

# CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF KAUAI

4231 Ahukini, Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766  
Phone (808) 246-2662 Fax (808) 246-8642



'09 NOV 18 AM 11

November 18, 2009

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
THE COUNTY OF KAUAI  
COUNTY SEAL

KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL

## **Testimony from the Contractors Association of Kauai on: Bill No. 2335, Relating to Electrical Code**

The Honorable Chair Bynum and Members of the Public Works Committee:

While the Contractors Association of Kauai (CAK) supports energy conservation practices, we ask the Council to amend Section 402.1.1.4 Roof Insulation by either:

- a) Deleting the entire section; or
- b) Limiting Section 402.1.1.4 to homes that will be air conditioned.
- c) Short of deleting or limiting the section, an exemption should be provided for affordable and gap housing projects and multi-family housing up to four-stories, that fall under the County of Kauai's definition of affordable housing.

The Contractors Association of Kauai does not believe that mandating roof insulation is in the best interest of Kauai's citizens. Insulation is used to protect against extreme seasonal temperatures, both heat and cold. Kauai, as a tropical climate zone, is not prone to these extreme temperatures and insulation does not become necessary to protect the public health and safety. This mandate will only serve to increase labor and material costs and result in added construction costs anywhere from \$2,400 to \$4,800 or higher, for a 1,500 square foot house. Further, CAK does not advocate insulation as it may encourage homeowners to install air conditioning. However, if a homeowner chooses to install central air conditioning, CAK acknowledges that full insulation must be required for homes to minimize energy use.

For the same reasons stated above, affordable and gap housing projects and multi-family, up to four-story, housing projects that comes under the County's definition of affordable housing should be exempt. Additional impediments should not be placed in front of much needed affordable and gap housing.

Thank you.