

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI  
DIRECTOR

ANNE EUSTAQUIO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
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February 19, 2020

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) 3076 Relating to the State Building Code Council (SBCC)

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 3076, which appropriates funds to add one full-time equivalent (FTE) program director and one FTE staff member; provide for employment training, materials and supplies, and other costs associated with the SBCC; and establish an office.

Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, established the SBCC, codified in Part II of Chapter 107, Hawaii Revised Statutes to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes applicable to one- and two-family dwellings, other residential uses, commercial, and industrial buildings, and state buildings to make it possible for building owners, designers, contractors, and code enforcers within the state to apply consistent standards.

The SBCC is comprised of four government officials, two private design professionals, and one seat shared by a representative from the General Contractor Association of Hawaii or the Building Industry Association of Hawaii. Since its formation, the SBCC has struggled with no funding or staff support, as SBCC members serve on a voluntary basis. In addition to reviewing the national codes and standards, volunteer members are tasked with responding to code inquiries, submitting legislative testimony, and preparing and finalizing meeting agendas and minutes. They must document and finalize state amendment packages to the national codes that include building, residential, plumbing, energy, fire, elevator, and electrical.

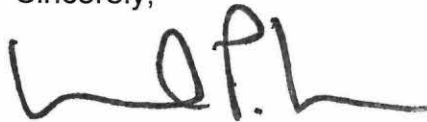
The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Page 2  
February 19, 2020

The positions of the Executive Director and Executive Assistant would document and finalize proposed state code amendments to the national codes and standards for public and stakeholder review and forward the approved state code amendments to the counties to begin their adoption process. The staff would represent the SBCC at meetings and prepare and submit legislative testimony. The Executive Director and Executive Assistant positions could be permanent or contract employees, but ideally, their salaries would be incorporated into the State of Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services' budget.

The SFC and the HFD support the appropriation of funds to the SBCC and urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 3076.

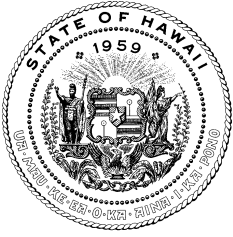
Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at 723-7176 or [lrogers@honolulu.gov](mailto:lrogers@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.P.N.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair

MPN/LR:gl



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5<sup>TH</sup> Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | energy.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 587-3807

Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
Thursday, February 20, 2020  
1:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In SUPPORT of  
**SB 3076**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 3076, which would fund the State Building Code Council (SBCC) which brings together the four county building code managers, two private design professionals, and one seat shared by either a representative from the general contractors association or the building industry association of Hawaii, and a representative from the HSEO.

As outlined in HRS 196-71(b)(2), the HSEO is established with a defined focus, to “Lead efforts to incorporate energy efficiency, energy resiliency, renewable energy, energy resiliency, and clean transportation to reduce costs and achieve clean energy goals across all public facilities...”<sup>1</sup> The HSEO has a representative on the SBCC that is currently serving as Chair of the SBCC and is in discussion with the Department of Accounting and General Services, and other stakeholders regarding plans for the uses of the proposed appropriation of funds, addressing personnel, training travel and other costs.

Funding would provide much-needed support for the SBCC to update and adopt a uniform set of building codes statewide and meet the intent of Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii, 2007, which was to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes. This is in alignment with the HSEO’s purpose to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation, to help Hawaii achieve a resilient clean energy economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol03\\_Ch0121-0200D/HRS0196/HRS\\_0196-0071.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol03_Ch0121-0200D/HRS0196/HRS_0196-0071.htm)



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3076,**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL**

Before the Senate Committee on  
**WAYS AND MEANS**

By

Thomas L. Travis  
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **supports the intent** of Senate Bill 3076. After the near miss of Hurricane Lane in 2018, the lack of adequate, sturdy structures for the residents surviving high winds came into sharp relief. Current efforts to address this shortage are not effective either in the short or long term. The most effective solution is to build ourselves out of the problem. This bill is an important step in positioning ourselves to do this.

Senate Bill 3076 appropriates funds to add 1.0 FTE program director and 1.0 FTE staff member, and to provide for employment training, materials and supplies, and other costs associated with the state building code council and with establishing an office.

Since its formation, the state building code council has struggled with limited funding and staffing support. With the proper funding and permanent staff, the state building code council can better update and adopt commercial and residential codes, and meet the intent of Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, which was to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes.

Note: My comments represent HI-EMA concerns at the state emergency management level only. I would defer to the separate comment/testimonies of the county emergency management agencies, as they would be the jurisdictions impacted by this legislation at the local level.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 3076.

Thomas L. Travis: Thomas.L.Travis@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300

Harry Kim  
Mayor



David Yamamoto, P.E.  
Director

Roy Takemoto  
Managing Director

Allan G. Simeon, P.E.  
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Aupuni Center

101 Pauahi Street, Suite 7 · Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-4224  
(808) 961-8321 · Fax (808) 961-8630  
public\_works@hawaiicounty.gov

February 19, 2020

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Aragan, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3076, RELATING TO FUNDING THE STATE  
BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Dear Chairs and members:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 3076 relating to the appropriation of funds for the State Building Code Council.

