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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, on August 8, 2023,  
2 the historic town of Lahaina suffered a devastating fire. A  
3 confluence of environmental and geographic factors, combined  
4 with preparedness and response conditions, enabled the fire to  
5 rapidly intensify into an urban conflagration resulting in heavy  
6 loss of life, widespread destruction of homes and businesses,  
7 and catastrophic impacts on the community.

8       The legislature further finds that, in the aftermath of the  
9 Lahaina fire, several independent initiatives were launched to  
10 investigate and identify the cause of the fire, identify  
11 preventative action to reduce the risk of fires throughout the  
12 State, and further reforms to bolster fire preparedness. One  
13 such initiative, the interim working groups established by the  
14 house of representatives, identified the need for staff  
15 specifically dedicated to wildland fire prevention and proposed  
16 the establishment of the office of the state fire marshal to  
17 serve as the staff dedicated to such wildland fire prevention.



1       The legislature also finds that, in response to that  
2       proposal, Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, was enacted to  
3       establish the office of the state fire marshal, determine the  
4       duties and jurisdiction of the state fire marshal, and fund the  
5       office, including the salary for one full-time equivalent  
6       permanent state fire marshal, for fiscal year 2024-2025.

7       The legislature finds that, subsequent to the regular  
8       session of 2024, another initiative, the Lahaina Fire Incident  
9       Analysis Report by the Fire Safety Research Institute,  
10      independently identified the need for a state-funded  
11      organization with the sole responsibility for wildfire  
12      readiness, such as a state fire marshal. The Lahaina Fire  
13      Incident Analysis Report also contemplates greater  
14      responsibilities for the state fire marshal. The legislature  
15      believes that the compensation for the state fire marshal should  
16      be commensurate with the greater responsibilities contemplated  
17      in the Lahaina Fire Incident Analysis Report.

18      Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
19      funds to supplement the salary for the state fire marshal.

20      SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
21      revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                      or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
3 year 2026-2027 to supplement the salary of the one full-time  
4 equivalent (1.00 FTE) permanent state fire marshal.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
6 of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



# H.B. NO. 201 H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

DLIR; State Fire Marshal; Salary; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to supplement the salary of the State Fire Marshal. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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