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March 28, 2017

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

Dear Chair Takumi:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 611, Senate Draft (SD) 1, House Draft (HD) 1 Relating to Fire Sprinklers

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD strongly oppose SB 611, SD 1, HD1, which proposes to prevent the counties in the State of Hawaii (State) from mandating automatic fire sprinklers in new or existing one- and two-family dwellings.

National model building codes and standards provide a development process that offer an international forum for construction professionals to discuss prescriptive code requirements that safeguard public health and safety in all communities. This forum provides an excellent arena to debate proposed code revisions encompassing the use of new materials and building designs. Building codes evolve as lessons are learned from incidents that caused tragic loss of life, primarily from fire.

The Hawaii State Building Code Council (SBCC), which is comprised of 11 representatives from the building industry, design professionals, and code officials, is statutorily authorized to review, amend, and adopt the national codes, which are updated and published every three years for the State (Hawaii Revised Statutes 107-21-31). Four representatives from each county's building department must unanimously agree to any national building code requirement or amendment in order to proceed in the State adoption process. The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA) and the General Contractors Association of Hawaii alternate every four years as a voting

member of the SBCC. After a thorough and extensive administrative rule process that includes public and private sector input, each of the seven major building codes are separately enacted into law. Once adopted, each of the State building codes are transmitted to each county where they are further reviewed, amended, and adopted as ordinances. Any State building code requirement may be amended at the county level. This process ensures that codes are adopted in the best interests of the State and counties. To date, there is no mandate to require residential sprinklers at the State or county level.

The first edition of the International Residential Code (IRC) (2000) was the culmination of an effort of representatives from three different regional code organizations and included representatives from the National Association Home Builders (NAHB). The IRC has had a residential sprinkler provision for one- and two-family dwellings in every edition since 2009. The current technical committee that reviews proposed revisions to the next edition of the IRC is comprised of five building officials, one architect, one structural engineer, one fire official, and four representatives from the NAHB. The NAHB is the parent organization of the BIA.

The SBCC is currently researching the use of a 5/8" water meter for residential sprinkler systems. This is the standard size meter in each county, except Honolulu, which uses a 3/4" meter. According to the IRC Fire Sprinkler Coalition Fact Sheet, a typical 5/8" meter's operating range is up to 20 gallons per minute (gpm). The lowest flowing residential sprinkler head is 8 gpm and, with the operational requirement for two sprinklers heads, the flow would be 16 gpm and adequately supplied by the 5/8" meter. The sprinkler system supplied with a 5/8" meter would need more sprinkler heads based on the 12' x 12' coverage. A 3/4" meter's operating range is up to 30 gpm. With two sprinklers at 13 gpm and a 16' x 16' spacing, the 3/4" meter would adequately supply the 26 gpm needed. Increased friction loss due to the distance of the piping run or elevation can be overcome by increasing the piping size from the meter into the house. This is an inexpensive way to improve pressure and flow for plumbing, including fire sprinklers without a larger meter. We offer this information, as the impetus for future approvals on the use of the 5/8" meter on the neighbor islands, which could significantly lower the costs for residential sprinkler installations.

According to the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) article entitled "Home Structure Fires," 71% of reported home structure fires and 84% of home fire deaths occurred in one- and two-family homes. The remainder occurred in apartments or other multifamily housing. Working smoke alarm reliability ranges from 50%-78%, depending on the study, and may alert occupants in time for escape, but does not suppress a fire (Fire Sprinkler Initiative's "Myths vs Facts). In an October 2014 report, "The Case for

Fire Sprinklers in One- and Two-Family Dwellings," fire sprinklers reduce civilian fire deaths by 83%, and working smoke alarms decrease the risk of dying in a home by 50%. There is no equivalent alternative as effective in stopping fires as an automatic fire sprinkler system. Although modern homes have building safety provisions that are required by building codes, they are also constructed of light-weight structural components that are susceptible to collapse within a short time from exposure to fire. A report in 2008 by Underwriters Laboratories entitled "Structural Stability of Engineered Lumber in Fire Conditions" studied the building materials used in today's modern homes. Structural components were exposed to the point of collapse where it was demonstrated that unprotected lightweight construction failed in six minutes compared to dimensional cut lumber which failed in approximately 19 minutes. Although gypsum wallboard can extend the time that floor joists will not collapse in a fire, unprotected joists are found under second floor, exterior balconies and in covered recreation or laundry areas below the second floor. Modern, synthetic furnishings also contribute to rapid fire acceleration and spread that result in reduced escape times for occupants (<http://newscience.ul.com/articles/modern-residential-fires>).

The age of a home is a poor predictor of fire death rates. According to the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting, there were 144,837 permits issued for one- and two-family dwellings from 1960 to 1979 or 48% of the total from 1940 to 2009. The Honolulu Fire Department saw a total of 806 fires in one- and two-family homes and townhomes from 1940 to 2009. From 1960 to 1979, 404 fires occurred in one- and two-family homes and townhomes or 51%. The greater number of fires in older homes is because there is a greater number of homes built and occupied throughout Honolulu.

There is little to no maintenance for a residential sprinkler system. A separate domestic and sprinkler system is maintained by a visual pressure gauge check and an annual flow test, which can be accomplished by connecting a garden hose and opening a flow valve. There is no requirement for a sprinkler activation alarm or a tie-in to an alarm-monitoring company for a residential system. A combined sprinkler/domestic system will not need a flow test since both systems operate together.

An NFPA study in June 2009 entitled "Comparative Analysis of Housing Cost and Supply Impacts of Sprinkler Ordinances at the Community Level" did not reveal that the enactment of sprinkler ordinances caused any detrimental effects on housing supply and costs. In the late 1980s, residential sprinkler ordinances were enacted in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. There were no corresponding reductions in the number of single-family homes built in either county relative to their neighboring counties in Maryland and Virginia. The Fire Protection Research Foundation report in 2013 on "Home Fire Sprinkler Cost" found that many cities across the nation had a significant housing growth over the course of the study.

