A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§343- Certain affordable housing developments; exemption; qualifications. (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the construction of a new affordable housing project that:

(1) Is subject to this chapter due solely to it proposing a use of state or county lands or funds or a use within the Waikiki Special District;

(2) Is located within the state urban land use district;

(3) Is consistent with existing county zoning classifications that allow housing; and

(4) Does not require a variance for a shoreline setback and is not located in an environmentally sensitive area,

shall be exempt from the requirements of this chapter."
(b) This section shall apply to the development, planning, permitting, and construction of all new affordable housing projects that occur after the effective date of this Act.

(c) As used in this section:

"Affordable housing project" means the applicable controlling law for the state or county agency that is either developing or approving the project; and

"Environmentally sensitive area" includes but is not limited to a flood plain, a tsunami zone, a sea level rise exposure area, a beach, an erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, an estuary, fresh waters, or coastal waters."

SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.
Report Title:
Environmental Impact Statements; Exemption; Affordable Housing

Description:
Exempts from environmental impact statement requirements certain affordable housing projects. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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