SB 213

Report Title:

RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Measure Title:

Reconfigures the membership of the state building code council by eliminating members from the department of health and department of labor and industrial relations, and adding members from the Building Industry Association, General Contractors' Association, Hawaii Construction Alliance, and Subcontractors' Association of Hawaii. Changes the requirements for a quorum from six to seven. Eliminates the council's obligation to consult with private sector representatives regarding construction practices and training.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR RICHARD C. LIM DIRECTOR MARY ALICE EVANS DEPUTY DIRECTOR JESSE K. SOUKI DIRECTOR OFFICE OF PLANNING

OFFICE OF PLANNING 235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Telephone: (808) 587-2846 Fax: (808) 587-2824

Statement of

JESSE K. SOUKI

Director, Office of Planning Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Thursday, February 7, 2013 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of SB 213 RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.

Chair Espero and Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

The Office of Planning (OP) offers the following comments on Senate Bill 213, which reconfigures the membership of the State Building Code Council (Council) to increase construction industry and building trade representation on the Council.

OP administers Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 205A (Coastal Zone Management). An objective of HRS Chapter 205A is to reduce the loss of life and property from coastal hazards. The purpose of building codes is to establish minimum acceptable standards necessary for preserving the public health, safety, and welfare, and to protect property. Thus, building codes and the quality of design and construction of structures play a direct role in protection of life and property in a natural disaster. OP recommends that the current composition of the Council be amended as set forth in the Administration's Senate Bill 999, where new members of the Council represent the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Department of Accounting and General Services. Under Senate Bill 999, the new members have significant experience in building design. The composition of the Council as set forth under Senate Bill 999 emphasizes and ensures membership of individuals with comprehensive and direct knowledge of building design and codes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on this measure.



AUDREY HIDANO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.hawaii.gov/labor

February 7, 2013

- To: Senator Will Espero, Chair, Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
- Date: Thursday, February 7, 2013

Time: 3:00 p.m.

- Place: Conference Room 224, State Capitol
- From: Dwight Y. Takamine, Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

RE: SB 213 RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

S.B. 213 reconfigures the membership of the State Building Code Council by eliminating the member from the DLIR. DLIR would prefer to remain a part of the Council, especially as Act 103 (SLH, 2012) has given the ability for the DLIR to participate in the meetings.

The measure also contains the following provisions:

- Eliminates a members from the Department of Health
- Add members representing the Building Industry Association, General Contractors' Association, Hawaii Construction Alliance and Subcontractors' Association of Hawaii
- Increases the number of voting members of the council from nine to eleven
- Changes the requirements for a quorum from six to seven voting members.
- Eliminates the council's obligation to consult with private sector representatives regarding construction practices and training

II. CURRENT LAW

Currently, the State Building Code Council has ten members, nine voting members (one county building official from each of the four counties, one member representing S.B. 213 February 7, 2013 Page 2

> the state fire council, one member representing the Department of Health, one member representing the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, one representative from the American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council, one representative from the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii) and one nonvoting member representing the comptroller's office.

A quorum is six voting members.

A subcommittee consisting of the representatives from the county building departments proposes changes to the building codes and state amendments require unanimous agreement of the subcommittee.

The council is required to consult with building trade associations to gather information on practices relevant to building codes and standards.

III. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL

The Department offers the following comments on the measure:

Because DLIR administers both Boiler and Elevator law, removing it from the State Building Code Council would be counterproductive. While fiscal restraints during the past few years have made DLIR's attendance of meetings sporadic, with the passage of Act 103 (SLH, 2012), which provided for ten additional, special funded positions, the department believes it has sufficient staff resources to actively participate in council meetings for the foreseeable future.

With the addition of four members representing the regulated community and the removal of two members of the regulatory agencies, the proposed voting membership of the council seems to be weighted toward the regulated community. We believe that the majority of the council members should be from the regulatory agencies.

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 213 A BILL RELATING TO THE BUILDING CODE

PRESENTATION TO THE

<u>COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,</u> <u>AND MILITARY AFFAIRS</u>

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG ADJUTANT GENERAL

February 6, 2013

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, Committee members:

I am Major General Darryll Wong, Director of Civil Defense, State Department of Defense. I am providing written testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 213.

