
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.

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

1 SECTION 1. In response to the recent increase in emissions
2 from Kilauea's newest vent at Halema'uma'u crater, a House
3 Special Committee on Vog Effects (Committee) was created to
4 bring together experts to examine the effects of vog on the
5 people of the State of Hawaii. The Committee held a series of
6 fact-finding meetings focusing on health and public safety,
7 agriculture, and economic impacts and tourism. The need to
8 ensure that an effective system was in place to monitor and warn
9 the public of dangerous levels of the sulfur dioxide in vog
10 became apparent through these meetings.

11 The purpose of this Act is to direct the department of
12 defense to develop and implement a program to ensure that an
13 adequate number of monitors to detect sulfur dioxide are
14 strategically placed throughout areas of the state where high
15 incidences of vog, sulfur dioxide, or both occur.

16 SECTION 2. The department of defense, in consultation with
17 the department of health and the interagency task force on vog,
18 shall develop and implement a program to ensure that an adequate



1 number of monitors to detect sulfur dioxide are strategically
2 placed throughout areas of the state where high incidences of
3 vog, sulfur dioxide, or both occur. For the purposes of this
4 Act:

5 "High incidences" means situations where the presence of
6 vog, sulfur dioxide, or both, reaches levels that present a
7 danger to health and safety, as determined by the department of
8 defense, in consultation with the department of health and the
9 interagency task force on vog.

10 "Vog" means the substance created when sulfur dioxide and
11 other volcanic gases combine and interact chemically in the
12 atmosphere with oxygen, moisture, dust, and sunlight over
13 periods of minutes to days to form a visible haze consisting of
14 gas plus a suspended mixture of tiny liquid and solid particles.

15 SECTION 3. The department of defense shall submit a report
16 on its progress in establishing the sulfur dioxide monitoring
17 program required by this Act, including any proposed
18 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
19 the regular session of 2010.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

21



1

INTRODUCED BY:

W

Greg Hoken

Denny Laff

Mark Hoken

Cindy Evans

Jimmy Johnson

JAN 23 2009



Report Title:

Vog; Sulfur Dioxide Monitoring

Description:

Directs the Department of Defense to develop and implement a program to ensure that an adequate number of monitors to detect sulfur dioxide are strategically placed throughout areas of the state where high incidences of vog, sulfur dioxide, or both occur.

