

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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March 15, 2016

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
Committee on Public Safety
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 324
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Takayama:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2484 Relating to Fireworks

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support SB 2484, which proposes to increase the display permit fee from \$110 to \$300.

This permit authorizes licensed pyrotechnicians to conduct outdoor aerial and indoor fireworks displays at special events. Although the permit fee has remained the same for 13 years, administrative costs to process, review, and approve have increased. This includes an evaluation of the firing site, distance to audiences, and proximity to adjacent structures and combustible vegetation. On-site verification of fireworks inventory before and after the event, inspection of pyrotechnic equipment, safety precautions, and weather conditions are some of the items reviewed.

Public safety and property protection are priorities for the HFD's approval of fireworks permits. The SFC and the HFD urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 2484.

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
Page 2
March 15, 2016

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or sbratakos@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. P. Neves', with a stylized, cursive script.

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

MPN/EYS:clc

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Robert F. Westerman
Fire Chief

Nadine K. Nakamura
Managing Director

KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 315, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4980 FAX (808) 241-6508

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
Committee on Public Safety
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 324
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Takayama and Rhoads:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2484 Relating to Fireworks

I am Robert F. Westerman, Vice Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The SFC and the KFD support SB 2484, which proposes to increase the display permit fee from \$110 to \$300.

This permit authorizes licensed pyrotechnicians to conduct outdoor aerial and indoor fireworks displays at special events. Although the permit fee has remained the same for 13 years, administrative costs to process, review, and approve have increased. This includes an evaluation of the firing site, distance to audiences, and proximity to adjacent structures and combustible vegetation. On-site verification of fireworks inventory before and after the event, inspection of pyrotechnic equipment, safety precautions, and weather conditions are some of the items reviewed.

Public safety and property protection are priorities of KFD's approval process and is in favor of having the permit fees increased appropriately.

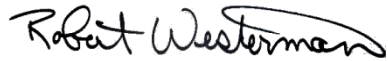
The SFC and the KFD urges your support on the passage of S.B. 2484.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
The Honorable Carl Rhoads, Chair
Page 2
March 15, 2016

Please call me at (808) 241-4975 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

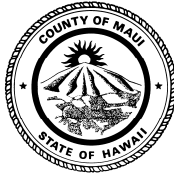
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Westerman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Robert Westerman
Fire Chief, County of Kauaʻi

RFW/eld

ALAN M ARAKAWA
MAYOR



JEFFREY MURRAY
FIRE CHIEF

ROBERT SHIMADA
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY

200 DAIRY ROAD
KAHULUI, HI 96732
(808) 270-7561
Fax (808) 270-7919

March 16, 2016

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
Committee on Public Safety
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 324
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Takayama and Rhoads:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 2484 Relating to Fireworks

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC and the MFD support SB 2484, which proposes to increase the display permit fee from \$110 to \$300.

This permit authorizes licensed pyrotechnicians to conduct outdoor aerial and indoor fireworks displays at special events. Although the permit fee has remained the same for 13 years, administrative costs to process, review, and approve have increased. This includes an evaluation of the firing site, distance to audiences, and proximity to adjacent structures and combustible vegetation. On-site verification of fireworks inventory before and after the event, inspection of pyrotechnic equipment, safety precautions, and weather conditions are some of the items reviewed.

Public safety and property protection are priorities for the MFD's approval of fireworks permits. The SFC and the MFD urge your committee's support on the passage of SB 2484.

Should you have questions please contact me at (808) 270-7561 or fire.dept@mauicounty.gov.

The Honorable Gregg Takayama, Chair
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Page 2
March 16, 2016

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Murray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

JEFFREY A. MURRAY, Chief
Maui Fire Department

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 2:40 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: KarinNomura1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2484 on Mar 17, 2016 10:00AM

SB2484

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for PBS on Mar 17, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karin Nomura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hope that the next one will include an increase to home usage or fireworks, as I have fireworks popping from prior to Thanksgiving till after Chinese New Years and maybe increasing the costs associated with these items being popped on days when it's supposed to be "illegal" (I say supposed to be, as I was asked if they were "illegal" fireworks or regular fireworks, and if they were tiny or big ones...during the Thanksgiving period) Also, stricter enforcement/regulations/restrictions of fireworks or banning fireworks except for commercial purposes, will be in the works again, because the abuse in the past 2 years, has been atrocious.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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