

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS State Fire Council 830 Punchbowl Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations The State Senate State Capitol, Room 219 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Taniguchi:

Subject: S.B. 1059, S.D. 1 Relating to Fireworks

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support S.B. 1059, S.D. 1, which proposes to establish an illegal fireworks task force administratively attached to the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation.

The SFC and the HFD believe this bill will organize various agencies to work on solutions to better enforce the growing distribution and use of illegal fireworks in our communities. Each year, the use of illegal fireworks, namely aerials by unlicensed, nonprofessional persons, continues to increase. These illegal fireworks pose a fire and life-safety risk and danger to the public. Enhanced enforcement strategies and cooperation between county, state, and federal agencies are essential.

The SFC and the HFD request your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 1059, S.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please call HFD Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely,

KENNETH G. SILVA

Chair

KGS/LR:bh

John T. Blalock Deputy Fire Chief



COUNTY OF KAUAI Fire Department Mo'ikeha Building 4444 Rice Street, Suite 295 Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawaii 96766

February 27, 2009

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations The State Senate State Capitol, Room 219 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Taniguchi:

Subject: S.B. 1059 S.D. 1 Relating to Fireworks

I am Robert F. Westerman, member of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD support S.B. 1059, S.D. 1, which proposes to establish an illegal fireworks task force administratively attached to the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation.

The SFC and the KFD believe this bill will organize various agencies to work on solutions to better enforce the growing distribution and use of illegal fireworks in our communities. Each year, the use of illegal fireworks, namely aerials by unlicensed, nonprofessional persons, continues to increase. These illegal fireworks pose a fire and life-safety risk and danger to the public. Enhanced enforcement strategies and cooperation between county, state, and federal agencies are essential.

The SFC and the KFD request your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 1059, S.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please call me at 241-4980.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Westerman

Robert Westerman

Fire Chief

RFW/LR:cz



JEFFREY A. MURRAY

ROBERT M. SHIMADA DEPUTY CHIEF

### COUNTY OF MAUI DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

200 DAIRY ROAD KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732 (808) 270-7561 FAX (808) 270-7919

February 25, 2009

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair Committee on Judiciary and Government The State Senate State Capitol, Room 219 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Taniguchi:

Subject: S.B. 1059 S.D. 1 Relating to Fireworks

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Member of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the County of Maui, Department of Fire and Public Safety (DOFAPS). The SFC and the DOFAPS support S.B. 1059, S.D. 1, which proposes to establish an illegal fireworks task force administratively attached to the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation.

The SFC and the DOFAPS believe this bill will organize various agencies to work on solutions to better enforce the growing distribution and use of illegal fireworks in our communities. Each year, the use of illegal fireworks, namely aerials by unlicensed, nonprofessional persons, continues to increase. These illegal fireworks pose a fire and life-safety risk and danger to the public. Enhanced enforcement strategies and cooperation between county, state, and federal agencies are essential.

The SFC and the DOFAPS request your committee's support on the passage of S.B. 1059, S.D.

Should you have any questions, please call Honolulu Fire Department's Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely

JEFFREY A. MURRAY

Fire Chief

JAM:rgkin

Vic Angoco Matson Navigation Company, Inc.

Mar Labrador Horizon-Lines, LLC

Glenn Hong Young Brothers, Ltd./Hawaiian Tug and Barge

Grant Karamatsu NCL America, Inc.

Douglas Won Sause Bros., Inc.

Richard Maxwell Aloha Cargo Transport, Division of Northland Services, Inc

Robert T. Guard McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co., Ltd.

Jeff Brennan Hawaii Stevedores, Inc.

John Garibaldi Hawaii Superferry, Inc.

Lance Tanaka Tesoro Hawaii Corporation

Stephanie Ackerman The Gas Company

Eric Yoshizawa Ameron Hawaii

Nate Lopez Hawaiian Cement

Gary North Chairman

#### SB 1059 RELATING TO FIREWORKS

## GARY NORTH CHAIRMAN HAWAII HARBORS USERS GROUP

#### **FEBRUARY 27, 2009**

Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations:

I am Gary North, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Harbors Users Group (HHUG), on SB 1059.

The Hawaii Harbor Users Group (HHUG) is a non-profit maritime transportation industry group comprised of the following key harbor users: Matson Navigation Company, Horizon Lines, LLC, Young Brothers/Hawaii Tug & Barge, Norwegian Cruse Line, Sause Brothers Inc., Aloha Cargo Transport (ACT), Hawaii Stevedores, McCabe Hamilton & Renny Stevedores, Hawaii Superferry, Tesoro Hawaii Corporation, The Gas Company, Ameron Hawaii, and Hawaiian Cement.

Thank you for taking my testimony in regards to SB 1059. <u>I</u>

am not tendering a position, but do have a suggestion in relation to the make up of the proposed task force.

Should you pass this bill, I would recommend that members of the shipping and trucking industry be included on the task force

along with the already listed governmental agencies. These industries ensure that the transportation chain is handled in a safe and efficient manner.

Thank you for taking my suggestion into consideration during your discussion and deliberation of SB1059.