In February 2016, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) received a cost proposal from a developer for a project to build 20 turnkey single-family homes in a 45-lot subdivision in Waimanalo, Oahu:

Model	Bedrooms	Baths	Stories	Net Living Area	House Price	Sprinkler System Price	Sprinkler System Price/s.f.	% Sprinkler Price/House
A	2	1	1	759 s.f.	\$211,039	\$7,741	\$10.20	3.6%
B	2	2	1	952 s.f.	\$251,022	\$9,200	\$9.70	3.6%
C	3	2	2	1,132 s.f.	\$281,385	\$9,639	\$8.50	3.4%
D	4	3	2	1,496 s.f.	\$320,815	\$12,120	\$8.10	3.7%

The sprinkler system cost ranged from approximately \$8-\$10 per square foot and included costs for the design, meter, permit, installation, and profit margin. This revealed a very low percentage compared to the total price of the home. We suggest that the high-cost of housing are related more to supply and demand and the rising prices for land, labor, and building materials.

In February 2017, the SFC received from the DHHL two cost proposals for Kauluokahai, Increment IIB that involved 100 turnkey houses at a development project in Kapolei, Oahu. There is no upgrading for water meters since the City and County of Honolulu provide a ¾" meter that meets the requirements for a residential fire sprinkler system. The final price below includes design, permit, installation, and profit margin. We offer these three proposals as verifiable evidence of a current, accurate cost estimate for a residential sprinkler system for housing projects on Oahu.

Developer 1

Model	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	# of Stories	Net Living Area	House Price	Fire Sprinkler System	FSS: \$ / s.f.	% Sprinkler Price per House
A	2	1	1	780 s.f.	\$239,169	\$12,844	\$16.47	5.4%
B	2	2	1	996 s.f.	\$282,188	\$14,512	\$14.57	5.1%
C	3	2	2	1,238 s.f.	\$319,041	\$15,290	\$12.35	4.8%
D	4	3	2	1,496 s.f.	\$320,815	\$16,568	\$11.07	5.2%
E	5	3	2	1,760 s.f.	\$396,016	\$18,622	\$10.58	4.7%

Developer 2

Model	Bedrooms	Bathrooms	# of Stories	Net Living Area	House Price	Fire Sprinkler System	FSS: \$ / sq ft	% Sprinkler Price per House
A	2	1	1	770 s.f.	\$210,000	\$6,100	\$7.92	2.9%
B	2	2	1	1,008 s.f.	\$247,000	\$6,800	\$6.75	2.8%
C	3	2	1	1,233 s.f.	\$273,000	\$8,700	\$7.06	3.2%
D	4	3	2	1,654 s.f.	\$311,000	\$10,000	\$6.05	3.2%
E	5	3	2	1,707 s.f.	\$323,000	\$10,500	\$6.15	3.3%

Life, safety, property conservation, and environmental protection are priorities for the SFC and the HFD. Allowing the passage of this bill to restrict the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler in new one- and two-family homes increases the risk to the public, property, environment, and fire fighters. This bill prevents the four counties from incorporating safe building codes particular to their counties.

We offer for your committee's consideration an extension to the sunset, not to exceed five years, during which sprinkler systems and materials will result in technological improvements. We also suggest that new residential care homes that house five or less unrelated persons of varying physical and mental capabilities be required to be sprinklered. This business, which is classified as a one- or two-family dwelling, presents a higher fire risk to its occupants. We further recommend a provision that would require contractors to include a residential sprinkler cost estimate for a prospective homeowner in order to provide a real choice to include such a system.

The SFC and the HFD strongly urge your committee to defer the passage of SB 611, SD 1, HD 1.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,



MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair

MPN/LR:clc

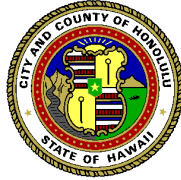
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
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DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR



CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION  
AND COMMERCE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017; 10:00 AM

TO: THE HONORABLE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR  
THE HONORABLE LINDA E. ICHIYAMA, VICE CHAIR  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION  
AND COMMERCE

FROM: ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR., MANAGING DIRECTOR  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

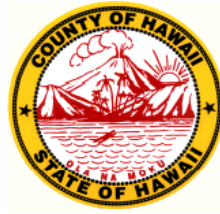
SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF SB611 HD1 RELATING TO FIRE SPRINKLERS

The City and County of Honolulu (City) supports SB611 SD1, which makes extends for five years Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012. Act 83 temporarily prohibited the counties from requiring fire sprinklers in specific family dwelling units and agricultural and aquacultural buildings, but allows the counties to require fire sprinklers in new homes that require a variance from access road or firefighting water supply requirements.

The City supports making the installation of automatic fire sprinklers optional. The City is concerned about the dramatic increase in housing prices, especially for first-time homebuyers and families. Requiring the installation of automatic fire sprinklers in homes would add costs to the already high cost of housing in Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of SB611 HD1.

**Harry Kim**  
*Mayor*



**Wil Okabe**  
*Managing Director*

**Barbara J. Kossow**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

**County of Hawai'i**  
**Office of the Mayor**

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Dear Chair Takumi and members:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on SB 611 SD1, HD1.

As we all know, the cost of housing in Hawaii is already so high that too many of our citizens are priced out of the market. Whether it is a question of creating housing stock for ownership or rental, we need to find ways to make it less expensive to build, rather than more expensive. For that reason, Hawaii County would not consider requiring sprinklers in residential dwellings, or agricultural or aquacultural buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

Wil Okabe  
Managing Director  
County of Hawaii



March 28, 2017

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 329  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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

Subject: **SB 611 SD1, HD1 – Relating to Fire Sprinklers**

My name is Dean Uchida, President Elect 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.

BIA-Hawaii is in strong support of S.B. 611 SD1, HD 1, which repeals the June 30, 2017, expiration date of Act 83, SLH 2012, which prohibits counties from requiring installation or retrofitting of automatic fire sprinklers in (1) new or existing detached one- or two-family dwelling units used only for residential purposes; and (2) non-residential agricultural and aqua-cultural structures located outside an urban area. We would respectfully request that an amendment made in the HD 1, extending the June 30, 2017, sunset date of Act 83, SLH 2012, to June 30, 2022 be removed to make the prohibition on the mandate permanent.

S.B. 611 SD1, is a bill about housing affordability. As we are all aware of, we are in a “Housing Crisis” in Hawaii. Mandating the installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems in all new one and two family dwellings **WILL NOT** keep new homes affordable for Hawaii’s families. BIA-Hawaii is not against fire sprinklers, just the mandating of them.