The County of Hawai'i supports the proposed bill funding two full time positions for the State Building Code Council (SBCC). Funding would provide vital support to the SBCC to update and adopt a uniform set of building codes statewide and meet the intent of Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii, 2007, which was to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 3076.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Matsumoto, P.E.  
Acting Building Division Chief, Hawai'i County Department of Public Works



**KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I**

**DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR**  
**MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**ROBERT F. WESTERMAN**  
**FIRE CHIEF**

Testimony of Robert F. Westerman  
Fire Chief, Kaua'i Fire Department

Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 20, 2020; 1:00 pm  
Conference Room 208

In consideration of  
Senate Bill 3076  
Relating to the State Building Code Council (SBCC)

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The State Fire Council (SFC) and the Kaua'i Fire Department (KFD) **support** SB 3076, which appropriates funds to add one full-time equivalent (FTE) program director and one FTE staff member; provide for employment training, materials and supplies, and other costs associated with the SBCC; and establish an office.

Act 82, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2007, established the SBCC, codified in Part II of Chapter 107, Hawai'i Revised Statutes to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes applicable to one- and two-family dwellings, other residential uses, commercial, and industrial buildings, and state buildings to make it possible for building owners, designers, contractors, and code enforcers within the state to apply consistent standards.

The SBCC is comprised of four government officials, two private design professionals, and one seat shared by a representative from the General Contractor Association of Hawai'i or the Building Industry Association of Hawai'i. Since its formation, the SBCC has struggled with no funding or staff support, as SBCC members serve on a voluntary basis. In addition to reviewing the national codes and standards, volunteer members are tasked with responding to code inquiries, submitting legislative testimony, and preparing and finalizing meeting agendas and minutes. They must document and finalize state amendment packages to the national codes that include building, residential, plumbing, energy, fire, elevator, and electrical.

The positions of the Executive Director and Executive Assistant would document and finalize proposed state code amendments to the national codes and standards for public and stakeholder review and forward the approved state code amendments to the counties to begin their adoption process. The staff would represent the SBCC at meetings and prepare and submit legislative testimony. The Executive Director and Executive Assistant positions could be permanent or contract employees, but ideally, their salaries would be incorporated into the State of Hawai'i Department of Accounting and General Services' budget.

[www.kauai.gov](http://www.kauai.gov)

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The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Page 2  
February 19, 2020

The SFC and the KFD support the appropriation of funds to the SBCC and urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 3076.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Westerman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

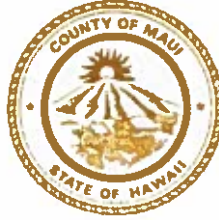
Robert F. Westerman  
Fire Chief

RFW:st

**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**DAVID C. THYNE**  
Fire Chief

**BRADFORD K. VENTURA**  
Deputy Fire Chief



**DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, HI 96732

February 19, 2020

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

Dear Chair Dela Cruz,

**SUBJECT: Senate Bill (SB) 3076 Relating to the State Building Code Council (SBCC)**

I am David C. Thyne, member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC and the MFD support SB 3076, which appropriates funds to add one full-time equivalent (FTE) program director and one FTE staff member; provide for employment training, materials and supplies, and other costs associated with the SBCC; and establish an office.

Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, established the SBCC, codified in Part II of Chapter 107, Hawaii Revised Statutes to adopt a uniform set of statewide building codes applicable to one- and two-family dwellings, other residential uses, commercial, and industrial buildings, and state buildings to make it possible for building owners, designers, contractors, and code enforcers within the state to apply consistent standards.

The SBCC is comprised of four government officials, two private design professionals, and one seat shared by a representative from the General Contractor Association of Hawaii or the Building Industry Association of Hawaii. Since its formation, the SBCC has struggled with no funding or staff support, as SBCC members serve on a voluntary basis. In addition to reviewing the national codes and standards, volunteer members are tasked with responding to code inquiries, submitting legislative testimony, and preparing and finalizing meeting agendas and minutes. They must document and finalize state amendment packages to the national codes that include building, residential, plumbing, energy, fire, elevator, and electrical.

The positions of the Executive Director and Executive Assistant would document and finalize proposed state code amendments to the national codes and standards for public and stakeholder review and forward the approved state code amendments to the counties to begin their adoption



The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

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February 19, 2020

process. The staff would represent the SBCC at meetings and prepare and submit legislative testimony. The Executive Director and Executive Assistant positions could be permanent or contract employees, but ideally, their salaries would be incorporated into the State of Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services' budget.

