
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE COUNCIL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a need to
2 set minimum qualification standards in testing and certification
3 of individuals, operators, and contractors who perform
4 maintenance and conduct tests of portable fire extinguishers,
5 fire protection systems, and fire alarm systems. It is
6 recommended that these certifications be recognized throughout
7 the State of Hawaii and be based on current adopted state fire
8 code and standards.

9 The legislature also finds that there is a need to develop,
10 implement, and coordinate a statewide system to promote the
11 effective use of fire and life safety resources.

12 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the state fire
13 council to:

14 (1) Establish statewide qualifications and procedures for
15 testing, certifying, and credentialing individuals who
16 conduct maintenance testing of fire extinguishers, fire
17 protection systems, and fire alarm systems to be
18 administered by county fire departments; provided that
19 the county fire departments may establish and charge
20 reasonable certification fees; and



1 (2) Develop, coordinate, and implement a statewide system
2 to promote the effective use of fire and life safety
3 resources.

4 SECTION 2. Section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "**§132-16 State fire council; composition; functions.** (a)

7 There is established a state fire council which shall be placed
8 within the department of labor and industrial relations for
9 administrative purposes. The state fire council shall consist
10 of the fire chiefs of the counties. The state fire council may
11 appoint an advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its
12 functions under this chapter. The advisory committee may
13 include the heads of the various county building departments, a
14 licensed architect recommended by the Hawaii Society of the
15 American Institute of Architects, a licensed electrical engineer
16 and a licensed mechanical engineer recommended by the Consulting
17 Engineers Council of Hawaii, a representative of the Hawaii
18 Rating Bureau, a representative of the Hawaii firefighters
19 association, representatives of the county fire departments, and
20 such other members of the public as the state fire council may
21 determine can best assist it. The state fire council shall
22 elect a chairperson from among its members.



1 (b) In addition to adopting a state fire code pursuant to
2 section 132-3, the state fire council shall:

3 (1) Administer the requirements for reduced ignition
4 propensity cigarettes, in accordance with chapter
5 132C; and

6 (2) Serve as a focal point through which all applications
7 to the federal government for federal grant assistance
8 for fire-related projects shall be made. Upon the
9 receipt of any such federal grants, the state fire
10 council shall administer those federal grants.

11 (c) The state fire council may also:

12 (1) Appoint advisory committees comprised of
13 representatives from each county fire department to
14 assist in drafting the state fire code and
15 coordinating statewide training, data collection, and
16 contingency planning needs for firefighters; [and]

17 (2) Advise and assist the county fire departments where
18 appropriate, may prescribe standard procedures and
19 forms relating to inspections, investigations, and
20 reporting of fires, may approve plans for cooperation
21 among the county fire departments, and may advise the
22 governor and the legislature with respect to fire



1 prevention and protection, life safety, and any other
2 functions or activities for which the various county
3 fire departments are generally responsible[-];

4 (3) Establish, in conformance with the adopted state fire
5 code and nationally recognized standards, statewide
6 qualifications and procedures, to be administered by
7 the county fire departments, for testing, certifying,
8 and credentialing individuals who conduct maintenance
9 testing of fire extinguishers, fire protection
10 systems, and fire alarm systems; provided that the
11 county fire departments may establish and charge
12 reasonable certification fees; and

13 (4) Develop, implement, and coordinate a statewide system
14 to promote the effective use of fire and life safety
15 resources. For purposes of this paragraph "fire and
16 life safety resources" includes federal, state, and
17 county police, fire, medical services, 911 emergency
18 call facilities, and other health and safety services
19 and facilities.

20 (d) The state fire council may adopt rules pursuant to
21 chapter 91 for purposes of this section."



- 1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Fire Protection; State Fire Council

Description:

Authorizes the State Fire Council to: (1) Establish statewide qualifications and procedures for testing, certifying, and credentialing individuals who conduct maintenance testing of fire extinguishers, fire protection systems, and fire alarm systems; and (2) Implement a statewide system to promote the effective use of fire and life safety resources. (HB2365 HD1)

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