
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that electric clothes
2 dryers make up over ten per cent of many households' total
3 energy use. Reducing the use of electric clothes dryers
4 statewide could substantially decrease the amount of energy that
5 households use and thereby reduce the amount of fossil fuels
6 used to generate electricity in the State.

7 The legislature finds that simple clotheslines make
8 efficient use of two abundant resources, the sun and the wind,
9 to dry clothing. For aesthetic reasons, however, many
10 homeowners' associations prohibit the use of clotheslines or
11 render them ineffective through unreasonably restrictive
12 regulation. The legislature further finds that although
13 aesthetic concerns still exist today, they are not necessarily
14 incompatible with environmental and energy security concerns,
15 especially in the current context of high energy costs, climate
16 change issues, and Hawaii's goal of increasing energy
17 independence and maintaining an aesthetically pleasing
18 environment.

1 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit real estate
2 contracts, agreements, and rules from precluding or rendering
3 ineffective the use of clotheslines on the premises of single-
4 family dwellings or townhouses.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 196, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
7 and to read as follows:

8 "§196- Placement of clotheslines. (a) Notwithstanding
9 any law to the contrary, no person shall be prevented by any
10 covenant, declaration, bylaws, restriction, deed, lease, term,
11 provision, condition, codicil, contract, or similar binding
12 agreement, however worded, from installing a clothesline on any
13 single-family residential dwelling or townhouse that the person
14 owns or in an area reserved for the exclusive use of the person.
15 Any provision in any lease, instrument, contract, or other
16 document listed above contrary to the intent of this section
17 shall be void and unenforceable.

18 (b) Any private entity may adopt rules that reasonably
19 restrict the placement and use of clotheslines for the purpose
20 of drying clothes on the premises of any single-family
21 residential dwelling or townhouse; provided that those
22 restrictions do not prohibit the use of clotheslines altogether

1 or deny access to air or sunlight reasonably necessary for the
2 effective use of the clotheslines. No private entity shall
3 assess or charge any homeowner any fees for the placement of any
4 clothesline located in an area the homeowner owns or in an area
5 reserved for the exclusive use of the homeowner.

6 (c) For the purposes of this section:

7 "Clothesline" means a rope, cord, or wire or similar device
8 on which laundry is hung to dry.

9 "Private entity" means any association of homeowners,
10 community association, condominium association, cooperative, or
11 any other non-governmental entity with covenants, bylaws, and
12 administrative provisions with which the homeowner's compliance
13 is required."

14 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

Report Title:

Solar Energy; Clotheslines

Description:

Allows the use of clotheslines on any privately owned single-family residential dwelling or townhouse. (SD1)