BIA-Hawaii is speaking out for the future home buyers in the State, who unfortunately, do not have an organized voice to raise concerns about increases to the price of housing in Hawaii. Any type of mandate to install fire sprinklers will increase the cost of housing in Hawaii.

In 2016, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) prepared a state by state analysis of the number of home buyers impacted for every \$1,000 increases in price. In 2016, **548 households** in Hawaii were priced out of the market by a \$1,000 increase in price.

Our concern is that Hawaii needs to “build” its way out of our current housing crisis by increasing the supply of housing at all price points. A healthy housing market allows people to purchase housing at price ranges they can afford and as their income improves, provides them with the opportunity to “move up” the housing ladder.



The Building Industry Association of Hawaii and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii convened the first **“Houseless in Honolulu”** in November of 2015 to raise awareness of one of Hawaii’s most pressing issues - home affordability. Then again in November of 2016 we convened our second event, **“Still Houseless in Honolulu.”** Teachers, doctors, health care professional, and college professors are unable to afford a home in Hawaii. If we are unable to attract and retain the “best and brightest” to educate our youth or take care of our elderly, what does that do for us as a community? The bottom line is we need to build our way out of this crisis by increasing the supply of housing at all price points. With the median home price in the Islands now \$730,000, the repercussions are having a major impact on Honolulu’s economy.

Without a solution to the State’s shortage of residences, the number will soon surpass a million dollars. Every uptick in prices has increasing economic impact. Housing at all price points is desperately needed if we are to maintain the State’s economic equilibrium. If potential employees cannot find affordable homes they will choose not to move to Hawaii and current residents affected by stratospheric home prices will leave. Employers across all spectrum of enterprises are already feeling the pinch. Mid-level employees are especially hard hit. Educators, medical professionals, and small businesses are especially hard hit.

Mandating the installation of fire sprinklers will just add to the cost of housing and make it more unaffordable to Hawaii’s residents.

We understand that others have suggested that technology is advancing so the prohibition on the counties should not be permanent. We firmly believe that a state-wide prohibition is in order to keep housing affordable. The proposed bill does not preclude individual counties from requesting an exemption from the prohibition should other, more cost effective solutions become available in the future.

We strongly support S.B. 611, SD 1, HD 1, **with an amendment to delete the provision extending the June 30, 2017, sunset date of Act 83, SLH 2012, to June 30, 2022, and make the prohibition on the mandate permanent while keeping residential sprinklers optional.** Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

Mahalo,



Dean Uchida  
Strategic Services Group

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**Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce****Tuesday, March 28, 2017****2:00 p.m.****Conference Room 329****RE: SB 611 SD1 HD1 – Relating to Fire Sprinklers**

Chair Takumi, 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.

BIA-Hawaii supports the intent of S.B. 611 SD1 HD1, which extends the prohibition that prevents the counties from requiring fire sprinklers in specific family dwelling units and agricultural and aquacultural buildings. As several Counties have also either supported removing the sunset date, or stated that they would not mandate residential sprinklers, BIA-Hawaii would prefer the earlier versions of S.B. 611, that keep sprinklers optional for the homeowner in perpetuity.

S.B. 611 will help keep new homes affordable for Hawaii's families. BIA-Hawaii is not against fire sprinklers, just the mandating of them.

**Cost prohibitive**

The true cost of installing fire sprinklers in single family homes ranges, depending on where in the State you live. The largest cost is from an upgraded water meter, which is required to support a sprinkler system. For a typical 3 bedroom, 2 bath single-family dwelling upgraded to a 1" meter:

Oahu \$10,007.82 (1" meter) + \$25,826.67 (installation costs) = \$35,834.19

Maui \$33,356 (1" meter) + \$32,760.34 (installation costs) = \$66,116.34

Hawaii \$13,750 (1" meter) + \$26,902.80 (installation costs) = \$40,652.80

These numbers are the minimum required under current code requirements. On Kauai, the cost of the meter alone is \$35,290. If a larger home is built, a larger meter is required at a much higher cost. For example, to upgrade to a 1 1/2" meter, it would cost \$71,948 on Maui and \$70,580 on Maui, just for the meter. Yearly sprinkler inspections add to the cost of maintenance.

With the median price of a new home on Oahu at approximately \$730,000.00, adding the cost of a fire sprinkler system and larger water meter will dramatically increase the price of a home. The National Association of Home Builders' 2016 data for Hawaii found that for every \$1,000 increase in new home price, 548 households are priced out of our housing market.

**Statewide concern**

Sprinklers are of statewide concern because housing affordability is a statewide concern, as evidenced by the number of bills this session addressing affordable housing and homelessness. DEBEDT reported that Hawaii needs over 66,000 new housing units through 2015 and significantly adding costs to construction will be more of a barrier to new housing. Furthermore, the State Building Code Council works on codes with county officials that impact all the Counties, so it is not a home rule issue.

### **Prevention and education are critical**

Proponents say the contents of your home, which they say are made of materials that burn faster, cause fires. Educating the public on this is critical in prevention. Nationally, the number one cause of home fires is cooking. The public should instead be informed that cost-effective fire suppression canisters placed above your stove help prevent such fires from spreading, and also prevent any water damage that will result from a fire sprinkler.

### **Working smoke detectors save lives**

National organizations such as the American Red Cross advocate for a working smoke detector and an escape plan to help keep your family safe during a fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the fire survival rate in homes with working smoke detectors is 99.41% and only rises to 99.6% with a sprinkler. However, the cost difference between the two systems is quite significant.

### **New homes are safer and older homes burn**

New homes are constructed with technology that offers safer, more durable building materials and products than ever before. Interconnected smoke alarms, and other improvements mean you and your family are safer than ever.

The age of the home is an important piece of information when discussing residential fires, because various aspects of older homes can make them more prone to fires and more dangerous in the case one occurs. The leading causes of unintentional home structure fires are 1) cooking equipment, 2) heating equipment and 3) electrical distribution and lighting equipment. A strong relationship between housing age and the rate of electrical fires has been observed, with housing over 40 years old having the strongest association with electrical distribution fires.

Based on data from the Honolulu Fire Department, 77% of fires occurring in residential structures between 2009 and 2015 involved homes built before 1980. Building codes have dramatically increased since 1980. The improvements to fire safety required by building codes do not evaporate with age, so it can be expected that homes built today will continue to outperform those built several generations ago.

