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SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

February 5, 2026

To: The Honorable Jackson D. Sayama, Chair,
The Honorable Mike Lee, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Labor

Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. 2320 RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE COUNCIL

The **DLIR strongly supports** HB2320, which designates the Department of Law Enforcement—rather than the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations—as the agency responsible for budgeting administrative staffing for the State Fire Council.

This amendment aligns with the intent of Act 302 (SLH 2025), which transferred the State Fire Council and the State Fire Marshal to the Department of Law Enforcement for administrative purposes effective July 1, 2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important matter.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
Director

ERNEST J. ROBELLO
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
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DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
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JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2320
RELATING TO STATE FIRE COUNCIL
Before the House Committee on
LABOR

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 9:30 AM

State Capitol Conference Room 309

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF Dorothy Booth, State Fire Marshal

Chair Sayama, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee:

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) supports House Bill 2320. This bill proposes to replace the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations with the Department of Law Enforcement as the department responsible for budgeting administrative staffing for the State Fire Council.

The State Fire Council has significant public safety responsibilities related to fire protection and prevention throughout the state. Having the DLE responsible for the administrative staffing budget for the State Fire Council creates a more logical alignment of public safety functions within state government. This alignment is particularly appropriate given the DLE's support for recent legislative initiatives to establish OSFM as an attached agency to the department, which would work closely with the State Fire Council on matters relating to fire services in the State.

By transferring this budgetary responsibility to the DLE, the bill creates a more

streamlined and cohesive approach to public safety administration, consistent with the Legislature's goal to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, and reduce duplication of efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.