
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 there is a need to
2 set minimum qualification standards in testing and certification
3 of individuals, operators, and contractors who perform
4 maintenance and conduct tests of portable fire extinguishers,
5 fire protection systems, and fire alarm systems. It is
6 recommended that these certifications be recognized throughout
7 the State of Hawaii and be based on current adopted state fire
8 code and standards.

9 The legislature also finds that there is a need to develop,
10 implement, and coordinate a statewide system to promote the
11 effective use of fire and life safety resources.

12 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the State Fire
13 Council to:

14 (1) Establish procedures for statewide qualifications,
15 testing, and certification for individuals who conduct
16 maintenance testing of fire extinguishers, fire
17 protection, and fire alarm systems. The county fire
18 departments shall administer the testing and
19 certification for individuals who conduct maintenance
20 testing of fire extinguishers, fire protection, and



1 fire alarm systems, and may charge a reasonable fee
2 for the testing and certification; and
3 (2) Develop, coordinate, and implement a statewide system
4 to promote the effective use of fire and life safety
5 resources.

6 SECTION 2. Section 132-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 **"§132-16 State fire council; composition; functions. (a)**

9 There is established a state fire council which shall be placed
10 within the department of labor and industrial relations for
11 administrative purposes. The state fire council shall consist
12 of the fire chiefs of the counties. The state fire council may
13 appoint an advisory committee to assist it in carrying out its
14 functions under this chapter. The advisory committee may
15 include the heads of the various county building departments, a
16 licensed architect recommended by the Hawaii Society of the
17 American Institute of Architects, a licensed electrical engineer
18 and a licensed mechanical engineer recommended by the Consulting
19 Engineers Council of Hawaii, a representative of the Hawaii
20 Rating Bureau, a representative of the Hawaii firefighters
21 association, representatives of the county fire departments, and
22 such other members of the public as the state fire council may



1 determine can best assist it. The state fire council shall
2 elect a chairperson from among its members.

3 (b) In addition to adopting a state fire code pursuant to
4 section 132-3, the state fire council shall:

5 (1) Administer the requirements for reduced ignition
6 propensity cigarettes, in accordance with chapter
7 132C; and

8 (2) Serve as a focal point through which all applications
9 to the federal government for federal grant assistance
10 for fire-related projects shall be made. Upon the
11 receipt of any such federal grants, the state fire
12 council shall administer those federal grants.

13 (c) The state fire council may also:

14 (1) Appoint advisory committees comprised of
15 representatives from each county fire department to
16 assist in drafting the state fire code and
17 coordinating statewide training, data collection, and
18 contingency planning needs for firefighters; and

19 (2) Advise and assist the county fire departments where
20 appropriate, may prescribe standard procedures and
21 forms relating to inspections, investigations, and
22 reporting of fires, may approve plans for cooperation



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1 among the county fire departments, and may advise the
2 governor and the legislature with respect to fire
3 prevention and protection, life safety, and any other
4 functions or activities for which the various county
5 fire departments are generally responsible[-];

6 (3) Establish procedures for statewide qualifications,
7 testing, and certification for individuals who conduct
8 maintenance testing of fire extinguishers, fire
9 protection, and fire alarm systems. The county fire
10 departments shall administer the testing and
11 certification for individuals who conduct maintenance
12 testing of fire extinguishers, fire protection, and
13 fire alarm systems, and may charge a reasonable fee
14 for the testing and certification; and

15 (4) Develop, implement, and coordinate a statewide system
16 to promote the effective use of fire and life safety
17 resources. For purposes of this paragraph "fire and
18 life safety resources" includes federal, state, and
19 county police, fire, medical services, 911 emergency
20 call facilities, and other health and safety services
21 and facilities.



1 (d) The state fire council may adopt rules pursuant to
2 chapter 91 for purposes of this section."

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Fire Protection; State Fire Council

Description:

Authorizes the State Fire Council to: (1) Establish procedures for statewide qualifications, testing, and certification for individuals who conduct maintenance testing of fire protection systems; and (2) Implement a statewide system to promote the effective use of fire and life safety resources.

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