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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the high cost of  
2 living in Hawaii adds to the importance of adopting policies  
3 that promote and encourage energy efficiency, which can provide  
4 relief for families faced with high utility bills. Without  
5 state appliance efficiency standards to provide consumer  
6 protection, Hawaii residents risk losing as much as  
7 \$1,000,000,000 in unnecessary energy waste as manufacturers  
8 unload less efficient appliances that they cannot sell in other  
9 states with heightened standards. Multiple states, including  
10 California, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island,  
11 and Washington, have adopted state appliance efficiency  
12 standards.

13           The legislature also finds that new appliance efficiency  
14 standards have the potential to save Hawaii families and  
15 businesses billions of dollars while conserving energy and water  
16 resources. According to a 2017 national study from the American  
17 Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, Hawaii has the best



1 opportunity in the nation to save money through the  
2 implementation of appliance efficiency standards. The study  
3 found that by adopting appliance efficiency standards, Hawaii  
4 could save nearly \$1,000,000,000 in electricity costs over  
5 twenty years, which is the equivalent of about \$215 annually for  
6 each Hawaii household. Furthermore, according to the "States Go  
7 First" report by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project,  
8 faucets, showerheads, and computer and monitor standards alone  
9 could potentially save Hawaii \$35,000,000 in annual utility bill  
10 savings and 118 gigawatt hours annually in electricity by 2035,  
11 assuming full compliance by 2020. Although many appliances,  
12 such as refrigerators, dishwashers, and commercial air  
13 conditioners, are regulated by national appliance efficiency  
14 standards, the study found that states can save billions of  
15 dollars by adopting state-level appliance efficiency standards  
16 for appliances that are not regulated by national standards.

17 The legislature further finds that by adopting state  
18 appliance efficiency standards, the State, among other positive  
19 results, can:



- 1 (1) Provide a boost to the local economy, which occurs  
2 when consumers and businesses spend their economic  
3 savings on other goods and services;
- 4 (2) Protect consumers against manufacturers who would  
5 otherwise unload less efficient appliances that they  
6 cannot sell in other states with heightened standards;
- 7 (3) Ensure that Hawaii residents do not miss out on  
8 potential savings while progress on standards at the  
9 national level is uncertain;
- 10 (4) Improve electric system reliability and potentially  
11 reduce the need for new energy and water  
12 infrastructures based on the resulting energy and  
13 water savings;
- 14 (5) Lower electricity bills for residents and businesses;  
15 and
- 16 (6) Reduce air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions,  
17 which can result in public health benefits and help  
18 the State meet its clean energy and climate mitigation  
19 targets.

20 The legislature recognizes the State of California as a  
21 leader in establishing state-level appliance efficiency



1 standards that protect consumers and finds that the California  
2 appliance efficiency standards should be used as a model for  
3 Hawaii's standards.

4 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
5 commerce and consumer affairs to adopt state appliance  
6 efficiency standards that are modeled after the standards  
7 established in California.

8 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
9 adding a new chapter to title 26 to be appropriately designated  
10 and to read as follows:

11 "CHAPTER

12 APPLIANCE EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

13 § -1 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to require  
14 the department to adopt appliance efficiency standards for  
15 Hawaii that are modeled after the standards in title 20  
16 California Code of Regulations, as in effect on July 1, 2018.

17 § -2 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

18 "Department" means the department of commerce and consumer  
19 affairs.

20 § -3 Rules. The department shall adopt rules pursuant  
21 to chapter 91 to implement this chapter by January 1, 2020.



1           §   -4   Appliance efficiency standards. (a) The  
2 department shall adopt the appliance energy efficiency standards  
3 in title 20 California Code of Regulations, as in effect on  
4 July 1, 2018, for:

- 5           (1)   Faucets;
- 6           (2)   Showerheads;
- 7           (3)   Computers and monitors;
- 8           (4)   High color rendering index fluorescent lamps;
- 9           (5)   Commercial fryers; and
- 10          (6)   Other appliances and devices as the department deems  
11           appropriate;

12 provided that the department shall not adopt any standard that  
13 is preempted by federal law.

14          (b) This chapter shall apply to the sale and offering for  
15 sale in the State of appliances and devices identified in  
16 subsection (a).

17          (c) If any standard adopted by the department pursuant to  
18 this chapter is subsequently preempted by federal law, all other  
19 state appliance efficiency standards not preempted shall remain  
20 in effect.



1           **§ -5 Test methods.** Any appliance or device identified  
2 in section -4(a) shall be tested in accordance with the  
3 methods specified in title 20 California Code of Regulations  
4 Section 1604, as in effect on July 1, 2018, unless the  
5 applicable test method for that appliance or device is preempted  
6 by federal law.

7           **§ -6 Manufacturer certification.** When adopting rules  
8 governing the certification of the products identified in  
9 section -4(a), the department may adopt the language of and  
10 coordinate with the certification programs of other states and  
11 federal agencies with similar standards.

12           **§ -7 Enforcement.** The department may take any action  
13 necessary or appropriate to enforce this chapter and the rules  
14 adopted and orders issued hereunder."

15           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.



**Report Title:**

DCCA; Consumer Protection; Appliance Efficiency Standards

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to adopt state appliance efficiency standards to save consumers' money while conserving energy and water resources. (HB2248 HD1)

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