### **BIA-Hawaii members would benefit**

Many of BIA's members would benefit from a mandate, but they support keeping sprinklers optional because if no homes are built due to the increased cost, then there will be nowhere to install plumbing or supply piping. Furthermore, pipes filled with water within your walls and ceilings run the risk of leakage, leading to water damage and mold.

### **Not a national trend**

Twenty-four States defeated a sprinkler mandate through their code adoption process and 20 States defeated the mandate legislatively. Only California, Maryland, and the District of Columbia have adopted a mandate.

We do not want to place homeowners or firefighters in unnecessary danger resulting from a one or two family structure fire. We believe that there are more cost-effective means available that would provide the same level of protection at a fraction of the cost of a new fire sprinkler system and larger water meter.

Our main concern is the impact a sprinkler mandate would have on the affordability of housing in Hawaii.

We **strongly support** S.B. 611 to keep residential sprinklers optional. Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 2:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 329, State Capitol**

**RE: SENATE BILL 611 SD1 HD1 RELATING TO FIRE SPRINKLERS**

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **strongly supports** SB 611 SD1 HD1, which extends the prohibition on county requirements for automatic sprinklers or sprinkler systems in one- and two-family detached dwelling units and non-residential agricultural and aquacultural structures located outside urban areas.

The Chamber is the leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,600+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

This bill will help keep new homes affordable for Hawaii's families. The Chamber is not against fire sprinklers, just the mandating of them.

**Cost prohibitive**

The true cost of installing fire sprinklers in single family homes ranges, depending on where in the State you live. The largest cost is from an upgraded water meter, which is required to support a sprinkler system. For a typical 3 bedroom, 2 bath single-family dwelling upgraded to a 1" meter:

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These numbers are the minimum required. On Kauai, the cost of the meter alone is \$35,290. If a larger home is built, a larger meter is required at a much higher cost. For example, to upgrade to a 1 1/2" meter, it would cost \$71,948 on Maui and \$70,580 on Maui, just for the meter. Yearly sprinkler inspections add to the cost of maintenance.

With the median price of a new home on Oahu at approximately \$730,000.00, adding the cost of a fire sprinkler system and larger water meter will dramatically increase the price of a home. The National Association of Home Builders' 2016 data for Hawaii found that for every \$1,000 increase in new home price, 548 households are priced out of our housing market.



### **Statewide concern**

Sprinklers are of statewide concern because housing affordability is a statewide concern, as evidenced by the number of bills this session addressing affordable housing and homelessness. DBEDT reported that Hawaii needs over 66,000 new housing units through 2015 and significantly adding costs to construction will be more of a barrier to new housing. Furthermore, the State Building Code Council works on codes with county officials that impact all the Counties, so it is not a home rule issue.

### **Prevention and education are critical**

Proponents say the contents of your home, which they say are made of materials that burn faster, cause fires. Educating the public on this is critical in prevention. Nationally, the number one cause of home fires is cooking. The public should instead be informed that cost-effective fire suppression canisters placed above your stove help prevent such fires from spreading, and also prevent any water damage that will result from a fire sprinkler.

### **Working smoke detectors save lives**

National organizations such as the American Red Cross advocate for a working smoke detector and an escape plan to help keep your family safe during a fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the fire survival rate in homes with working smoke detectors is 99.41% and only rises to 99.6% with a sprinkler. However, the cost difference between the two systems is quite significant.

### **New homes are safer and older homes burn**

New homes are constructed with technology that offers safer, more durable building materials and products than ever before. Interconnected smoke alarms, and other improvements mean you and your family are safer than ever.

The age of the home is an important piece of information when discussing residential fires, because various aspects of older homes can make them more prone to fires and more dangerous in the case one occurs. The leading causes of unintentional home structure fires are 1) cooking equipment, 2) heating equipment and 3) electrical distribution and lighting equipment. A strong relationship between housing age and the rate of electrical fires has been observed, with housing over 40 years old having the strongest association with electrical distribution fires.

Based on data from the Honolulu Fire Department, 77% of fires occurring in residential structures between 2009 and 2015 involved homes built before 1980. Building codes have dramatically increased since 1980. The improvements to fire safety required by building codes do not evaporate with age, so it can be expected that homes built today will continue to outperform those built several generations ago.



### **Chamber members would benefit**

Many of the Chamber's members would benefit from a mandate, but they support keeping sprinklers optional because if no homes are built due to the increased cost, then there will be nowhere to install plumbing or supply piping. Furthermore, pipes filled with water within your walls and ceilings run the risk of leakage, leading to water damage and mold.

### **Not a national trend**

Twenty-four States defeated a sprinkler mandate through their code adoption process and 20 States defeated the mandate legislatively. Only California, Maryland, and the District of Columbia have adopted a mandate.

We do not want to place homeowners or firefighters in unnecessary danger resulting from a one or two family structure fire. We believe that there are more cost-effective means available that would provide the same level of protection at a fraction of the cost of a new fire sprinkler system and larger water meter.

Our main concern is the impact a sprinkler mandate would have on the affordability of housing in Hawaii.

We **strongly support** this bill, with an amendment to delete the provision extending the June 30, 2017, sunset date of Act 83, SLH 2012, to June 30, 2022, and make the prohibition on the mandate permanent while keeping residential sprinklers optional. Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



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March 26, 2017

**Testimony to the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room 329**

**RE: SB 611 SD1 HD1 – Relating to Fire Sprinklers**

**Chair Takumi, Vice-Chair Ichiyama, and members of the committee:**

I am Greg Thielen, President and RME of Complete Construction Services. I am a Small Business Owner and have over 25 years' experience in the Construction Industry. I am also a Past President of BIA Hawaii and serve as the National Area Chair for Hawaii and California for the National Association of Home Builders.

I am in **support** of the intent of S.B. 611 HD1, which extends the June 30, 2017, expiration date of Act 83, SLH 2012, which prohibits counties from requiring installation or retrofitting of automatic fire sprinklers in (1) new or existing detached one- or two-family dwelling units used only for residential purposes; and (2) non-residential agricultural and aquacultural structures located outside an urban area. My only objection to the bill is it should be restored to the original form which eliminates the sunset date completely.

