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**GCA of Hawaii**  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII  
Quality People. Quality Projects.

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March 1, 2016

TO: HONORABLE JILL TOKUDA, CHAIR, HONORABLE DONOVAN DELA CRUZ,  
VICE CHAIR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF S.B. 2638, RELATING TO STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL.** Appropriates money to the state building code council.

HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 1, 2016  
TIME: 1:40 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Tokuda and Vice Chair Dela Cruz and Members,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over five hundred seventy general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

GCA **supports** S.B. 2638, Relating to State Building Code, which proposes to fund the State Building Code Council, whom since its inception has not been funded. Yet, the members of the State Building Code Council continue to meet monthly and engage industry stakeholders and government agencies who are interested in addressing model building codes that govern how both public and private buildings are constructed.

In 2007, this body recognized its importance and memorialized such in a Committee report when it said,

[t]he adoption of a uniform set of statewide building codes applicable to one and two family dwellings, all other residential uses, commercial and industrial buildings, and state buildings would make it possible for building owners, designers, contractors and code enforcers within the State to apply a consistent standard. The health and safety considerations related to the codes are of statewide interest, especially relating to emergency disaster preparedness. Hawaii State Legislature S. Comm Rpt. 784, March 2, 2007.

In order for the State Building Code Council to deliver on the adoption of uniform building codes -- it is necessary that they have administrative support to successfully complete their duties.

The GCA appreciates the Committee hearing this measure and thank you for the opportunity to share our support of this measure.