



law took effect on September 30, 2009. More than 700 brand/style cigarettes were certified by the SFC as being RIPC-compliant. A \$375 fee was also attached for each brand/style cigarette that was certified for sale in our state. Almost \$660,000 in RIPC certification fees were collected before an RIPC Program Specialist was hired on January 16, 2014.

Since then, a plan has been formulated and instituted to properly administer Hawaii's RIPC law. Besides paying for the RIPC Program Specialist's salary, funds from the RIPC Special Fund has been used to defray office expenses, field inspections, and random independent testing by certified laboratories.

The following chart shows the current status of the RIPC income and expenses and examples on the potential use of funds for statewide programs, training, and a new position:

Average Annual Fees Collected (2015-present)	\$129,900
Average Annual Expenses (2015-present)	\$124,000
Current Balance	\$682,000

Program	Current Expense	Recurring Expense
<b>Youth Fire Prevention Intervention Program (triennial)</b>	<b>\$ 24,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
Materials, supplies, and equipment	600	600
Contract instructor	5,000	2,500
Personnel	19,000	9,500
<b>Fire Fighter's Safety Guide Program</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>
Materials and printing	32,500	32,500
Personnel	11,500	1,500
<b>SFC Data Analyst</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>72,000</b>
<b>Fire Investigator Training (triennial )</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>2,800</b>
Reid interview techniques	2,500	833
Vehicular fire investigations	2,700	900
International Association of Arson Investigators International Training Council	3,200	1,067
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>	<b>\$123,000</b>

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Page 3  
February 4, 2022

Currently, there are several programs that have been implemented by one or more of our county fire departments. Key among them is the Fire Fighter's Safety Guide, which has been in existence for more than 30 years. Each year, more than 150,000 booklets filled with fire and life safety information are distributed to elementary school children statewide. There have been several accounts where students acknowledged that information learned from the booklet helped them escape and save family members during a fire or other emergency.

Specialized training could include fire/arson investigation and youth fire setter intervention. Community education programs, such as senior fire and fall prevention, fire evacuation planning and drills, fire prevention week mural exhibition projects, and Smoke Alarms For Everyone, could be initiated. Many times, funding at the county-level is lacking or does not exist.

This bill will allow the SFC to fulfill its mission with existing revenue to properly support the educational programs and training for a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. The SFC urges the committee's approval of HB 1481.

We request that the bill be amended to include an appropriation of \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2022 and \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2023 in addition to the current amount designated to administer the RIPC Program.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at 723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Goble', with a stylized flourish at the end.

STEVEN GOBLE  
Chair

SG/GL

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

636 South Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5007  
Phone: 808-723-7139 Fax: 808-723-7111 Internet: [www.honolulu.gov/hfd](http://www.honolulu.gov/hfd)

RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR



SHELDON K. HAO  
FIRE CHIEF

JASON SAMALA  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Health, Human Services  
and Homelessness  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 1481 Relating to the Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Program

My name is Sheldon K. Hao, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports HB 1481, which authorizes additional uses for and appropriates monies in the RIPC program special fund to support the State Fire Council (SFC) and its programs and activities. However, we would like to amend the bill to include an appropriation of \$100,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 and \$100,000 for FY 2023 in addition to the current amount designated to administer the RIPC Program.

The SFC was established by the Hawaii State (State) Legislature in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's office. It is comprised of the four county Fire Chiefs and administratively attached to the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes §132, the SFC's primary mission is to develop and support a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. Through the collaborative and unified efforts of each county Fire Chief, the SFC promotes the standardization of fire service reporting, training, sharing of technology, resources, and best management practices. The SFC may advise and assist the county fire departments where appropriate; prescribe standard procedures and forms related to inspections, investigations, and reporting of fires; and advise the Governor and State Legislature on issues relating to fire prevention and protection and life safety.

On July 6, 2008, during the 24<sup>th</sup> Hawaii State Legislature Regular Session, Act 218 was passed, and Hawaii became the 36<sup>th</sup> state requiring only RIPC be sold in Hawaii. This law took effect on September 30, 2009. More than 700 brand/style cigarettes were certified by the SFC as being RIPC-compliant. A \$375 fee was also attached for each brand/style cigarette that was certified for sale in our state. Almost \$660,000 in RIPC certification fees were collected before an RIPC Program Specialist was hired on January 16, 2014.

Since then, a plan has been formulated and instituted to properly administer Hawaii's RIPC law. Besides paying for the RIPC Program Specialist's salary, funds from the RIPC Special Fund has been used to defray office expenses, field inspections, and random independent testing by certified laboratories.