Affordable housing is a statewide concern for Hawaii and should be addressed by the State Legislature. It is **impossible** to support affordable housing for the people of Hawaii **and** support mandatory residential fire sprinklers. If Act 83, SLH 2012, is allowed to sunset the result will be thousands of more Hawaii families priced out of home ownership.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

Greg Thielen  
President/RME

1065 Ahua Street  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167  
Email: [info@gcahawaii.org](mailto:info@gcahawaii.org)  
Website: [www.gcahawaii.org](http://www.gcahawaii.org)



**GCA of Hawaii**

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

Uploaded via Capitol Website

March 28, 2017

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

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF S.B. 611, SD1, HD1, RELATING TO FIRE SPRINKLERS.** Extends  
the prohibition on county requirements for automatic sprinklers or sprinkler  
systems in one- and two-family detached dwelling units and non-residential  
agricultural and aquacultural structures located outside urban areas. (SB611 HD1)

HEARING

DATE: March 28, 2017  
TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama and Members of the Committee:

The General Contractors Association (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 whose 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 **supports** S.B. 611, SD1, HD1, Relating to Fire Sprinklers, which proposes to extend the prohibition on county requirements for automatic sprinklers or sprinkler systems in specific family dwelling units and non-residential agricultural and aquacultural buildings with outside urban areas. While GCA supports the HD1 version, we would prefer the SD1 version.

GCA understands the necessity of protection and safety in homes, however GCA is opposed to mandates that would present a significant cost burden to homebuilders, homeowners and renters alike. Instead, GCA encourages incentives that would encourage homebuilders and homeowners to install fire safety measures that would reduce the likelihood of fire hazards.

GCA is opposed to the mandated installation of automatic sprinklers in residential homes for the following reasons: new homes are built safer; newer technologies to address fire hazards may be available in near future, negating installation of fire sprinklers; unknown costs not only for installation but maintenance, and incentives are encouraged, rather than mandates.

GCA is in support of S.B. 611, SD1, HD1 and would respectfully request that this Committee pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support.





March 27, 2017

Representative Roy M. Takumi  
House District 35  
Chair, Consumer Protection and Commerce

Representative Linda Ichiyama  
House District 32  
Vice-Chair, Consumer Protection and Commerce

Re: SB 611 HD 1

Dear Chair Takumi and Vice-Chair Ichiyama,

As president of Graham Builders, a locally-owned and operated design+build general contractor since 1990, and as the 2017 president of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii, I sincerely ask you to restore the permanent removal of the sunset clause for Act 83, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional.

Our company specializes in residential construction, building new custom homes and renovating existing homes. We are currently building a new three bedroom/two bath home in Pauoa Valley for a local family of modest means. The home has 1,124 SF of living area with a 454 SF garage for a total of \$1,578 SF.

During permitting, we were informed that a fire sprinkler system would be required due to inadequate water flow at the nearest fire hydrant, which is less than 50' from the property. Altogether, including design/engineering, installation, trenching and patching 48' of existing concrete driveway to install a larger water supply line to the house; overhead/mark-up and GET, the total cost for this system is app. \$27,000. That equates to about 16.82 per SF, which nearly blew the homeowner's budget by eating up all their contingency funds and then some.

***This is one family's situation. Imagine multiplying that by tens of thousands of families in the future.***

**The state has a compelling interest to ensure housing affordability for all residents.**

The bottom line is that the cost of fire sprinkler suppression systems is beyond the ability of the vast majority of Hawaii's residents to pay for them. There are less expensive technologies (hard-wired smoke and fire alarms, affordable fire-suppression powder canisters, electrical devices that turn off unattended stoves, arc-fault interrupt & GFCI outlets, etc.) that have vastly improved fire safety in homes.

Some examples:

<http://stovetopfirestop.com/rangehood>

<http://www.cookstop.com/home.html>



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Email: [evan@grahambuilders.com](mailto:evan@grahambuilders.com) CELL: 808-478-9515

Contractor's License #BC 16446



For 2016, the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) reports that a \$1,000 increase in the price of a home will result in 548 Hawaii homebuyers being priced out of the market. Imagine \$20,000 to \$70,000 or more on the neighbor islands being added to the cost to build a home.

Without a permanent state prohibition, the counties will be faced with enforcing fire sprinkler requirements which are part of the 2012 IBC. All four mayors are adamantly against any fire sprinkler mandates for single-family and two-family homes; contentious political disputes and controversy between mayors and their fire departments will be a never ending battle. **That is why forty states have passed laws that PERMANENTLY prohibit fire sprinkler mandates.** Lawmakers in those states understand the severe financial impacts such mandates would have on families, and the adverse economic impacts caused by runaway construction costs and skyrocketing housing prices.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Evan K. Fujimoto  
President, Graham Builders  
2017 President BIA-Hawaii



Building your  
**Home for Life**






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Honolulu, HI 96817

March 28, 2017

**The Honorable Roy M. Takumi, Chair**

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce  
State Capitol, Room 329  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: S.B. 611, S.D.1, H.D.1, Relating to Fire Sprinklers**

**HEARING: Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.**

Aloha Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee.

I am Myoung Oh, Director of Government Affairs, testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 9,200 members. HAR **supports** S.B. 611, S.D.1, H.D.1 which extends the prohibition on county requirements for automatic sprinklers or sprinkler systems in one- and two-family detached dwelling units and non-residential agricultural and aquacultural structures located outside urban areas.

Building codes are important, as it has a broad community impact relating to health and safety for Hawai'i's residents. When the financial cost of a more stringent building code outweighs the actual safety accomplished, HAR believes that a careful and detailed review be taken on these building code measures. For example, mandatory fire sprinklers, although well-intentioned, increase the baseline construction cost which has trickle down effects to home buyers and renters.

In multi-family dwellings and condominiums, there are usually on-staff professionals who are trained to maintain fire sprinkler systems. However, in a single-family home this is not the case. The average homeowner does not have the skills to be responsible for the ongoing maintenance necessary to keep a fire sprinkler system in operational condition. It would be difficult to create a regulation that increases the base cost of construction and then potentially creating an industry of inspectors/maintenance professionals for maintaining these private sprinkler systems.

