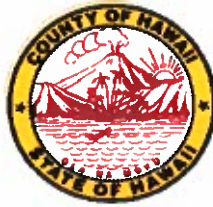


Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor



Lee E. Lord
Managing Director

Robert H. Command
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i
Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553
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(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 14, 2023

Chair, Rep. Mark M. Nakashima
Vice Chair, Rep. Jackson D. Sayama
House Committee on Consumer Protection

Hawai'i State Legislature
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: H.B. 920 HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE
Hearing Date: Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
Time/Place of Hearing: Via Video Conference, Conference Room 329

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and members of the Committee on Consumer Protection,

The County of Hawaii stands by its previous testimony in strong support of HB 920 HD1, which allows counties to amend and approve building codes for single family dwellings, duplexes and non-commercial structures that are distinct from the Hawai'i State building codes.

We believe that HB920 HD1 provides the flexibility necessary to address the urgent demand for reasonably priced housing in our county by eliminating unnecessary regulations that add time delays and additional costs to construction. We are confident that this adaptability will not compromise safety, and that HB920 HD1 will encourage innovative and sustainable building practices that increase housing production on Hawai'i Island and throughout the state.

We highly encourage the Committee on Consumer Protection to move this legislation forward with positive recommendations for passage in the House.

Mahalo,

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor
County of Hawai'i

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

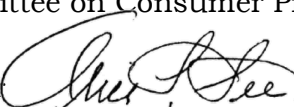
Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tasha Kama
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins

Deputy Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 15, 2023

TO: The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 920, HD1, RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to allow counties to adopt a county building code, that is distinct from the Hawaii state building codes, for single-family dwellings, additional dwelling units, duplexes, and non-commercial structures.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. The measure will provide more flexibility to counties to customize regulations for their counties' unique character. It will allow our county the ability to more easily explore regulations that will help increase our housing inventory.
2. Providing counties this leeway will not negatively affect any state interest.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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SAH - Subcontractors Association of Hawaii

1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003**Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2938

Phone: (808) 537-5619 ✦ Fax: (808) 533-2739

February 16, 2023

Testimony To: House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, President

Subject: H.B. 920, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE.

Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, President of the Subcontractors Association of Hawaii. The Subcontractors Association represents the following nine separate and distinct contracting associations and they are:

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

HAWAII FLOORING ASSOCIATION

HAWAII WALL AND CEILING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

PACIFIC INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

PAINTING AND DECORATING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

SHEETMETAL & AIRCONDITIONING CONTRACTORS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

TILE CONTRACTORS PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM

We are opposed to this bill.

We understand that in some cases, the Building Code should be responsive to the needs of that particular island however it is also important for there to be some uniformity between the various county codes. Our members are already reporting great difficulty in trying to understand the differences from one county to another, mostly based on their effective date. All the counties have to eventually conform with changes to the Code however, their effective dates can vary greatly.

In order to complicate the situation, getting answers from the various county building departments is oftentimes difficult and non-binding.

While we think there can be some avenue for determining specific island needs, we also think that uniformity should be the overriding factor and based on that we are opposed to this bill.

Thank you.



BUILDBETTER.LIVEBETTER.®

February 15, 2023

Committee: House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Bill Number: HB 920 HD1, Relating to the State Building Code
Hearing Date and Time: February 16, 2023 at 2:00pm
Re: HPM Building Supply Comments

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Committee Members:

I would like to submit this letter and comment on HB 920 HD1, Relating to the State Building Code. HPM's understanding of HB 920 HD1 is to amend current state statutes and allow the Counties to consider and adopt residential building code provisions and standards that are "distinct" or differ from the State model codes. Further, we understand that the expressed intent is not to compromise safe building construction but to identify and implement codes and standards that may be more relevant and applicable to local jurisdiction and the environment. In addition, we believe that the proposed language may assist with creating more affordable construction for our communities.

HPM Building Supply is a 101-year-old company that has been helping Hawaii build better since its founding in 1921. In my role as President and CEO of HPM Building Supply, I lead our company's 17 locations and facilities with over 500 employees on all major Hawaiian Islands. Our guiding philosophy is to help our customers build better and live better by enhancing homes, improving lives, and transforming communities. HPM has been providing homeowners & contractors in our community with HPM package homes for 40 years, with additional services such as home planning, design and drafting services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on HB 920 HD1. We hope that this letter provides more insight for the committee's deliberation on this bill.

Sincerely,

Dennis Lin
Community Relations Administrator



(808) 966-5466 • FAX (808) 966-7564
16-166 MELEKAHIWA STREET • KEAAU, HAWAII 96749

HPMHAWAII.COM





HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
2:00 PM

February 16, 2023

RE: HB 920 - RELATING TO HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and members of the committee:

My name is Max Lindsey, 2023 Government Relations Committee Chair 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. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA Hawaii is in strong support of HB 920, Relating to the Hawaii State Building Code. This bill would allow the counties to adopt a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwellings, duplexes, and non-commercial structures that is distinct from the Hawai'i state building codes.

Hawaii's counties and their building needs are distinct from one another. This bill would allow for the counties to adopt residential, non-commercial building codes that are better suited to their specific needs.

Hawaii is in a major housing crisis, which continues to worsen. As the Legislature is aware, the cost of housing in Hawaii is extremely high, with Oahu's median price of homes being currently over \$1 million. Approximately 153,967 U.S. households are priced out of buying a home for every \$1000 increase in price, according to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). We are in support of legislation that would allow for the building of much-needed housing at every price point in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support of HB 920.