Senate Bill 213, as written, is a proposition that could result in significant loss of life during disasters. It completely changes the makeup of the State Building Code Council by eliminating two state stakeholders and inserting four members from the construction industry. Three of the proposed construction industry members have never appeared before the Council previously to exhibit an active interest in the process. This bill obviates a balanced approach since there would be no state departments represented on the State Building Code Council at all.

We support updating Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 107 part II, State Building Code and Design Standards as proposed in SB 999, which was authored and unanimously approved by the State Building Council, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) and submitted as part of the Governor's Administrative Package. This bill provides a preferred means of optimizing the State Building Code Council and emphasizes membership that reflects a comprehensive and direct knowledge of building design and code requirements. This is critical in the development and updating of appropriate building codes that will withstand our unique threats and hazards and thereby protect the citizens of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony that opposes this bill.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR



DWIGHT TAKAMINE DIRECTOR

AUDREY HIDANO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.hawaii.gov/labor Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099 Feisi werreit for Com 4%ii.gov

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs The State Senate State Capitol, Room 231 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero:

Subject: S.B. 213 Relating to the State Building Code Council

I am Robert Westerman, Vice Chair of the State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD supports the intent of S.B. 213, which seeks to reconfigure the membership of the State Building Code Council (SBCC), to include the Building Industry Association (BIA) and the General Contractors Association (GCA) only. The BIA and the GCA have attended several SBCC meetings and have actively participated in the SBCC's residential fire sprinkler investigative committee providing valuable home builder perspective and input.

This would create representation to the SBCC from builders, designers and code regulators, of which the SFC is a current voting member. Although not proposed in this bill, the SFC also support the addition of voting members from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), who provide support for the design, construction and maintenance of state projects and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBET), who promotes industry development, economic diversification and energy efficiency and conservation.

The SFC and the KFD urge your committee's support of S.B. 213, which would include representatives from the BIA, the GCA, DAGS, and DEBT.

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

lociata Bratafier

ROBERT WESTERMAN Chair

RW/LR

ALAN M. ARAKAWA MAYOR



JEFFREY A. MURRAY CHIEF

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 EMAIL: fire.dept@mauicounty.gov

February 6, 2013

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs The State Senate State Capitol, Room 231 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero:

Subject: S.B. 213 Relating to the State Building Code Council

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Fire Chief of the County of Maui, Department of Fire & Public Safety (MFD) and a member of the State Fire Council (SFC). The MFD and the SFC supports the intent of S.B. 213, which seeks to reconfigure the membership of the State Building Code Council (SBCC), to include the Building Industry Association (BIA) and the General Contractors Association (GCA) only. The BIA and the GCA have attended several SBCC meetings and have actively participated in the SBCC's residential fire sprinkler investigative committee providing valuable home builder perspective and input.

This would create representation to the SBCC from builders, designers and code regulators, of which the SFC is a current voting member. Although not proposed in this bill, the SFC also support the addition of voting members from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), who provide support for the design, construction and maintenance of state projects and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBET), who promotes industry development, economic diversification and energy efficiency and conservation.

The MFD and the SFC urge your committee's support of S.B. 213, which would include representatives from the BIA, the GCA, DAGS, and DEBT.

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair Page 2 February 6, 2013

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7151 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely, JÉFFREY A. MURRA Fire Chief

BIA-HAWAII

BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

"Building Better Communities"

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Ryan Engle Bays Lung Rose & Holma

Scotty Anderson Pacific Rim Partners

W. Bruce Barrett Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc. Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Thursday, February 7, 2013 3:00 p.m. State Capitol - Conference Room 224

RE: S.B. 213, RELATING TO THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Chair Espero, Vice-Chair Baker, and members of the committee:

My name is Gladys Marrone, Government Relations Director for the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii), the voice of the construction industry. We promote our members through advocacy and education, and provide community outreach programs to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit professional trade organization chartered in 1955, affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders.

BIA-Hawaii **strongly supports** S.B. 213, which reconfigures the membership of the State Building Code Council by eliminating certain members and adding members representing the construction industry.

The current composition of the State Building Code Council (SBCC) includes four county building officials, representatives from the State Fire Council, Department of Health, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, American Institute of Architects, and from the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii.

