

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

MATTHEW GONSER, AICP, CFM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

October 3, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 39 (2022), CD2 Relating to the Adoption of the State Plumbing Code

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) supports Bill 39 (2022) CD2, which adopts the Hawai'i State Plumbing Code, 2018 Edition, with local amendments.

Recent events have highlighted vulnerabilities of our water supply and the importance of efficiency savings for long-term conservation of one of our most valued resources. This need for efficiency and conservation is paramount given additional pressures from existing and increasing climate change impacts, such as diminishing water supply in the face of increasing demand. As identified in the City's O'ahu Resilience Strategy, adopting up-to-date building codes is one of the most important steps the City can take to protect public safety and infrastructure in the face of these climate change impacts¹. Additionally adopting localized amendments to the codes ensures our buildings are designed for our unique and specific needs here on O'ahu, particularly in the face of a changing climate.

Bill 39, CD2's updates to the Plumbing Code will increase water efficiency in new buildings, and greater efficiency means resource and costs savings. In addition, Bill 39, CD2 complements efficiency efforts for existing buildings, such as the Board of Water Supply's WaterSensible rebates² and the City's Better Buildings Benchmarking

¹ City and County of Honolulu O'ahu Resilience Strategy, Action 11: Protect Lives and Property by Updating Building Codes: https://www.resilientoahu.org/s/Ola_Oahu_Resilience_Strategy-lfrm.pdf#page=27.

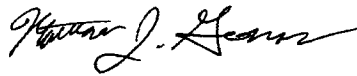
² Board of Water Supply WaterSensible: <https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/conservation/watersensible/rebates>.

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Program³.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of Bill 39, CD2. CCSR appreciates the Council's attention to ensuring our codes progress to reduce risk and increase resilience. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-2277 or via e-mail at resilientoahu@honolulu.gov.

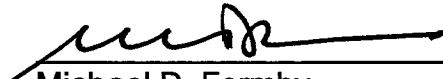
Sincerely,



Matthew Gonser
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

Digitally signed by Gonser,
Matthew
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APPROVED:



Michael D. Formby
Managing Director