

SR93

REQUESTING THE INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS OR APPLICATION OF CERTIFIED FIRE-RETARDANT COATINGS IN NEWLY CONSTRUCTED ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS TO BE REQUIRED UNDER THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

Fire Sprinklers; Fire-Retardant Coating; Residential Dwellings

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April 5, 2011

Hon. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Water, Land and Housing

Hon. Will Espero, Chair
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

SCR 153 - Requesting the Installation of Automatic Sprinklers or Application of Certified Fire-Retardant Coatings in Newly Constructed One- and Two-Family Residential Dwellings to be Required Under the State Building Code.

April 7, 2011 - 1:15 p.m. - Conference Room 225

Dear Chairs Dela Cruz, Espero and members

I represent NoFire Technologies, Inc., located in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, that manufactures *Underwriters Laboratories* ("UL") certified fire retardant paints.

As demonstrated many times and proven through rigorous and severe testing by many independent and government laboratories world wide, including a most significant one conducted by the Rockland County Fire Department in New York, NoFire is a true fire protective coating that will prevent the sudden spread of flames in a fire that is commonly referred to as "**flashover**". A video on the NoFire website covers the Rockland County Fire Department test, vividly showing how a shed coated with an ordinary paint will flashover in a matter of **2-3 minutes**. To the contrary, the identical shed coated with NoFire will not flashover, as demonstrated by the **more than 20 minute** exposure to the identical fire. In a live fire situation, the elimination of flashover provides the local fire department more than adequate time to arrive on the scene and extinguish the localized fire.


The cost of installing a fire sprinkler in one- and two- family dwelling units would exceed \$6,000. This should be contrasted to using a UL certified fire retardant paint that is applied just like any other paint which would add only approximately \$300 more to the total job cost for a one- or two- family unit, the differential between the raw costs of the NoFire paint and the ordinary paint.

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As originally introduced in the senate and house, the resolution referred to both Automatic Sprinklers and Application of Certified Fire Retardant Coatings. At a hearing before the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, the resolution was amended, deleting all reference to Automatic Sprinklers, and became HCR 263, HD1. We favor this amended house version.

We respectfully request that the joint committee pass this amended house version which we enclose.

Sincerely,


Ronald Y. Amemiya

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2011
STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 263
H.D. 1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE APPLICATION OF CERTIFIED FIRE-RETARDANT COATINGS
IN NEWLY CONSTRUCTED ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
DWELLINGS TO BE REQUIRED UNDER THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

- 1 WHEREAS, the State is concerned with providing fire
- 2 protection to its citizens and its citizens' property; and
- 3
- 4 WHEREAS, the State is also concerned with protecting the
- 5 lives of those fire fighters who respond to fire emergencies
- 6 throughout Hawaii; and
- 7
- 8 WHEREAS, certified fire-retardant coatings are currently
- 9 available that comply with the standards provided in the
- 10 International Fire Code; and
- 11
- 12 WHEREAS, these certified fire-retardant coatings provide
- 13 the following benefits with respect to fire safety:
- 14
- 15 (1) Significant smoke reduction, even under very high heat
- 16 intensities;
- 17
- 18 (2) Reduced flames on many types of combustible surfaces;
- 19
- 20 (3) Reduced production of toxins upon combustion;
- 21
- 22 (4) Increased ignition resistance; and
- 23
- 24 (5) Lowered thermal conductivity;
- 25
- 26 and
- 27
- 28 WHEREAS, these fire-retardant coatings typically cost, on
- 29 average, \$300 more than ordinary paint used for one- or two-
- 30 family residential dwellings; and



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H.C.R. NO. 263
H.D. 1

1 WHEREAS, when these fire-retardant coatings are applied to
2 the interior of dwellings, they maintain their fire-retardant
3 qualities and effectiveness for many years without further
4 application; and

5
6 WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the residents of the
7 State of Hawaii that improvements in fire prevention to be
8 incorporated into the building permit process; now, therefore,

9
10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the State Building Code
13 Council is requested to adopt the requirement that certified
14 fire-retardant coatings be applied in new one- and two-family
15 residential dwellings constructed throughout the State after
16 January 1, 2012; and

17
18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller,
20 Chairperson of the State Building Code Council, Chairperson of
21 the State Fire Council, and Fire Chief of each county.

