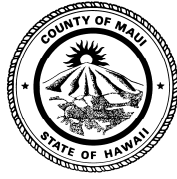


ALAN M ARAKAWA  
MAYOR



JEFFREY MURRAY  
FIRE CHIEF

ROBERT SHIMADA  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

COUNTY OF MAUI  
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY

200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, HI 96732  
(808) 270-7561  
Fax (808) 270-7919

February 13, 2017

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Committee on Government Operations  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 218  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,  
and Military Affairs  
The State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 214  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Kim and Nishihara:

Subject: Senate Bill (SB) 1297 Relating to Awarded Federal Emergency  
Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant

I am Jeffrey A. Murray, Member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC and the MFD support SB 1297, which proposes to appropriate funds through a FEMA grant for the State Building Code Council to update state building codes.

The bill supports the SBCC in reviewing and adopting amendments to the various building codes dealing in hazard mitigation. The SBCC is required to adopt building codes within 18 months of publishing a new edition. Presently, many building codes still reference their 2006 editions, which include the plumbing, residential, and building codes. Amendments to the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code, the International Residential Code, and the International Building Code have been completed, but lack the funding to be processed through the administrative rule process which has stalled, thus preventing the amendments from being adopted. As a result, only the fire, energy, and elevator codes are on the most current editions due to dedicated staff in other state departments that guide these codes through the adoption process.

The SFC and the MFD urge your committees' passage of SB 1297 for the safety and general welfare of our citizens.

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Clarence Nishihara, Shair  
Page 2  
February 13, 2017

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrator Socrates Bratakos at 723-7105 or [sbratakos@honolulu.gov](mailto:sbratakos@honolulu.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Murray". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

JEFFREY A. MURRAY  
Fire Chief

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, BASEMENT • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-8960 • FAX: (808) 523-3439 • WEB: www.honolulu.gov

**LATE**

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU  
DIRECTOR

PETER HIRAI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 14, 2017

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,  
and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair  
Committee on Government Operations  
State Senate  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, Chair Kim, Vice Chair Ruderman, and Members:

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF S.B. 1297 RELATING TO AWARDED FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT**

I am Melvin Kaku, Director of the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), City and County of Honolulu (City).


DEM strongly supports S.B. 1297 which proposes to provide \$75,000 to the State Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) in order to fund the State Building Code Council administrative rule process to adopt the 2012 International Building Code (IBC) hurricane standards and wind maps for hurricane risk mitigation. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds were awarded to DAGS in November 2016 so reimbursement is assured.

The updating of the State Building Code to 2012 IBC standards ensures that the State of Hawaii and City and County of Honolulu, Kauai County, Maui County, and Hawaii County are eligible for FEMA Public Assistance funds to repair, replace, or construct facilities that were damaged or destroyed during a Presidentially-Declared Disaster.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair  
February 14, 2017  
Page 2

FEMA Recovery Policy FP 104-009-4 governs Federal public assistance in the event of a declared disaster and stipulates that assistance eligibility for repairs, replacing, or construction must use, as a minimum, the hazard resistant standards referenced in the most recent edition of the state building code (IBC, IEBC, and IRBC) regarding reconstruction and repair of building damages during Presidentially-Declared Disasters.

I urge your committee to consider the amendments above. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
  
Melvin N. Kaku  
Director

cc: Roy K. Amemiya, Jr., Managing Director

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 13, 2017 4:51 PM  
**To:** GVO Testimony  
**Cc:** wmanonsen@consultant.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1297 on Feb 14, 2017 13:45PM\*

**SB1297**

Submitted on: 2/13/2017  
Testimony for GVO/PSM on Feb 14, 2017 13:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William Anonsen	The Maritime Group, LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)