193 S.B. NO. S.D. 1 H.D. 1

C.D. 1

1

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 in 1979, the 2 legislature abolished the state fire marshal's office and 3 created the state fire council, which comprises the four county fire chiefs and is administratively attached to the department 4 5 of labor and industrial relations. The goal of the state fire 6 council is to develop and maintain a comprehensive fire service 7 emergency management network for the protection of life, 8 property, and the environment throughout the State. The state 9 fire council is tasked with reviewing and adopting the state 10 fire code, providing administrative oversight of the reduced 11 ignition propensity cigarettes program, providing assistance 12 with the application for and administration of federal grants 13 for the fire service, assisting with and coordinating the 14 statewide delivery of fire training programs, coordinating the 15 collection of fire data, and supporting contingency planning 16 needs for fire fighters. The state fire council is required to establish statewide qualifications for testing, certifying, and 17 18 credentialing individuals who perform maintenance and testing of 2023-2956 SB193 CD1 SMA.docx 

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1 portable fire extinguishers, fire protection systems, and fire 2 alarm systems. The state fire council may also advise the 3 governor and the legislature on matters related to fire 4 prevention, fire protection, and life safety. The state fire 5 council is a voting member of the state building code council, 6 whose responsibilities are delineated in section 107-24, Hawaii 7 Revised Statutes.

8 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii state 9 aircraft rescue fire fighting unit and the division of forestry 10 and wildlife of the department of land and natural resources 11 communicate and collaborate with the county fire departments on 12 a regular basis during emergency incidents and non-emergency 13 administrative matters. The two agencies provide specialty 14 expertise and equipment in emergent and non-emergent 15 environments that the county fire departments do not possess due 16 to training, funding, or mission requirements. The Hawaii state 17 aircraft rescue fire fighting unit and the division of forestry 18 and wildlife of the department of land and natural resources 19 could provide unique perspectives to facilitate accomplishment 20 of the state fire council's functions as described in 21 section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The potential results

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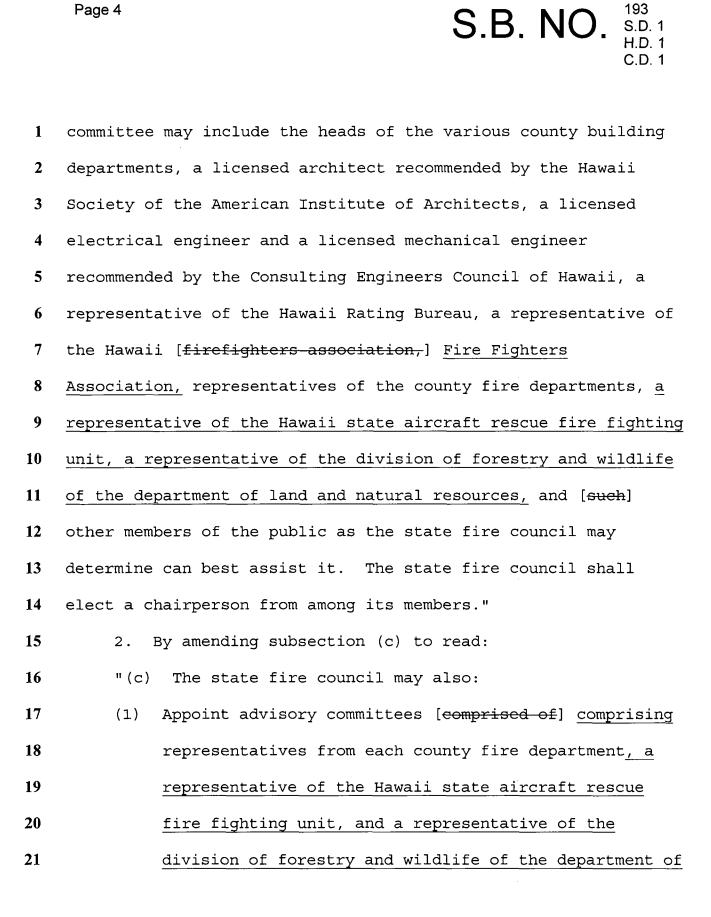
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1	are greater insight into Hawaii's fire risk and improvements
2	relating to the protection of persons and property against fire.
3	Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to add to the
4	membership of the state fire council, and to the membership of
5	advisory committees that the council may appoint,
6	representatives from the Hawaii state aircraft rescue fire
7	fighting unit and the division of forestry and wildlife of the
8	department of land and natural resources to reflect all
9	non-federal fire fighting agencies in the State.
10	SECTION 2. Section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11	amended as follows:
12	1. By amending subsection (a) to read:
13	"(a) There is established a state fire council, which
14	shall be placed within the department of labor and industrial
15	relations for administrative purposes. The state fire council
16	shall consist of the fire chiefs of the counties $[-]$ , the fire
17	chief of the Hawaii state aircraft rescue fire fighting unit,
18	and a representative of the division of forestry and wildlife of
19	the department of land and natural resources. The state fire
20	council may appoint an advisory committee to assist it in
21	carrying out its functions under this chapter. The advisory

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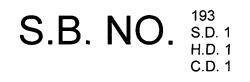
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1 land and natural resources to assist in drafting the 2 state fire code and coordinating statewide training, 3 data collection, and contingency planning needs for 4 firefighters;

5 (2) Advise and assist the county and state fire 6 departments where appropriate  $[\tau]$ ; may prescribe 7 standard procedures and forms relating to inspections, 8 investigations, and reporting of fires [7]; may approve 9 plans for cooperation among the county and state fire 10 departments  $[\tau]$ ; and may advise the governor and the 11 legislature with respect to fire prevention and 12 protection, life safety, and any other functions or 13 activities for which the various county and state fire 14 departments are generally responsible; and 15 (3) Establish, in conformance with the adopted state fire 16 code and nationally recognized standards, statewide 17 qualifications and procedures, to be administered by 18 the county fire departments, for testing, certifying, 19 and credentialing individuals who perform maintenance 20 and testing of portable fire extinguishers, 21 water-based fire protection systems, other fire

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1	protection systems, private fire hydrants, and fire
2	alarm systems; provided that the county fire
3	departments may establish and charge reasonable
4	certification fees."
5	SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
6	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
7	SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.





**Report Title:** State Fire Council Package; Composition; Members

#### Description:

Adds to the membership of the State Fire Council, and to the membership of advisory committees that the Council may appoint, representatives from the Hawaii State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit and the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to reflect all non-federal fire fighting agencies in the State. (CD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

