*Executive Board*

ALOHA COMMITTEE CHAIR BAKER, VICE CHAIR NISHIHARA, AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH:

**JOSEPH YAW**  
*Executive Board*

ALOHA COMMITTEE CHAIR TOKUDA, VICE CHAIR DELA CRUZ, AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON WAYS AND MEANS:

**ROBERT DICION**  
*Auditor*

I am Peter Ganaban, Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368. Local 368 represents over 5000 men and women both working and retired throughout the State of Hawaii and we stand in **OPPOSITION** to **HB 637, HD2, SD1.**

**RUSSELL NAPIHA'A**  
*Auditor*

**MARK TRAVALINO**  
*Auditor*

HB 637, HD2, SD1 proposes to expedite review and adoption of the Universal Plumbing Code (UPC) ahead of all other codes, and fund the State Building Code Council (SBCC). We are opposed for two main reasons:

**ALFRED HUFANA JR.**  
*Sergeant-At-Arms*

We see no reason that the UPC should be put ahead of the other building codes for review and adoption. All modern and up-to-date building codes are equally as important as they all relate to the general welfare and safety of the public and the construction of the structures that they govern.

In light of an increase in the frequency of hurricane threats and "close calls" in the recent years, the case can be made that codes such as the International Building Code and International Residential Code are even more important than the UPC as

LIUNA Local 368  
1617 Palama Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Phone: (808) 841-5877  
Fax: (808) 847-7829  
www.local368.org

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those codes determine building methods that directly address the structural integrity of residential and commercial structures.

This bill also requests funding of the State Building Codes Council. This proposal is redundant and duplicative. HRS 107-23 (b) already requires the Department of Accounting and General Service to fund the SBCC<sup>1</sup>. The real issue with regard to funding has already been addressed by way of statute, the question is why hasn't DAGS funded the SBCC as required?

In light of the above-mentioned reasons, the Hawaii Laborers Union stands in **OPPOSITION** to **HB 637, HB2, SD1**.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>1</sup> (b) The budgetary requirements for conducting meetings, training, travel, and other related responsibilities of the council, including salaries of the executive director, executive assistant and other staff **SHALL BE** included in the budget of the department of accounting and general services...



2016-2017

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS AND COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

**Officers**

**LATE**

**SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 637 HD2 SD 1**

**President**  
Joanna Griffith

Dear Chairs: Sen. Tokuda, Sen. Dela Cruz, Sen. Baker and Sen. Nishihara

**Vice President**  
Melanie Islam

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Jennifer Tom  
Alberto Ricordi

The USGBC Hawaii Chapter **supports HB 637 HD2 SD1**. We believe responsible and sustainable water management is a key component of sustainable development, protecting resources and public health and providing resiliency and security. As Hawaii continues to develop, there is expected to be increased demands on our precious water supplies and, moreover, research regarding the impacts of climate change in the Hawaiian Islands suggest a significant decline in participation over the next decades. It is imperative that we support water conservation efforts such as through the adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Codes that importantly includes the adoption of the non-potable water plumbing codes for buildings to maximize water resource efficiency, by allowing for the capture and (re)use of non-potable resources for use back inside buildings. However, we also strongly support funding the State Building Code Council so that the continued adoption of the plumbing codes is feasible, sustainable and consistent across all counties.

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1050 Bishop Street  
#345  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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[info@usgbchawaii.org](mailto:info@usgbchawaii.org)

We'd also like to acknowledge that these bills uphold the Hawaii State Constitution by helping to protect water resources for the benefit of the people and Hawaii's native ecosystems that rely on clean water. We strongly support HB 637 HD2 SD1!

Sincerely,

Lauren C. Roth Venu  
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[lauren@rothecological.com](mailto:lauren@rothecological.com)



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I  
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

LATE

SENATE JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND  
HEALTH, And WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, March 30, 2017 9:30AM Room 211

**In SUPPORT HB 637 HD2 SD1** Relating to the State Building Codes

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Aloha Chairwomen Baker and Tokuda and members of the Joint Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 637 HD2 SD1 to direct adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Code and thereby improve our conservation and re-use of water.