HAR supports an extension on the prohibition of fire sprinklers systems on new homes and is that much more important at a time when housing development at all price points is direly needed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.





**HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST**  
650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

**TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET  
PETER H. M. LEE**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
Rep. Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

**AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING**

DATE: Tuesday, March 28, 2017  
TIME: 2:00 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 329

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 611 SD1 HD1, RELATING TO TO FIRE SPRINKLERS.**

ALOHA COMMITTEE CHAIR TAKUMI, COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR ICHIYAMA, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE:

My name is Peter H. M. Lee, and I am the Construction Compliance Officer of Hawaii LECET. Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368, and its unionized contractors.

I **support the intent of S.B. 611 SD1 HD1** to keep residential fire sprinklers optional in all new one- and two-family homes. Act 83, SLH 2012, is scheduled to sunset on June 30, 2017, and this latest draft only extends the sunset another 5 years (til 2022). **I would prefer no sunset date and keeping fire sprinklers optional for the new homeowner in perpetuity.**

I support the safety of residents and fire fighters, but we have a housing crisis throughout the State. DBEDT reports that Hawaii needs over 66,000 new housing units over the next ten years to accommodate population growth. Homeowners should have a choice whether to install fire sprinklers or not in their homes, not a mandate.

Alternatively, a working smoke alarm has proven to save lives. Today's technology has presented many cost effective ways to prevent fires including suppression canisters that cost about \$65 that you can place above your stove that will activate with heat and flames, or even sensors that will automatically shut your stove off if no movement is detected for a period of time.

I am not opposed to fire sprinklers. Anyone who wants to install one is free to do so. I am strongly opposed to mandating fire sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes because doing so is not cost-effective.

For these reasons, I **support the intent of S.B. 611 SD1 HD1, and humbly ask that this measure moves forward without a sunset date.**

## CPCtestimony

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From: Arthur Pelkaus <artp@gentryhawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 10:49 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Arthur Pelkaus  
1296 Kapiolani Blvd  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
artp@gentryhawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Barbara Mueller-Ali <mbmuellerali@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 12:12 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I strongly support keeping Fire Sprinklers optional and that it always remains a choice for the homeowner. Please remove the sunset date from S.B. 611. I hope that our voices will be heard and will make a difference...I'm concerned for my children and future generations.

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Barbara Mueller-Ali  
1343 Makaikoa St  
Honolulu, HI 96821  
mbmuellerali@gmail.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Brian Adachi <bkadachi@bkbuilders.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:48 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Brian Adachi  
6478 Hawaii Kai Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
bkadachi@bkbuilders.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Brian Moore <brian.moore@centralpacificbank.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 7:26 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Brian Moore  
1487 Hiikala PI # 7  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
brian.moore@centralpacificbank.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: Charles Spiegel <user@votervoice.net>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:53 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Spiegel  
236 Lumahai Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
chassp@aol.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Craig Washofsky <craigw@servco.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 7:19 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Craig Washofsky  
825 Alahaki St  
Kailua, HI 96734  
craigw@servco.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Curt Kiriu <curtk@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:25 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

Aloha Chair Takumi,

I would like to explain why I support fire sprinklers as a choice and not as a mandate, because I am for giving the homeowner the choice of deciding what is best for their families; and not be told what they are required to do; regardless of their financial situation.

Yes, I am in strongly support of S.B. 611 S.D.1, which removes the sunset on Act 83, and keeps fire sprinklers optional for the homeowner; and yes, you all will hear testimony from many, who are for and against S.B. 611.

I and a licensed general contractor who specializes in remodeling and modifying homes to make it accessible for seniors and those with physical and intellectual challenges; but I am not here as a contractor; but as a person who sees first hand the daily challenges of families struggling to survive in Hawaii. As you know, Hawaii has the highest percentage of multi-generational families in the nation, not only because of our local (Polynesian, Asian, Portuguese, Filipino etc...) traditions of caring for our elders; but also because the generations X, Y and Millennials, cannot afford to purchase a home.

Therefore, must move back with their parents, but most times, not even move out; but remodel. There are many that have demolished their parent's older home because of the age of the home, deterioration, inadequate size; and build a new home for 2, 3 or more generations.

Keeping that in mind, if there was additional cost of a mandated fire sprinkler system, it would make building a new impossible for the majority of families. It would be worse on the outer islands, where everything is already much more expensive than Oahu.

My other concern is the lack of infrastructure and water source. I serve as the Housing Domain Coordinator on the Honolulu's Age Friendly City Committee, and was on the initial Citizens Advisory Committee that implemented the ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) into the Final plan; and I know first hand the lack of infrastructure and water source we have on Oahu and it is worse on the outer islands. We as an island state, cannot just divert or truck in millions of gallons pf water from another states's resourc es. It has been decades that we have been told to conserve our water resources, and having mandated fire sprinkler systems, is not conservation; especially as an island. Today, March 26th, 2017, Maui called for water conservation, because of a brush fire that may have damaged one of their well site substations. This is a current situation that shows we in Hawaii do not have the water resources to mandate fire sprinklers.

I understand that the Fire department and their spokesperson, has continued to use emotion as a lobbying tool saying "what is the cost of a life", and I understand, as I am a family man, with many relatives, that life safety is important. As a contractor, I would build a structurally sound home for my family and relatives, so it would last generations and would not fall, as I would for all of my homeowner (clients); because I believe in building a structurally sound home. I would ask every fireman/fire woman in the fire department and everyone in support of the mandate, if they currently have a fire sprinkler system in their home and their homes and all of their families homes. If not, why not; especially if they want everyone else to install them. Why push this mandate on others, if you do not have them in your home? Nothing is

stopping them, from getting a system, or would the financial cost be prohibitive to their financial situation? This sounds like "Do as I say, not as I do".

I ask for your Committee's support on S.B. 611 S.D. 1 to keep sprinklers the choice of the homeowners.

