
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE VIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS
ON THE USE OF HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM AND URGING THE
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION TO PROMOTE
THE USE OF SAFER ALTERNATIVES WITH THE GOAL OF EVENTUALLY
BANNING HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM.

1 WHEREAS, hexavalent chromium, also known as Chrome 6, is
2 highly toxic, hazardous, and a known carcinogen; and
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4 WHEREAS, the International Agency for Research on Cancer
5 has determined that there is decisive evidence for the
6 carcinogenicity of hexavalent chromium compounds in humans; and
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8 WHEREAS, hexavalent chromium is commonly used in commercial
9 and industrial applications, including electroplating, welding,
10 industrial paints, shipbuilding, processing of chromite ore,
11 certain dyeing operations, wastewater treatment, wood
12 preservatives, certain inks, plastic colorants, iron and steel
13 production operations, textile processing, leather tanning,
14 glass production, solid waste incineration, and construction;
15 and
16

17 WHEREAS, the adverse effects of exposure to hexavalent
18 chromium include lung cancer, ulceration of the nasal passages,
19 perforation of the nasal septum, asthma, allergic contact
20 dermatitis, irritant dermatitis, and ulceration of the skin; and
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22 WHEREAS, Occupational Safety and Health Administration
23 (OSHA) regulations limit acceptable levels of workplace exposure
24 to hexavalent chromium; and
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26 WHEREAS, there may be safer alternatives to hexavalent
27 chromium that demonstrate an equal or superior plating rate,
28 hardness, current efficiency, and cost for metal working and
29 processing application; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature supports
4 vigorous enforcement of existing OSHA regulations on hexavalent
5 chromium until the goal of banning its use is achieved; and
6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges OSHA to
8 promote the use of safer alternatives to hexavalent chromium
9 with the goal of eventually banning hexavalent chromium; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary for
13 Occupational Safety and Health, Director of Labor and Industrial
14 Relations, and Operations Manager of the Hawaii Occupational
15 Safety and Health Division.