The following chart shows the current status of the RIPC income and expenses and examples on the potential use of funds for statewide programs, training, and a new position:

Average Annual Fees Collected (2015-present)	\$129,900
Average Annual Expenses (2015-present)	\$124,000
Current Balance	\$682,000

Program	Current Expense	Recurring Expense
<b>Youth Fire Prevention Intervention Program (triennial)</b>	<b>\$ 24,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
Materials, supplies, and equipment	600	600
Contract instructor	5,000	2,500
Personnel	19,000	9,500
<b>Fire Fighter's Safety Guide (FFSG) Program</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>
Materials and printing	32,500	32,500
Personnel	11,500	1,500
<b>SFC Data Analyst</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>72,000</b>
<b>Fire Investigator Training (triennial )</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>2,800</b>
Reid interview techniques	2,500	833
Vehicular fire investigations	2,700	900
International Association of Arson Investigators International Training Council	3,200	1,067
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>	<b>\$123,000</b>

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Page 3  
February 4, 2022

Currently, there are several programs that have been implemented by one or more of our county fire departments. Key among them is the FFSG, which has been in existence for more than 30 years. Each year, more than 150,000 booklets filled with fire and life safety information are distributed to elementary school children statewide. There have been several accounts where students acknowledged that information learned from the booklet helped them escape and save family members during a fire or other emergency.

Specialized training could include fire/arson investigation and youth fire setter intervention. Community education programs, such as senior fire and fall prevention, fire evacuation planning and drills, fire prevention week mural exhibition projects, and Smoke Alarms For Everyone, could be initiated. Many times, funding at the county level is lacking or does not exist.

This bill will allow the SFC to fulfill its mission with existing revenue to properly support the educational programs and training for a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State.

The HFD urges the committee's approval of HB 1481 with the abovementioned amendment.

Should you have questions, please contact Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov) or 808-723-7169.

Sincerely,



SHELDON K. HAO  
Fire Chief

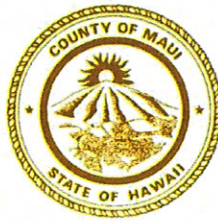
SKH/GL:cn



**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**BRADFORD K. VENTURA**  
Fire Chief

**GAVIN L.M. FUJIOKA**  
Deputy Fire Chief



**DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY**

COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, HI 96732

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Health, Human Services  
and Homelessness  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 1481 Relating to the Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Program

I am Bradford Ventura, member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC supports HB 1481, which authorizes additional uses for and appropriates moneys in the RIPC program special fund to support the SFC and its programs and activities.

The SFC was established by the Hawaii State (State) Legislature in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's office. It is comprised of the four county Fire Chiefs and administratively attached to the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes §132, the SFC's primary mission is to develop and support a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. Through the collaborative and unified efforts of each county Fire Chief, the SFC promotes the standardization of fire service reporting, training, sharing of technology, resources, and best management practices. The SFC may advise and assist the county fire departments where appropriate; prescribe standard procedures and forms related to inspections, investigations, and reporting of fires; and advise the Governor and State Legislature on issues relating to fire prevention and protection and life safety.

On July 6, 2008, during the 24<sup>th</sup> Hawaii State Legislature Regular Session, Act 218 was passed, and Hawaii became the 36<sup>th</sup> state requiring only RIPC be sold in Hawaii. This law took effect on September 30, 2009. More than 700 brand/style cigarettes were certified by the SFC as being RIPC-compliant. A \$375 fee was also attached for each brand/style cigarette that was certified for sale in our state. Almost \$660,000 in RIPC certification fees were collected before an RIPC Program Specialist was hired on January 16, 2014.

Since then, a plan has been formulated and instituted to properly administer Hawaii's RIPC law. Besides paying for the RIPC Program Specialist's salary, funds from the RIPC Special Fund has been used to defray office expenses, field inspections, and random independent testing by certified laboratories.

The following chart shows the current status of the RIPC income and expenses and examples on the potential use of funds for statewide programs, training, and a new position:

Average Annual Fees Collected (2015-present)	\$129,900	
Average Annual Expenses (2015-present)	\$124,000	
Current Balance	\$682,000	
Program	Current Expense	Recurring Expense
<b>Youth Fire Prevention Intervention Program (triennial)</b>	<b>\$ 24,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
Materials, supplies, and equipment	600	600
Contract instructor	5,000	2,500
Personnel	19,000	9,500
<b>Fire Fighter's Safety Guide Program</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>
Materials and printing	32,500	32,500
Personnel	11,500	1,500
<b>SFC Data Analyst</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>72,000</b>
<b>Fire Investigator Training (triennial )</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>2,800</b>
Reid interview techniques	2,500	833
Vehicular fire investigations	2,700	900
International Association of Arson Investigators International Training Council	3,200	1,067
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>	<b>\$123,000</b>

Currently, there are several programs that have been implemented by one or more of our county fire departments. Key among them is the Fire Fighter's Safety Guide, which has been in existence for more than 30 years. Each year, more than 150,000 booklets filled with fire and life safety information are distributed to elementary school children statewide. There have been several accounts where students acknowledged that information learned from the booklet helped them escape and save family members during a fire or other emergency.

Specialized training could include fire/arson investigation and youth fire setter intervention. Community education programs, such as senior fire and fall prevention, fire evacuation planning and drills, fire prevention week mural exhibition projects, and Smoke Alarms For Everyone, could be initiated. Many times, funding at the county-level is lacking or does not exist.



The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair

Page 3

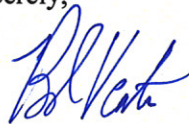
February 4, 2022

This bill will allow the SFC to fulfill its mission with existing revenue to properly support the educational programs and training for a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. The SFC urges the committee's approval of HB 1481.

