
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE
RULES TO REGULATE NOISE POLLUTION FROM HOUSEHOLD OR
RESIDENTIAL SOURCES.

1 WHEREAS, all citizens of the State of Hawaii are entitled
2 to live in a safe environment that allows for their physical,
3 mental, and emotional well-being; and
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5 WHEREAS, recent studies conducted by the Perelman School of
6 Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and other
7 international researchers have found that the level of exposure
8 to noise over time is directly linked to the overall health of
9 an individual; and
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11 WHEREAS, one study found long-term exposure to
12 environmental noise results not only in auditory impacts,
13 including loss of hearing, but has also been linked to other
14 negative nonauditory impacts such as cardiovascular disease,
15 cognitive performance, mental health, and sleep disturbance; and
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17 WHEREAS, as the State's population continues to increase
18 and urban areas become more densely inhabited, the levels of,
19 and exposure to, noise also increases exponentially; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Health regulates noise, air
22 quality, water quality, noxious odors, and other environmental
23 factors to ensure the safety and high quality of life of Hawaii
24 citizens; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is charged with the
27 regulation of noise under chapter 342F, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
28 which requires the Director of Health to "prevent, control, and
29 abate noise pollution in the State" and empowers the creation,
30 amendment, or repeal of rules for those purposes; and
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32 WHEREAS, the Department of Health currently regulates noise
33 pollution, prohibiting noise in residential zones above 55 dBA



1 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. from certain
2 sources; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Health's current limitations on
5 noise in residential zones still do not reach a variety of
6 potent noise sources, including household items and domestic
7 gardening tools; now, therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
11 Session of 2014, that the Department of Health is requested to
12 adopt administrative rules to regulate noise pollution from
13 household and residential sources above a rate of 55 dBA on
14 parcels of land zoned as residential, excluding projects with a
15 permit issued by State or County agencies; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
18 requested to consider the following factors in determining
19 whether noise pollution exists: recorded decibel, duration of
20 the noise, time of day at which the noise occurs, nature and
21 source of the noise, the character of the area in which it
22 occurs, and duration of time in which the noise pollution
23 occurs; and
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health adopt
26 an appropriate system of citations, fines, or other courses of
27 action to address individuals determined to be in violation of
28 the noise pollution rules adopted by the Department of Health;
29 and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY: Jakari Brown

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