Sincerely,

Curt Kiriu  
94-477 HAIWALE LOOP  
MILILANI, HI 96789  
curtk@hawaii.rr.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: David Leong <dcr@dcrhawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:17 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

David Leong  
1740 Kumakani Loop  
Honolulu, HI 96821  
dcr@dcrhawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Dean Uchida <duchida@ssfm.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:46 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Dean Uchida  
98-1762 KUPUKUPU ST  
AIEA, HI 96701  
duchida@ssfm.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Dirck Sielken <dsielken@hipco.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 7:44 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

I have lived in Hawaii all my life and I along with 6 other people I work with are facing a decision. None of us can afford a house at this time and this can bury our dreams for good. If you really want to help the people of Hawaii...change the rules so that investors cannot flip homes. It should be made that if an investor already has a residence and they invest in another property that they cannot sell that property for a period of seven years. Give the people of Hawaii a change to live the American Dream.

Sincerely,

Dirck Sielken  
92-709 NOHOPONO ST  
KAPOLEI, HI 96707  
dsielken@hipco.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Dwight Mitsunaga <dmitsunaga@pacarchitects.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 10:26 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Dwight Mitsunaga  
817 Ikena Cir  
Honolulu, HI 96821  
dmitsunaga@pacarchitects.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: Edna Gomez <egomez@castlecooke.com>  
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 10:59 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Edna Gomez  
95-1031 HALEPAHU ST  
MILILANI, HI 96789  
egomez@castlecooke.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Mr. & Mrs. Gary Okimoto <koapens@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:43 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Gary Okimoto  
92-1328 Punawainui St  
Kapolei, HI 96707  
koapens@hawaii.rr.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Gary Sufrin <gary@insolidhawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:02 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Gary Sufrin  
667 Kaumakani St  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
gary@insolidhawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Gerald Peters <hpp@aloha.net>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 2:38 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

Please -- Let's Not Make The Housing, Homelessness, and Brain Drain Problems Worse

My name is Gerald Peters – 24 years in Hawaii Licensed Contracting, 12 years content producer and on Air Co-host with Mike Buck on Fixit Fridays radio in strong support of this bill.

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

While my company does not build new homes, as a 39 year resident, I am concerned for the negative economic impact of the well intended but economically dangerous effort to mandate sprinklers in new homes.

These sprinklers should be an option, as are many safety and aging in place items such as grab bars.

Mandating such an expensive system will have numerous known effects ( eg. inflationary pricing of Kamaaina out of the new house market) and I believe numerous unforeseen effects (eg. Huge increase in property insurance rates due to six figure damage claims from accidental activation of the sprinklers.

This will of course worsen the brain drain problem (my own born here, UH graduates, grown sons have left for new mainland careers, fearful of never being able to afford home ownership, and more).

We cannot afford to do this kind of “piling on” just because something is of course a good idea in the abstract. The proponents of this idea are not considering the “rest of the story.”

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Gerald Peters  
42-120 KOOKU PL  
KAILUA, HI 96734  
hpp@aloha.net

## CPCtestimony

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From: Greg Liu <greg@dtchawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:34 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

As builders and developers are often structuring their plans for new homes years before the actual construction period, an impending statute of this magnitude would adversely affect Hawaii's residential construction industry.

Sincerely,

Greg Liu  
92-831 MAKAKILO DR  
KAPOLEI, HI 96707  
greg@dtchawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Jennifer Okino <jenniferh@lai-hawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 1:37 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

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If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Okino  
1100 Alakea St Fl 3  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
jenniferh@lai-hawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Jessica Omoto <jesm1@hawaiiantel.net>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:24 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Jessica Omoto  
98-402 KOAUKA LOOP APT 2215  
AIEA, HI 96701  
jesm1@hawaiiantel.net

## CPCtestimony

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From: Joan Sato <Joan@JSatoAssociates.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:41 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

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If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Joan Sato  
2232 Kapiolani Blvd Apt 804  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
Joan@JSatoAssociates.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: John Cheung <john@ccengineeringhawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 10:09 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

John Cheung  
45-527 APAPANE ST  
KANEHOHE, HI 96744  
john@ccengineeringhawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Karen Berry <karen@tradepublishing.com>  
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:00 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Karen Berry  
60 N Beretania St Apt 3502  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
karen@tradepublishing.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Karen Nakamura, CGR <karenn001.kn@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 3:17 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Karen Nakamura CGR  
2825 S King St Apt 2001  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
karenn001.kn@gmail.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Kimo Pierce <Kimo@HawaiiPlumbingGroup.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:02 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

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If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Kimo Pierce  
1177 Queen St  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
Kimo@HawaiiPlumbingGroup.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Laurie Ann Chan <lc@avalonhi.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:03 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Laurie Ann Chan  
2003 Mahao Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96819  
lc@avalonhi.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Lloyd Jones, M.D. <user@votervoice.net>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:19 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Jones M.D.  
747 Ululani St  
Kailua, HI 96734  
lejones50@yahoo.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Lloyd Tom <rdcontractors@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 5:41 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Tom  
4244 Halupa St  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
rdcontractors@gmail.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Lynne Meyer <lynnegmeyer@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 4:38 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here? There are so many homeless yet you want to make homes more expensive. What are you thinking??????

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Lynne Meyer  
3083 Pacific Heights Rd  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
lynnegmeyer@hotmail.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: Margaret Wong <margaret@copelandgroupusa.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:38 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Margaret Wong  
1360 S Beretania St Ste 209  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
margaret@copelandgroupusa.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Mr. & Mrs. Mark James <mjames0654@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 4:42 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I have lived in Hawaii since 1960 and have been in mortgage finance since 1975.

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

A I know this bill sounds good on paper but is not realistic for residential use.

Sincerely,

Mark James, taxpayer  
2911 Pacific Heights Rd  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
mjames0654@gmail.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Mary Flood <MKFlood@drhorton.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 5:25 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Mary Flood  
1236 Kamehame Dr  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
MKFlood@drhorton.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Melissa Chang <melissa808@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:46 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Melissa Chang  
930 Kaheka St Apt 3303  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
melissa808@gmail.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Michael Lum <mlum@mlpacific.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:54 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Michael Lum  
1302 Kaeleku St  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
mlum@mlpacific.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Michael Watanabe <Michael@jwinchawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:27 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Michael Watanabe  
1200 Queen Emma St Apt 2312  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Michael@jwinchawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Mike Brant <mikeb@gentryhawaii.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 10:42 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Mike Brant  
2101 Nuuanu Ave Apt 1304  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
mikeb@gentryhawaii.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Nancy Schnur <nancy.uillc@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 4:24 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

My clients can't afford this bill! And its costing me my job.

