

ACT 188

S.B. NO. 742

A Bill for an Act Relating to the State Fire Council.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the state fire council needs to employ staff to accomplish its statutory duties and responsibilities. The state fire council, among other things:

- (1) Appoints advisory committees comprised of representatives from each county fire department to assist in drafting the state fire code;
- (2) Assists in coordinating statewide training, data collection, and contingency planning needs for firefighters;
- (3) Prescribes standard procedures and forms relating to inspections, investigations, and reporting of fires;
- (4) Approves plans for cooperation among the county fire departments;
- (5) Advises the governor and the legislature with respect to fire prevention and protection, life safety, and any other functions or ac-

tivities for which the various county fire departments are generally responsible;

- (6) Serves as a point of contact through which all applications to the federal government for federal grant assistance for fire-related projects shall be made and administers those federal grants;
- (7) Coordinates statewide fire and life safety training, education, and inspection of state buildings and facilities; and
- (8) Prescribes standard procedures and forms relating to inspections, investigations, and reporting of fires.

Currently, the state fire council has one part-time administrative assistant position, and there is no statutory provision for the hiring of staff. More positions are needed for the state fire council to fulfill its statutory mandate and to protect the public safety.

The purpose of this Act is to allow the state fire council to employ an administrator and administrative assistant.

SECTION 2. Chapter 132, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§132- Administrative staffing for the state fire council. (a) The state fire council may employ on a full-time basis an administrator and administrative assistant, without regard to chapters 76 and 89. The administrator shall administer the affairs of the state fire council at the direction of the council. The state fire council shall determine the compensation for the administrator and the administrative assistant.

(b) The administrator and administrative assistant shall assist the state fire council in carrying out the duties of the council under section 132-16, including:

- (1) Administration of the daily operations of the state fire council;
- (2) Administration of the adoption process of the state fire code by the counties;
- (3) Submission of applications for and expending of federal grants and assistance for fire-related projects;
- (4) Administration of the reduced ignition propensity cigarette program;
- (5) Coordination of the statewide fire and life safety training, education, and data collection programs; and
- (6) Implementation of other related duties as directed by the state fire council.

(c) The budgetary requirements for conducting meetings and other related functions of the state fire council, including the salaries of the administrator and administrative assistant, shall be included in the budget of the department of labor and industrial relations.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

(Approved July 5, 2011.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.