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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 automatic fire  
2 sprinkler systems have a proven record of significantly reducing  
3 property damage, injuries, and deaths in residential fires.  
4 Installing both smoke alarms and sprinklers in the home reduces  
5 the risk of fire-related deaths by eighty-two per cent.  
6 Typically, only the sprinkler head closest to the fire will  
7 activate, and eighty-five per cent of fires are contained by the  
8 operation of just one sprinkler.

9           The legislature also finds that new dwellings are  
10 especially susceptible to residential fires. The engineered  
11 lumber used as composite joists or beams in newly constructed  
12 homes burns and collapses much more quickly than traditional  
13 wood. Modern furnishings also reach higher temperatures much  
14 more quickly than antique furnishings. A home without  
15 sprinklers places not only the occupants but also fire fighters  
16 in extreme danger.





1 final pricing for construction of a new dwelling, the builder  
2 shall provide to the buyer a copy of written materials prepared  
3 and adopted by the state fire council that detail the benefits  
4 of residential fire sprinkler systems. The builder shall also  
5 provide a written estimate of the costs associated with  
6 installing and maintaining a residential fire sprinkler system.  
7 The buyer shall acknowledge receipt of the materials in writing  
8 on a form provided by and filed with the department of commerce  
9 and consumer affairs professional licensing division. Upon  
10 request of the buyer, the builder shall install a residential  
11 fire sprinkler system or other requested fire suppression system  
12 at the buyer's expense.

13       **§ -3 Remedies and penalties.** Upon a finding that any  
14 person has wilfully violated this chapter, the person shall be  
15 subject for a first offense to a civil penalty of not less than  
16 \$75 or more than \$150 and, for each subsequent offense, a civil  
17 penalty of not less than \$100 or more than \$250. For the  
18 purposes of this chapter, a wilful violation occurs when the  
19 person committing the violation knew or should have known that  
20 the conduct was of the nature prohibited by this chapter.



1           §   -4 Residential fire sprinkler cost estimate form. (a)

2 To effectuate this chapter, the department of consumer affairs  
3 professional and vocational licensing division shall develop a  
4 standard form or forms to be used to confirm the buyer's receipt  
5 of the written materials required by section       -2. The form  
6 or forms may be amended from time to time by the department of  
7 commerce and consumer affairs.

8           (b) The form shall include:

- 9           (1) An acknowledgement that the buyer received a copy of  
10               written materials prepared and adopted by the state  
11               fire council that detail the benefits of residential  
12               fire sprinkler systems;
- 13           (2) The cost estimate provided by the builder for  
14               installing and maintaining a residential fire  
15               sprinkler system; and
- 16           (3) An indication of whether the buyer accepted or  
17               rejected the installation of a residential fire  
18               sprinkler system or other fire suppression system."





# H.B. NO. 1754

**Report Title:**

State Fire Council Package; Fire Protection; Mandatory Disclosure; DCCA

**Description:**

Requires the builders of new dwellings to provide buyers with information on the benefits and costs associated with installing and maintaining a residential fire sprinkler system. Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Professional and Vocational Licensing Division to develop a standard form for this purpose.

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