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

I am a small business owner, as are many interior designers in Hawaii. If new home owners are forced to spend \$30,000 of their budget on sprinklers that may save their life OR needlessly ruin all of their personal belongs, where do you think they are going to cut to get that additional money? The structure? No way! They are going to cut any interior finishes/ fixtures / and furniture that keeps us in business.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Respectfully,

Sincerely,

Nancy Schnur, ASID CAPS  
1176 Lunaai St  
Kailua, HI 96734  
nancy.uillc@gmail.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: Paul Sheffield <rktx@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:08 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Thank you for your concern regarding the wellbeing of Hawaii's citizens. However, this law would unduly burden those citizens with a very expensive system and in many cases would actually kill their ability to own or build a home.

Sincerely,

Paul Sheffield  
131 Kuulei Rd  
Kailua, HI 96734  
rktx@hawaii.rr.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Paul Silen <psilen@hdcc.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 8:18 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

For single family houses, smoke detectors do an excellent job of alerting members of the household of a fire and to get out. The need for fire sprinklers should be optional with the significant cost to housing it adds, protecting life is served by having operational smoke detectors in single family houses.

Sincerely,

Paul Silen  
44-291 KANEOHE BAY DR APT F  
KANEOHE, HI 96744  
psilen@hdcc.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Richard Presser <rpresser@hhgnet.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 12:44 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Richard Presser  
PO Box 478  
Aiea, HI 96701  
rpresser@hhgnet.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Richard Vaughn <rvaughn@cutterauto.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:36 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I have a security system that includes fire and smoke detection hooked directly to C&C HFD/HPD. I have numerous fire extinguishers in crucial locations. I fear water damage and \$\$\$ for repair more than a fire.

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

NO FIRE SPRINCKLER SYSTEMS. COST WAY TOO HIGH FOR LITTLE RETURN.

Sincerely,

Richard Vaughn  
571 Ululani St  
Kailua, HI 96734  
rvaughn@cutterauto.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Ricky Li <ricky@adstreamz.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 6:39 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Ricky Li  
1425 Liliha St Apt 5H  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
ricky@adstreamz.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Russ Sumida <russ@sumidas.net>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 7:27 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Russ Sumida  
1017 Luawai St  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
russ@sumidas.net

## CPCtestimony

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From: Steve Allen <sallen@allensplumbinghi.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 2:28 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Steve Allen  
335 Loha Pl  
Makawao, HI 96768  
sallen@allensplumbinghi.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: Mr. & Mrs. Steve Hile <histevjudy@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 5:50 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Steve Hile  
94-226 KANAWAO PL  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797  
histevjudy@hotmail.com



## CPCtestimony

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From: Timothy Waite <twait@strongtie.com>  
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 10:44 PM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

In December 2016, the median price of a single-family home on Oahu was \$730,000. In February, that increased to \$755,000. How does the next generation stay in Hawaii, or return home to Hawaii, if they can't afford to live here?

The only thing standing between sprinklers becoming mandatory is Act 83 (SLH 2012), which prohibits any County from mandating sprinklers in all new one- and two-family homes. Several Counties have expressed their desire to also keep sprinkler optional. More organizations and individuals have voiced their support for optional sprinklers than those who support mandatory sprinklers. Please listen to our voices.

If Act 83 is allowed to sunset on June 30, 2017, sprinklers will become mandatory and the cost of housing will increase by tens of thousands of dollars. For every \$1,000 increase in the price of a new home, 548 families in Hawaii are priced out of the market.

For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Timothy Waite  
92-1214 MAKAKILO DR APT 29  
KAPOLEI, HI 96707  
twait@strongtie.com

## CPCtestimony

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From: William Bonnet <bbonnet@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:37 AM  
To: CPCtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support for S.B. 611: Optional Fire Sprinklers for Housing Affordability

Dear Chair Takumi,

I am in strong support of S.B. 611, which would keep residential fire sprinklers optional until 2022. I respectfully urge your Committee to remove the sunset date completely, allowing new homeowners to decide whether a \$30,000+ sprinkler system, and even more on the neighbor islands, is right for their home, family, and finances.

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For the sake of housing affordability, I strongly support S.B. 611 to keep sprinklers optional and also ask that the sunset date be removed. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

William Bonnet  
65 Kamalii Pl  
Haiku, HI 96708  
bbonnet@hawaii.rr.com



## HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1463, AFL-CIO  
1018 PALM DRIVE, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814-1929  
TELEPHONE (808) 949-1566 FAX: (808) 952-6003  
WEBSITE: [www.hawaii firefighters.org](http://www.hawaii firefighters.org)

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017**

**March 28, 2017**

**Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce**

**Testimony by  
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO**

**S.B. No. 611 SD 1 HD 1                      RELATING TO FIRE SPRINKLERS**

The Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO represents more than 1,900 professional active-duty and 800 retired fire fighters throughout the State. On behalf of our members, HFFA **opposes S. B. No. 611 S.D. 1 H.D. 1**, which proposes to repeal the sunset date of Act 83, SLH 2012.

The safety of the community and fire personnel is of utmost importance to HFFA. This bill, as proposed, would prohibit the State and Counties from considering whether or not a requirement for the installation of sprinkler systems would be in the best interest of their communities. HFFA believes that allowing Act 83, SLH 2012 to sunset affords the State and Counties to determine if the required installation or retrofitting of automatic fire sprinkler systems is appropriate for their respective communities and is in the best interest of the people of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony of  
Christopher Delaunay, Government Relations Manager  
Pacific Resource Partnership

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
Representative Roy M. Takumi, Chair  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 28, 2017  
TIME: 2:00 pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 329

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

PRP **supports the intent** of SB 611, SD1, HD1, Relating to Fire Sprinklers, which extends the prohibition on county requirements for automatic sprinklers or sprinkler systems in one- and two-family detached dwelling units and non-residential agricultural and aquacultural structures located outside urban areas.

As we all know, we have a housing crisis across the State with the price of homes becoming further out of reach for Hawaii families. Mandating fire sprinklers will increase the cost of a home and outprice many homebuyers depending on area of residence. We believe fire sprinklers should be done voluntarily or as an alternative to installing a fire department access road or water supply and thus, we prefer the removal of the sunset date.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you.

About PRP

*Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.*

