
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ASSURE THAT ANY
SUBSTANTIAL LAND DISCHARGE OF WASTEWATER, OCCURRING BY
INJECTION WELL OR OTHER MEANS, IS IN ALL CASES, ADEQUATELY
REVIEWED AND PERMITTED.

1 WHEREAS, section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act charges
2 the Department of Health with responsibility for certifying that
3 proposed discharges resulting from an activity will not violate
4 applicable water quality standards; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Health administers the
7 underground injection control program to regulate the disposal
8 of wastewater under chapter 11-23 of the Hawaii Administrative
9 Rules; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Health defines a "well" as a
12 "bored, drilled or driven shaft, or a dug hole, whose depth is
13 greater than its widest surface dimension"; and
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15 WHEREAS, current wastewater treatment plant methods of
16 wastewater disposal are not limited to underground injection
17 wells; and
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19 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, other methods for wastewater treatment
20 plant disposal include settling ponds, land discharge, retention
21 basins, treatment lagoons, and other means; and
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23 WHEREAS, wastewater treatment plants utilizing different
24 discharge methods have resulted in plumes of unpermitted and
25 unregulated wastewater discharge into the environment, for
26 example, the treatment lagoons from the Kealakehe wastewater
27 treatment plant; now, therefore,
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H.C.R. NO. 97

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 3 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
 4 Health is requested to assure that any substantial land
 5 discharge of wastewater, occurring by injection well or other
 6 means, is in all cases, adequately reviewed and permitted; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 9 requested to consider for the inclusion of other discharge
 10 methods for wastewater, other than by injection well, in the
 11 review and permit process; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 14 requested to adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised
 15 Statutes, to include other discharge methods for wastewater in
 16 the review and permit process; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health
 20 and the Chief of the Environmental Management Division.
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 23

OFFERED BY: Nicole E. Lowen

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MAR 12 2015

