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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION.

**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 testing of portable fire extinguishers, fire  
5 protection systems, and fire alarm systems. The legislature  
6 further finds that these certifications should be recognized  
7 throughout the State of Hawaii and be based on the currently  
8 adopted state fire code and standards.

9           The purpose of this Act is to authorize the state fire  
10 council to establish statewide qualifications and procedures for  
11 testing, certifying, and credentialing individuals who perform  
12 maintenance and testing of portable fire extinguishers, fire  
13 protection systems, and fire alarm systems to be administered by  
14 county fire departments; provided that the county fire  
15 departments may establish and charge reasonable certification  
16 fees.

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



1           "**§132-16 State fire council; composition; functions.** (a)

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

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

- 20           (1) Administer the requirements for reduced ignition  
21                 propensity cigarettes, in accordance with chapter  
22                 132C; and



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

6           (c)   The state fire council may also:

7           (1)   Appoint advisory committees comprised of  
8           representatives from each county fire department to  
9           assist in drafting the state fire code and  
10          coordinating statewide training, data collection, and  
11          contingency planning needs for firefighters; [~~and~~]

12          (2)   Advise and assist the county fire departments where  
13          appropriate, may prescribe standard procedures and  
14          forms relating to inspections, investigations, and  
15          reporting of fires, may approve plans for cooperation  
16          among the county fire departments, and may advise the  
17          governor and the legislature with respect to fire  
18          prevention and protection, life safety, and any other  
19          functions or activities for which the various county  
20          fire departments are generally responsible[-]; and

21          (3)   Establish, in conformance with the adopted state fire  
22          code and nationally recognized standards, statewide



1           qualifications and procedures, to be administered by  
2           the county fire departments, for testing, certifying,  
3           and credentialing individuals who perform maintenance  
4           and testing of portable fire extinguishers, fire  
5           protection systems, and fire alarm systems; provided  
6           that the county fire departments may establish and  
7           charge reasonable certification fees.

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

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

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



**Report Title:**

Fire Protection; State Fire Council

**Description:**

Authorizes the State Fire Council to establish statewide qualifications and procedures for testing, certifying, and credentialing individuals who conduct maintenance and testing of portable fire extinguishers, fire protection systems, and fire alarm systems. (CD1)

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

