



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

SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:45PM Room 224

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

LATE

Aloha Chairs Kim and Nishihara and members of the Committees,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 637 HD2 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 gray water 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

LATE

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

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

Before the Senate:
Committees on Government Operations and Public Safety and
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Thursday, March 16, 2017
2:45 p.m., Conference Rm. 224

Aloha Chairs Mercado Kim and Nishihara and Vice Chairs Ruderman and Wakai

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

Our members are licensed by the State of Hawaii and take very seriously our obligation to provide the best service to our employers in behalf of the citizens of Hawaii who depend upon the work we perform as it relates to their health and safety in the distribution and delivery of potable water for consumption as well as the efficient and safe disposal of waste water.

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.

Respectfully,
Reginald Castanares