
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY ON DECABROMODIPHENYLETHER.

1 WHEREAS, decabromodiphenylether is a chemical flame
2 retardant that is widely used in household products such as
3 television sets and upholstered sofas even though it has not
4 been proven safe to humans; and

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6 WHEREAS, decabromodiphenylether is added to consumer
7 products like computers, televisions, curtains, upholstered
8 furniture, and carpet as flame retardants, after which it
9 leaches out of these products and into the environment,
10 accumulating in our bodies, food, homes, office, water, and
11 land; and

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13 WHEREAS, preliminary studies suggest that exposure to
14 decabromodiphenylether may pose health risks to the thyroid, the
15 liver, the reproductive system, and the neurological system; and

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17 WHEREAS, decabromodiphenylether is the only polybrominated
18 diphenyl ether remaining on the local market, following the
19 Legislature's 2004 ban on two other polybrominated diphenyl
20 ethers; and

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22 WHEREAS, nonetheless, when it enters the environment,
23 decabromodiphenylether has the capacity to break down through
24 biological processes or sunlight into the polybrominated
25 diphenyl ether congeners that are predominately found in the two
26 now prohibited polybrominated diphenyl ethers; now, therefore,

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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2006, that the Department of Health is respectfully requested
31 to determine whether there are safer, technically feasible
32 alternatives to the use of decabromodiphenylether in consumer
33 products; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
36 requested to submit findings and recommendations, including any



1 proposed legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty
2 days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

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