Adding representatives from the construction industry would not be anything new. According to the International Code Council, at least 25 state building code councils include representation from the construction industry. As voting members, the construction industry would be able to provide valuable input to the SBCC regarding the impacts of code changes on construction practice, costs, and whether materials to meet the new requirements are even available in our State. While Chapter 107 requires the SBCC to consult with the construction industry, we do not have a vote. We are making a reasonable proposal that the construction industry have a voice on the SBCC.

Based on the foregoing reasons, BIA-Hawaii strongly supports S.B. 213.

Thank you for the opportunity to express to you our views.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 970967, Waipahu, HI 96797 Street address: 94-487 Akoki St., Waipahu, HI 96797-0967; Telephone: (808) 847-4666 Fax: (808) 440-1198 E-mail: info@biahawaii.org; www.biahawaii.org



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

P.O. Box 3348, Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

February 5, 2013

TO:

The Senate

Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Senator Will Espero, Chair; Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair FAX 586-6659

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 213 Relating to the State Building Code Hearing February 7, 2013 3:00 pm Conference Room 224

Honorable Members of the Committee:

The Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii (SEAOH) is the local chapter of the National Council of Structural Engineering Associations (NCSEA), and we have over 200 active members in Hawaii. SEAOH has a historic role - spanning several decades in assisting Hawaii with the development of the technical portions of the building codes.

Background: In 2007, HRS 107 Part II, State Building Code and Design Standards, established a process that incorporates consideration of the environmental and natural hazards of Hawaii. Local state amendments to the building code have been developed within the Hawaii State Building Code Council as prescribed by State Law HRS 107 Part II. The existing law permits the counties to make modifications to design and construction requirements in the local county building code to be adopted within a two-year deadline after the approval of the statewide code. However, by requiring the Hawaii State Building Code to be the basis for the local code, and given that all four county building officials must unanimously agree to any provisions in the Hawaii State Building Code, unnecessary divergences between the building code adopted by the counties are avoided. Building officials now have at least three years of notification of the approval the Council has given to any new code provision.

We must oppose Senate Bill 213 and recommend that it be held in committee:

- 1. The present State Building Code Council takes on the role of a panel of knowledgeable experts and state agencies that have responsibility for the affected regulations under current state law. SB212 would eliminate two state stakeholders from the due process and insert four business interests from the construction industry. We note that three of these organizations have never appeared before the Council to take a prior active interest in the process. SB213 goes beyond a reasonably balanced approach because there would actually be no state departments represented on the State Building Council at all. We note that there are only two representatives of the design professions that are the actual users of the codes and standards that govern the design of buildings and other structures. The other members would be county employees. Therefore, the proposed changes would make no sense for a State Building Code and disenfranchise the state's interests.
- We support modernizing Hawaii Revised Statutes HRS 107 part II, State Building Code and Design Standards as proposed in SB999, which was unanimiously authored and approved by the Council, the Department of <u>Accounting and General Services, and submitted by the Governor</u>. In this bill, we provide the preferred means of greater optimization of the state building code council to emphasize membership requiring more comprehensive and direct knowledge of building design and codes.

Gary Chock, S.E.

Ian Robertson, Ph.D., S.E. SEAOH Legislative Committee

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Hawaii Chapter

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Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Sen. Will Espero, Chair Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Comments of Associated Builders and Contractors, Hawaii Chapter Regarding Senate Bill 213

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and members of the committee. My name is Malcolm Barcarse, Jr. I am the legislative committee chair for Associated Builders and Contractors, Hawaii Chapter. We are an organization of 165 members serving the merit shop construction industry through apprenticeship programs and other services. We also serve as the voice of the approximately 4500 merit shop construction companies in Hawaii.

While we think that the idea of putting the construction industry on the State Building Code Council is a step in the right direction, we feel that Associated Builders and Contractors, Hawaii Chapter would provide unique and valuable insight that the other proposed members do not provide to the council. Our members are active members of the construction industry. They do projects as both general and subcontractors in a variety of commerce, industrial, and residential situations. Our members do projects for a wide variety of customers in the private sector, and also perform government contracting at the Federal, State, and county levels.