For nearly 50 years, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i has helped people explore, enjoy, and protect the Hawaiian Islands. The work of our volunteers spans the spectrum of community engagement, including outdoor education, lobbying, and elections. Our volunteers participate in the several task forces and consultations related to state building codes and specifically the uniform plumbers code.

The Sierra Club strongly supports adoption of the most up-to-date versions of the Uniform Plumbing Code issued by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. The IAPMO is the gathering of global experts in the area of plumbing — it is not trade association nor an advocate for development — and it is focused on the technical aspects of implementing sound building and construction practices around the world. This is the body that we should be listening to when it comes to setting reasonable, protective standards for our buildings.

We support adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Code today because it would allow for the systematic re-use of graywater in Hawai'i. Re-using non-potable water in homes and businesses is one of the most significant steps we can take to protect our drinking water resources for the future. The UPC outlines exactly how to install purple pipes to maximize water re-use while also protecting public health and safety.

As this Committee knows, water is life. And for an island community like ours, we cannot import our water from other places. We must do absolutely everything we can to protect and conserve our water resources for future generations. Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Mahalo,  
Marti Townsend  
Director

## **BIA-HAWAII**

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THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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P.O. BOX 970967  
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797-0967

**PHYSICAL:**  
94-487 AKOKI STREET  
WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

# LATE

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, & Health; and Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
**Thursday, March 30, 2017**  
**9:30 am**  
**Conference Room 211**

**RE: HB 637 HD2 SD1 – Relating to State Building Codes**

Chairs Baker & Tokuda, Vice-Chairs Nishihara & Dela Cruz, and members of the committees:

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 HD2 SD1, 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.

Public Testimony  
of  
Reginald Castanares, Business Manager  
Plumbers and Fitters Local 675  
Honolulu, Hawaii

In Support of HB 637 HD2 SD1  
Relating to the State Building Codes  
Plumbing Code Modernization

Before the Senate:  
Committees on:  
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
and Ways and Means  
Thursday, March 30, 2017  
9:30 a.m., Conference Rm. 211

**LATE**

Aloha Chairs Baker and Tokuda and Vice Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz

My name is Reginald Castanares; I have the privilege to represent the Plumbers and Fitters Local 675.

Our testimony in support of this critical measure is on the record. We appreciate the opportunity to restate, perhaps the most important argument in support, "Public Health and Safety."

You have received arguments in opposition, which essentially state that water safety is no more important than electrical or other codes regulated on a State wide basis. Those arguments ignore the very basic element of what provides all of us "Life" which is water. Without it there is no Life, thus every effort must be put forth to assure our citizens that not only will they be able to access water but that the water we depend upon is delivered with the highest level of protection against any form of degradation, i.e., from intrusive foreign substances and more importantly the incorrect handling and processing of it for consumption.

We are fully supportive of every effort which expedites the modernization of our plumbing code and the objectives of increased efficiency in our potable water systems as well as the increasing need for strict standards for the handling and use of grey water.

Standards as developed by professional organizations such as the Uniform Plumbing Code are truly the first line of defense in the delivery of potable water to the public. As such Hawaii needs to maintain the most current version of those codes, such as is intended under the purpose of HB 637 HD2 SD1

Respectfully,  
Reginald Castanares

\*Submitted testimony for HB637 on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM\*

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Wed 3/29/2017 10:26 PM

**LATE**

To: CPH Testimony <CPHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Cc: blackbird4aloha@hotmail.com <blackbird4aloha@hotmail.com>;

**HB637**

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for CPH/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Merle Hayward	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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\*Submitted testimony for HB637 on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM\*

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Wed 3/29/2017 6:01 PM

**LATE**

To:CPH Testimony <CPHTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov>;

Cc:begoniabarry@gmail.com <begoniabarry@gmail.com>;

**HB637**

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for CPH/WAM on Mar 30, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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