The SFC and the MFD support the appropriation of funds to the SBCC and urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 3076.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at (808) 723-7176 or [lrogers@honolulu.gov](mailto:lrogers@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. C. Thyne", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DAVID C. THYNE  
Fire Chief

DCT/LR:gl



# LIUNA!

**HAWAII LABORERS UNION (LIUNA) LOCAL 368**  
**1617 Palama Street**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii 96817**

**PETER A. GANABAN**  
*Business Manager/  
Secretary-Treasurer*

**ALFONSO OLIVER**  
*President*

**JOBY NORTH II**  
*Vice President*

**TONI FIGUEROA**  
*Recording Secretary*

**JAMES DRUMGOLD JR.**  
*Executive Board*

**ORLANDO PAESTE**  
*Executive Board*

**JOSEPH YAW**  
*Executive Board*

**MARTIN ARANAYDO**  
*Auditor*

**RUSSELL NAPIHA'A**  
*Auditor*

**MARK TRAVALINO**  
*Auditor*

**ALFRED HUFANA JR.**  
*Sergeant-At-Arms*

Hearing: Committee on Ways and Means  
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020  
Place: Room 211  
Time: 1:00 pm

**RE: SUPPORT for SB3076 Funding the State Building Codes Council**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

The Hawaii Laborer's Union represents over 5,000 working and retired men and women across the State of Hawaii and we **SUPPORT** SB3076 which would amount to funding the State Building Codes Council with 2 FTE positions.

Building codes can be intricately technical in nature, and rightfully so as their main purpose is to protect the health and safety of the general public. Building codes can also be critical to our economy where over-engineered codes can drive the cost of building and therefore affordability up in our State.

At present, the State Building Codes Council is comprised of an all-volunteer members comprised of the 4 Counties and other industry members who serve as "experts" on the subject matter as many on the Board have some type of engineering background, a background well suited to the task of overseeing our Building Codes.

However, because of the voluntary nature of this Council it is sometimes difficult to get the most up-to-date codes approved. Therefore, funding to FTE positions for the Council would be a good start as those filling those positions would be able to assist the Council in organizing codes, scanning new versions for changes to the code, compiling those changes and perhaps even making recommendations to the full council for review and approval. The above-mentioned functions are currently having to be performed by the all-volunteer council or its subcommittees.

Therefore, The Hawaii Laborers' Union; Local 368 stand in support of SB 3076.

LIUNA Local 368  
1617 Palama Street  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Phone: (808) 841-5877  
Fax: (808) 847-7829  
[www.local368.org](http://www.local368.org)

**Feel the Power**



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

February 20, 2020, 1:00 P.M.

Room 211

(Testimony is 2 pages long)

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3076**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee members:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports SB 3076**, appropriating funds to add two positions for the State Building Code Council (SBCC) and to provide for employment training, materials and supplies, and other costs associated with the SBCC and with establishing an office. Personnel and resources are needed to ensure that the model codes developed by the state (and adopted by the counties) are timely and reflect the latest in technology, energy, health, and safety.

**Investment in expertise and management of the SBCC will pay off many times over through the quicker adoption of up-to-date and Hawaii-specific building codes.**

Blue Planet is particularly concerned about the SBCC's current ability to timely vet and adopt modern building energy conservation codes. The energy efficiency and technology landscape is rapidly evolving. The International Code Council produces an updated version of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)—upon which Hawaii develops its code—every three years. The most recent version adopted by the state was the 2015 IECC, which replaced the 2006 IECC that was in place at the time of adoption. A decade is too long to wait to put in place updated minimum energy standards and building practices that will save building owners and residents significant money (not to mention reduce Hawaii's carbon emissions).

Energy efficiency is the most cost-effective energy resource available in the state, costing a fraction of fossil fuel-powered electricity.<sup>1</sup> The anticipated energy savings arising from the 2015 IECC were tabulated in a May 2016 Report prepared for the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism ("DBEDT").<sup>2</sup> The overall savings to residents and businesses in the state totaled over \$1.4 billion.

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<sup>1</sup> Energy savings delivered by the state's Hawaii Energy program in 2014 cost 2.4 cents per kWh. See *Hawaii Energy 2014 Annual Report*, available at

[https://hawaiienergy.com/images/resources/ProgramYear2014\\_AnnualReport.pdf](https://hawaiienergy.com/images/resources/ProgramYear2014_AnnualReport.pdf). Even with today's relatively low oil prices, electricity from oil-fired power plants costs around five times more. See *DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends*, available at <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/energy-trends-2/>.

<sup>2</sup> See The Cadmus Group, Inc., *Energy Savings Forecast for the 2015 Int'l Energy Cons. Code with Haw.*

Annual Savings	2016	2026	2030	2036
MWh per year	12,962	1,083,590	1,991,059	4,702,738
\$	<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$337,000,000</b>	<b>\$619,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,463,000,000</b>

(Note: energy cost savings calculated here utilize the average retail cost of electricity over the past five years;<sup>3</sup> this provides a conservative estimate of cost savings, because it does not incorporate energy costs that are forecasted to rise in the future).

These savings will be realized thanks to the work of the SBCC, which analyzes and develops the model energy conservation code for the state. The state code is then adopted or amended by the counties.

Providing two positions and resources for the SBCC, as SB 3076 proposes, is a wise investment in Hawaii's future. **A staffed building code council will enable Hawaii to capture more of these energy savings faster, while helping the state achieve its climate and clean energy goals.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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*Amendments* (prep'd for DBEDT, May 2016), available at <https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Energy-Savings-Forecast.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> See DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends.