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February 20, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2186 Relating to Fireworks

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 support SB 2186, which proposes to increase the display permit fee from \$110 to \$300.

This permit authorizes licensed pyrotechnicians to conduct outdoor aerial and indoor fireworks displays at special events. Although the permit fee has remained the same for 14 years, administrative costs to process, review, and approve have increased. This includes an on-site verification of fireworks inventory before and after the event, inspection of pyrotechnic equipment, safety precautions, evaluation of the firing site, distance to audiences, proximity to adjacent structures and combustible vegetation, and weather conditions are some of the items reviewed.

Public safety and property protection are priorities for the HFD's approval of fireworks permits. The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 2186.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at 723-7176 or lrogers@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

Harry Kim
Mayor



Darren J. Rosario
Fire Chief

Renwick J. Victorino
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i
HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
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February 20, 2018

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz:

SUBJECT: SB 2186, RELATING TO FIREWORKS
Hearing Date: Friday, February 23, 2018
Time/Place of Hearing: 10:00 am, Conference Room 211

I am Darren J. Rosario, Member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Hawaii Fire Department of the County of Hawaii (HCFD). The SFC and the HCFD supports SB 2186, which proposes to increase the display permit fee from \$110 to \$300. The permit fee has remained the same for over a decade. Administrative cost to process the permits have increased over the past 10 years. These permits authorizes licensed pyro technicians to conduct outdoor aerial and indoor fireworks displays at special events. Use of pyrotechnics continuously needs to be evaluated for the safety of the public, pyro technicians, and the responding first responders.

Public safety and property protection are priorities for the HFD's approval of fireworks permits. The SFC and the HCFD urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 2186.

Should you have questions, please contact me at darren.rosario@hawaiicounty.gov or at 808-932-2903.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darren".

DARREN J. ROSARIO
Fire Chief



SB-2186

Submitted on: 2/17/2018 10:57:50 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Testifying for Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We STRONGLY OPPOSE this bill. This is simply a money making opportunity & seeks to only allow the affluent to obtain permits.