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April 12, 2017

TO: HONORABLE ROSALYN BAKER, CHAIR, HONORABLE CLARENCE
NISHIHARA, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

SUBJECT: **COMMENTS REGARDING H.C.R 29 Requests the Contractors License
Board to review all C-68 classified specialist classification definitions per the
Hawaii Revised Statutes to provide the opportunity for public review and
input.**

Committee Meeting
DATE: April 12, 2017
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Capitol Room 229

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee,

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.

GCA has **comments** regarding House Concurrent Resolution 29 (HCR 29) which requests that the Contractors License Board (Board) conduct a review of the C-68 classified specialist license classification, modify the existing classification, and adopt a new specialty license classification to replace the existing C-68 classification. While we appreciate this Resolution regarding the C-68 license, the Board has made an effort to roll C-68 specialty classifications into other existing specialty license classifications

In 2013 when the Contractors License Board did a comprehensive review of the licensing statute and regulations they issued a report in 2014 which suggested some adjustments to the C-68 classifications. In 2013 GCA proposed an amendment that would protect an existing contractor performing specialized work which could be closely related to a newly adopted C-68 specialty license and would not be cited for unlicensed activity, however the amendment was not adopted. GCA's amendment proposed that because the C-68 category of license does not go through the conventional approval and testing process, it should not exclude other existing licensees from performing the work until it is incorporated into a permanent license category. In California such specialty classifications are developed by staff and approved by the Board as policy. Currently, applicants for a C-68 license (18 current C-68 licenses) are required to meet all applications requirements, including four years supervisory experience in particular trade and pass the business law exam. There are no examinations for any of the 18 C-68 licenses.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our comments on this measure.