We request that the bill be amended to include an appropriation of \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2022 and \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2023 in addition to the current amount designated to administer the RIPC Program.

If you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Gary Lum at (808) 723-7169 or [glum@honolulu.gov](mailto:glum@honolulu.gov).

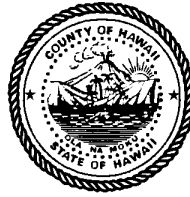
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BK Ventura", is positioned above the printed name.

BRADFORD K. VENTURA  
Fire Chief

**Mitchell D. Roth**  
*Mayor*

**Lee E. Lord**  
*Managing Director*



**Kazuo S. K. L. Todd**  
*Fire Chief*

**Eric H. Moller**  
*Deputy Fire Chief*

**County of Hawai'i**  
**HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720  
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

February 4, 2022

The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair  
Committee on Health, Human Services and Homelessness  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 420  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 1481 Relating to the Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Program

I am Kazuo S. K. L. Todd, Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department. I support HB 1481, which authorizes additional uses for and appropriates moneys in the RIPC program special fund to support the SFC and its programs and activities.

The SFC was established by the Hawaii State (State) Legislature in 1979 to replace the State Fire Marshal's office. It is comprised of the four county Fire Chiefs and administratively attached to the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR).

In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes §132, the SFC's primary mission is to develop and support a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. Through the collaborative and unified efforts of each county Fire Chief, the SFC promotes the standardization of fire service reporting, training, sharing of technology, resources, and best management practices. The SFC may advise and assist the county fire departments where appropriate; prescribe standard procedures and forms related to inspections, investigations, and reporting of fires; and advise the Governor and State Legislature on issues relating to fire prevention and protection and life safety.

On July 6, 2008, during the 24<sup>th</sup> Hawaii State Legislature Regular Session, Act 218 was passed, and Hawaii became the 36<sup>th</sup> state requiring only RIPC be sold in Hawaii. This law took effect on September 30, 2009. More than 700 brand/style cigarettes were certified by the SFC as being RIPC-compliant. A \$375 fee was also attached for each brand/style cigarette that was certified for sale in our state. Almost \$660,000 in RIPC certification fees were collected before an RIPC Program Specialist was hired on January 16, 2014.

Since then, a plan has been formulated and instituted to properly administer Hawaii's RIPC law. Besides paying for the RIPC Program Specialist's salary, funds from the RIPC Special Fund has been used to defray office expenses, field inspections, and random independent testing by certified laboratories.

The following chart shows the current status of the RIPC income and expenses and examples on the potential use of funds for statewide programs, training, and a new position:

Average Annual Fees Collected (2015-present)	\$129,900
Average Annual Expenses (2015-present)	\$124,000
Current Balance	\$682,000

Program	Current Expense	Recurring Expense
<b>Youth Fire Prevention Intervention Program (triennial)</b>	<b>\$ 24,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
Materials, supplies, and equipment	600	600
Contract instructor	5,000	2,500
Personnel	19,000	9,500
<b>Fire Fighter's Safety Guide Program</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>44,000</b>
Materials and printing	32,500	32,500
Personnel	11,500	1,500
<b>SFC Data Analyst</b>	<b>72,000</b>	<b>72,000</b>
<b>Fire Investigator Training (triennial )</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>2,800</b>
Reid interview techniques	2,500	833
Vehicular fire investigations	2,700	900
International Association of Arson Investigators International Training Council	3,200	1,067
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$149,000</b>	<b>\$123,000</b>

Currently, there are several programs that have been implemented by one or more of our county fire departments. Key among them is the Fire Fighter's Safety Guide, which has been in existence for more than 30 years. Each year, more than 150,000 booklets filled with fire and life safety information are distributed to elementary school children statewide. There have been several accounts where students acknowledged that information learned from the booklet helped them escape and save family members during a fire or other emergency.

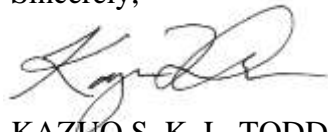
Specialized training could include fire/arson investigation and youth fire setter intervention. Community education programs, such as senior fire and fall prevention, fire evacuation planning and drills, fire prevention week mural exhibition projects, and Smoke Alarms for Everyone, could be initiated. Many times, funding at the county-level is lacking or does not exist.

This bill will allow the SFC to fulfill its mission with existing revenue to properly support the educational programs and training for a comprehensive fire service emergency management network for the protection of life, property, and the environment for the State. I urge the committee's approval of HB 1481.

I request that the bill be amended to include an appropriation of \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2022 and \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2023 in addition to the current amount designated to administer the RIPC Program.

Should you have questions, please contact me at 808-932-2903 or [kazuo.todd@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:kazuo.todd@hawaiiicounty.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kazuo S. K. L. Todd', written in a cursive style.

KAZUO S. K. L. TODD  
Fire Chief  
Hawai'i Fire Department

KT:lk

**HB-1481**

Submitted on: 2/5/2022 4:57:43 PM

Testimony for HHH on 2/8/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jessica Chang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

.