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February 12, 2017

Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara,, Chair  
Honorable Clarence Wakai, Vice Chair  
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

**LATE**

I am testifying in support for Senate Bill 1154 Relating to the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund Comprehensive Loss Reduction Plan.

The American Society of Civil Engineers was established in 1852 and is the oldest professional engineering organization in the United States. The Hawaii Section of ASCE was established in 1937 and is comprised of nearly 1,000 civil engineers from both the public and private sectors of our state. Many of our members own or are employed by companies in both the design and construction industry.

Members with professional licensure authority regularly seal construction drawings certifying that the plans were prepared in accordance with the State Building Code, which is based on the International Building Code. The International Code is regularly updated to reflect best practices of the industry. Each update must be followed with the revision of the State Code. Delays in updating the State Code is attributed to lack of funds for financial and administrative services. The State Building Code Council is recommending the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund be used to fund the cost to update the code. The Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii will provide details of the proposal in their testimony in support of this process.

We recommend your passage of Senate Bill 1154. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Owen Miyamoto, PE, FASCE  
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