The area that sets us apart from the other organizations is that we run apprenticeship programs in a variety of trades. Apprenticeship is the lifeblood of the Construction industry, as that is how the trades are perpetuated. It is essential that people with valuable experience in training the next generation of the Construction Industry have representation on the council and that's where we can provide valuable insight.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this matter.

America's Best Contractors

1375 Dillingham Blvd. Suite 200 Honolulu, HI 96817-4438 Phone (808) 845-4887 Fax (808) 847-7876 www.abchawaii.org



DOCAL UNION NO. 126



International Union of Elevator Gonstructors

AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO SUITE 215, 707 ALAKEA STREET • HONOLULU, HI 96813 • TELEPHONE (808) 536-8653 • FAX (808) 537-3779

> The Twenty-Seventh Legislature Regular Session of 2013 Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Thursday, February 7, 2013 3:00 p. m., Conference Room 224

Senate Bill No. 213 Relating to the State Building Code Council

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair, Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair, and Esteemed Members of the Committee:

SB213 removes from the State building Code Council a representative of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations who has significant experience in elevator safety. As the Business Representative of the International Union of Elevators Constructors, Local 126, it has been my mission to increase public safety by reducing the years of backlog and delays in elevator inspections statewide. Since the enactment of Act 103, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relation's Elevator Inspection Division, which has been systematically under-staffed for a number of years, now has the means to not only reduce the backlog of elevator inspections, but also have the means to effectively contribute toward the goals and objectives of the State Building Code Council.

Who else could better serve on the State Building Code Council than a State Elevator Inspector from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations who is well versed in the ASME A17 Code (Safety Codes and Standards for Elevators and Escalators) as well as the NFPA and NEC Codes as they relate to Elevators and Escalators?

If your goal is Public Safety, then eliminating this position does a disservice to the very people we are looking to protect. For this reason the International Union of Elevator Constructors, Local 126 strongly opposes SB213.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Yamane Business Representative Financial Secretary IUEC, Local 126 707 Alakea St. #215 Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 536-8653

IRONWORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

February 4, 2013

Wil Espero, Chair Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs State Senate State Capitol 415 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Date:February 7, 2013Time:3:00 p.m.Place:Conference Room 224, State Capitol

Dear Honorable Chair Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs:

Re: Opposition for SB213 – Relating to the State Building Code Council

We are in opposition of SB 213, relating to State Building Code Council, that reconfigures the membership of the state building code council.

The purpose of this bill strongly goes against the intent of a State and International Building Code Council to protect the lives of the general public. At this time, the State of Hawaii is under tremendous pressure to review all elevators in Hawaii. As we can even in the State Capitol and State Building's there are a need to examine and review all elevators in Hawaii. Additionally, the City and County of Honolulu is under a US Environmental Protection Agency decree to update its sewage system. If we do not have representatives to review and update the building codes, the public will be at risk.

Additionally, this bill states that the Council does not have a representative from the construction trades. As such, we hope that if this bill passes your committee that you would include a representative from the **Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council**, since they represent the specialty construction crafts for Hawaii. This will ensure that a member of the construction trade will be part of this council.

We oppose this measure for the working men and women of Hawaii. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Arnold Wong /s/

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

February 7, 2013

Honorable Will Espero, Chair Senate Committee Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

Re: Senate Bill 213 Relating to the State Building Code

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee,

My name is Daniel Chun, Government Affairs Chair of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Hawaii State Council. AIA **SUPPORTS THE INTENT** of SB 213 that seeks to add some construction industry voting membership to the State Building code Council SBCC. AIA offers the following points for your consideration as this bill moves forward:

PSM 3:00 pm

Keep parity in the design and construction industry

Currently the AIA and the SEAOH Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii hold voting membership by statute. While the AIA understands that many states have voting membership by construction organizations, we will be concerned if design professional societies are under-represented with respect to the construction half of our industry.

SB 213 does not now call for the voting addition of specialized design professions such as mechanical and electrical engineers. We suppose that the bill drafter is concerned about too large of a Council. AIA agrees that the Council must not be too large of a group and become a "legislature" established on a broadly representational basis. We want the voting members to act as individually independent voices as is now the case if one attends the monthly SBCC meetings.

