



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

LATE

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Friday, February 3, 2023
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312 and Videoconference

Providing **COMMENTS** on
HB 920

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE.

Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) respectfully offers comments on this bill which allows the counties to adopt a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwellings, duplexes, and non-commercial structures that is distinct from the Hawaii state building codes.

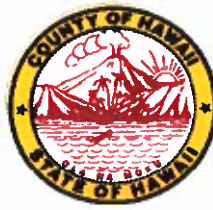
Hawai'i Revised Statutes 107-28 states that **"The governing body of each county shall amend**, adopt, and update the Hawaii state building codes **as they apply within their respective jurisdiction**, in accordance with section 46-1.5(13), without approval of the council" [emphasis added].

The HSEO participated in the writing of HRS 107-28 when the county building division managers made it clear that Hawai'i is a home-rule state and autonomy regarding building codes is a very important issue for them.

HSEO feels that HB 920 is thereby unnecessary due to the clarity of the phrase **"The governing body of each county shall amend"** and the current practice of counties amending the state building codes prior to adoption.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify.

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
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 920
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
Chair, Rep. Troy N. Hashimoto
Vice-Chair, Rep. Micah P.K. Aiu

Hearing Date: Friday, February 3, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Time/Place of Hearing: Via Video Conference / Conference Room 312

Aloha Honorable Chair Hashimoto, Honorable Vice Chair Aiu, and members of the Committee on Housing.

On behalf of the County of Hawai'i, I am expressing our strong support for HB 920 relating to the county authority to amend and adopt the Hawai'i State Building Codes without council approval, specific to a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwelling units, duplexes, and non-commercial structures distinct from the Hawai'i State building codes.

The County of Hawai'i supports the passage of HB 920, which would give counties flexibility and remove identified, unnecessary regulations that, at times, create delays and add time and costs to the construction of desperately needed, affordable, single-family dwellings, ohana units, and duplexes.

The County of Hawaii finds the Hawai'i State Building Code is based on a national standard that, in a significant number of cases, is not applicable to Hawai'i's specific environment or to the building of affordable, safe and sound single-family dwellings.

The County of Hawai'i strongly supports the passage of HB 920. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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 1, 2023

TO: The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Chair
House Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2023; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 920,
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.

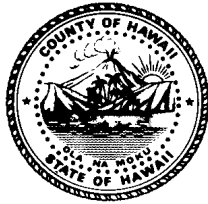
For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

ocs:proj:legis:23legis:23testimony:hb920_paf23-007(7)_jpp

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Lee E. Lord
Managing Director

West Hawai'i Office
74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
Phone (808) 323-4770
Fax (808) 327-3563



County of Hawai'i
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Zendo Kern
Director

Jeffrey W. Darrow
Deputy Director

East Hawai'i Office
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone (808) 961-8288
Fax (808) 961-8742

February 1, 2022

Testimony by
ZENDO KERN
Director, County of Hawai'i Planning Department
before the
Committee on Housing
Friday, February 3, 2023, 9:00 A.M.
State Capitol Conference Room 312 – Via Videoconference

In consideration of
HB 920
Relating to the Hawaii State Building Code

Honorable Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu and Members of the Housing Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in Support of House Bill 920 relating to the Hawaii State Building Code. This bill is a critical tool that allow counties to effectively support attainable and affordable housing based on their individuals needs.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

KEKUHAUPIO R. AKANA
Acting Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

February 2, 2023

TO: Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Chair
Honorable Micah P.K. Aiu, Vice Chair
House Committee on Housing

FROM: Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor

DATE: February 2, 2023

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB 920, RELATING TO HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow 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.

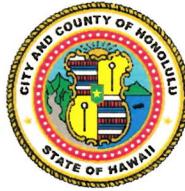
Our administration **SUPPORTS** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure provides counties with flexibility, and removes barriers created by unnecessary regulations that can delay and increase costs to affordable workforce housing projects.
2. The measure recognizes that while the Hawai'i State Building Code is based on a national standard, it does not always factor Hawai'i's unique environment, and how that may impact a counties ability to support expedited, affordable workforce housing projects.

For the foregoing reasons, we offer our **SUPPORT** of this measure.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

MICHAEL D. FORMBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR

KRISHNA F. JAYARAM
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

February 2, 2023

The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Chair
The Honorable Micah P.K. Aiu, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Housing
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 442
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hasimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 920
RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE.

The City and County of Honolulu offers its support of House Bill No. 920. This measure would allow counties to adopt a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwellings, duplexes, and non-commercial structures that is distinct from the Hawaii state building. To the extent that HB 920 provides the counties the ability to consider a county building code that facilitates the construction of affordable housing, the City and County of Honolulu supports further discussion and consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Formby".

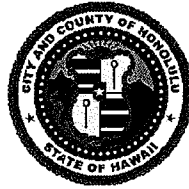
Michael D. Formby
Managing Director

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-8000 • FAX: (808) 768-6041
DEPT. WEB SITE: www.honolulu.dpp.org • CITY WEB SITE: www.honolulu.gov

LATE

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



DAWN TAKEUCHI APUNA
DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

JIRO SUMADA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 3, 2023

The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Housing
Hawaii House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hashimoto and Committee Members:

**Subject: House Bill No. 920
Relating to the Hawaii State Building Code**

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **supports** House Bill No. 920, which would allow the counties to adopt a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwellings, duplexes, and non-commercial structures distinct from the Hawaii State Building Codes.

This Bill will provide the counties with the flexibility to adopt codes that are specific to the county. In turn, counties will be able to remove codes that do not apply to the county, codes that can create delays in the processing of permits and add time and costs to the construction of these dwelling units.

For the reasons stated above, we respectfully ask that House Bill No. 920 be passed out of your committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Dawn Takeuchi Apuna".

Dawn Takeuchi Apuna
Director



February 2, 2023

Committee: House Committee on Housing
Bill Number: HB 920, Relating to the State Building Code
Hearing Date and Time: February 3, 2023 at 9:00am
Re: HPM Building Supply Comments

Dear Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, and Committee Members:

I would like to submit this letter and comment on HB 920, Relating to the State Building Code. HPM's understanding of HB 920 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. We hope that this letter provides more insight for the committee's deliberation on this bill.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto
President & CEO



LATE

HB-920

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 9:18:15 AM

Testimony for HSG on 2/3/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marshall Hickox	Homeworks Construction, Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Homeworks Construction Inc., a design build residential contractor strongly supports this bill. It will help eliminate negative and unintended consequences of new or revised building codes that do not make since for our many unique building environments.

Regards,

Marshall R. Hickox

President and Chief Administrative Officer

LATE



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
9:00 AM**

February 3, 2023

RE: HB 920 - RELATING TO HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE

Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, 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.

LATE LATE

HB-920

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 8:26:55 AM

Testimony for HSG on 2/3/2023 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawaii	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii is in a climate emergency. Counties should not be free to adopt building codes that require less efficiency measures than the State Building Code. Please amend this bill accordingly or defer it.

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawaii (by Ted Bohlen)