

---

---

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ADOPT ORDINANCES  
PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF BACKWASH FROM NEW RESIDENTIAL  
SWIMMING POOLS INTO STORM DRAINS AND REQUIRING DISCHARGE  
INTO A SANITARY SEWER.

1           WHEREAS, clean water is essential to the people of Hawaii,  
2           nourishing our agricultural crops, providing countless domestic  
3           uses, and making industry possible; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, Article XI, section 7, of the Hawaii Constitution  
6           provides that the "State has an obligation to protect, control,  
7           and regulate the use of Hawaii's water resources for the benefit  
8           of its people"; and  
9

10           WHEREAS, swimming pool backwash, which results from the  
11           cleaning or flushing out of a pool filter, is filled with  
12           contaminants that may include trash, debris, bacteria, and other  
13           pollutants; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, public swimming pools are required by the  
16           Department of Health to discharge pool backwash into sanitary  
17           sewers, to be treated and properly disposed of; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu, Department of  
20           Environmental Services, currently allows the practice of  
21           discharging pool backwash that does not contain any chlorine  
22           residue from single-family residential swimming pools into storm  
23           drains if sanitary sewers are not available or household  
24           cesspools are located in critical wastewater disposal areas; and  
25

26           WHEREAS, storm drains are not connected to sanitary sewer  
27           systems and treatment plants, allowing unfiltered and untreated  
28           water filled with contaminants to flow to our streams, lakes,  
29           and ocean; and



# H.C.R. NO. 99

1 WHEREAS, polluted runoff can harm wildlife and habitats,  
2 make fish and shellfish unsafe to eat, and otherwise poison our  
3 precious water resources; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, like public swimming pools, pool backwash from  
6 private residential swimming pools should also be required to be  
7 discharged into sanitary sewer systems to ensure its treatment  
8 prior to its entry into our water systems; now, therefore,  
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
11 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
12 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the city and county of  
13 Honolulu is requested to adopt an ordinance prohibiting the  
14 discharge of pool backwash from all new single-family  
15 residential swimming pools into storm drains and requiring  
16 discharge into sanitary sewers; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ordinance may allow  
19 alternatives of discharging pool backwash into a holding tank or  
20 settling pond, or by infiltration to the soil, when appropriate  
21 and when discharge into the sanitary sewer is not a viable  
22 option; and  
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City  
26 and County of Honolulu.  
27  
28  
29

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jyla B. Berg*  
*Ray Hansen*

MAR - 4 2009

