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# SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UTILIZATION OF STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES AND OTHER LARGE WATER USERS TO UTILIZE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION TO CONSERVE OUTDOOR WATER USE AND TO ADOPT THE LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HAWAII'S IRRIGATION WATER CONSERVATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's landscape industry is one of the fastest  
2 growing and largest segments of the green industry, generating  
3 an economic value of over \$520,000,000 annually and full-time  
4 employment of over eleven thousand landscape professionals; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, according to the United States Environmental  
7 Protection Agency, landscape irrigation accounts for fifty  
8 percent or more of the average household's outdoor water usage;  
9 and  
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11 WHEREAS, poorly maintained or installed irrigation can  
12 waste up to fifty percent of water due to inefficient irrigation  
13 practices, poor components, or evaporation and runoff; and  
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15 WHEREAS, maintaining and installing efficient irrigation  
16 systems are some of the most effective ways to reduce waste in  
17 drinking water, reduce runoff and sediments, and improve plant  
18 health by applying the correct amount of water without exceeding  
19 the soil infiltration rate; and  
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21 WHEREAS, the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH)  
22 was established in 1986 as a statewide alliance representing the  
23 following Hawaii landscape trade associations: the Aloha  
24 Arborist Association, Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of  
25 Landscape Architects, Hawaii Association of Nurserymen, Hawaii  
26 Island Landscape Association, Hawaii Landscape and Irrigation  
27 Contractors Association, Inc., Hawaii Society of Urban Forestry  
28 Professionals, Kauai Landscape Industry Council, Maui  
29 Association of Landscape Professionals, