

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

HB 1332, RELATING TO NOISE POLLUTION

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health

February 12, 2009

9:00 a.m.

Bill No. 1332
Support Y N
Date 2/11/09
Time 12:12p
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Type 2 WI

1 **Department's Position:** The department respectfully opposes this measure. Given current fiscal
2 difficulties, it would not be prudent to enact the measure now.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** As yet, un-quantified resources would be needed to adopt and enforce rules.

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill amends section 342F-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to require the
5 director to establish rules requiring the use of mufflers on yard equipment.

6 We generally favor a quieter environment. We appreciate that some people dislike noisy leaf
7 blowers/yard equipment. Noise can be a nuisance and disturb sleep, even if it does not reach the levels
8 that cause hearing damage. There are also practical considerations in achieving a quieter environment.

9 Any new mandate will require additional resources for the adoption of rules and serious
10 enforcement.

11 The proposal will not result in significant noise reduction. Landscaping equipment in use is
12 generally equipped with original equipment manufactured mufflers. Mufflers for small engines do not
13 result in significant reduction in noise levels in comparison to mufflers for larger engines found on
14 vehicles.

15 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.