Use selection criteria if adding voting members

AIA recommends that you use selection criteria to decide which construction organizations are to be voting members: [*We use italics to show how AIA meets the selection criteria*]

1. Represents a nationally organized construction organization that has a holistic view of buildings or a major sector of building construction such as homebuilders. {*AIA founded 1857 and currently has some 80,00 architect members in US. Member of the Union of International Architects*]

- 2. Representative of a broad number of persons active in Hawaii's industry [AIA has some 600 professional members in Hawaii with local chapters in Honolulu and Maui]
- 3. Actively interest in the mission of the State Building Code Council evidenced by maintaining an in-house active codes committee, attendance at monthly SBCC meetings or applying for variances from the SBCC. [AIA has chapter code committees in both Honolulu and Maui counties. AIA code committees have historically worked with their county building officials to consider amendments at each building code update cycle]

The construction industry is a cooperative industry because otherwise no buildings will be completed. If you add and revise the voting members, we ask that the divisiveness that surfaces in some Senate bills not be a built-in at the State Building Code Council.

Delete the language of Page 4 lines 6 through 9

AIA recommends that the current language requiring the SBCC to consult with construction and trade organizations remain in the statute. More consultation is always good in the adoption and amending of building codes.

The Chinese adage says "80% is the work of the master." However, the work of the constructor is also important. Thank you for this opportunity to **SUPPORT THE INTENT** of SB 213.

, Juiflan

АСЕС

President Terrance Arashiro, P.E. Austin, Tsutsumi & Assoc. Ph: (808) 533-3646

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Ginny M. Wright Executive Director P.O. Box 88840 Honolulu, HI 96830 Ph: (808) 234-0821 Cell: (808) 741-4772 Fx: (808) 234-1721 Email: gwright@acechawaii.org Website: www.acechawaii.org February 6, 2013

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Hearing Date: Thursday, February 7, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 224

Honorable Senators Will Espero, Chair; Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair; and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

Subject: SB 213, Relating to the State Building Code Council TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Committee Members:

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii (ACECH) represents almost 70 member firms with over 1,300 employees throughout Hawaii. ACECH has been in favor of a state-wide building code as it enhances public safety and should reduce construction costs by providing a uniform code applicable for construction projects in any county. We have supported the concept of the State Building Code Council to recommend changes to and advocate for the implementation of the statewide code.

The bill proposes to delete current members and add four members of the construction industry. We feel it is important that the State Building Code Council have input from a variety of stakeholders and, therefore, do not oppose the addition of members of the construction industry.

However, it seems excessive to add four members from that group. The design professional community, traditionally heavily involved with developing and updating building codes, only has two representatives on the Council. Design professionals are extensively involved with the specification of building codes, and additional representation by that group may be useful. ACECH would offer to fill another seat on the State Building Code Council so that mechanical, electrical, sewage, and other expertise from the broad range of disciplines represented by ACECH could be tapped as appropriate and needed.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted, AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF HAWAII

Terrance Arashiro, P.E. President



February 6, 2013

The Honorable Will Espero, Chairman Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs State Capitol, Room 231 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Testimony on SB 213 - Relating to State Building Code Council - Representation

Dear Chairman Espero and Committee Members:

The International Code Council is a 50,000 member, non-profit public benefit corporation dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe, sustainable, energy-efficient and affordable construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process.

The International Code Council (ICC) supports in principle SB 213. The bill seeks to establish representation on the Hawaii State Building Code Council from the construction industry. It is not the intention of the International Code Council to comment on specific stakeholders that should or should not hold positions on the Hawaii State Building Code Council. We recognize it is for the Legislature to decide the size and makeup of the Council. As a matter of context we'd like to describe some of the essential elements we value as important and as major advantages of our ICC consensus-based, open, public and transparent code development process.

The ICC Code Development Process is conducted in open public hearings and our committees are a makeup of representatives from across all sectors of the construction industry and include government code regulators, members of the fire service, design professionals from the many fields of practice, construction industry representatives, testing lab engineers and other users of the codes that are interested in creating a fire-safe, life-safe, sustainable, healthy and cost-effective built environment. Our process ensures that the model code regulations reflect the latest technical advancements and address the concerns of those throughout the industry and government.

Sincerely,

Kraig-Stevenson, CBO ICC Government Relations <u>kstevenson@iccsafe.org</u> 562-201-9209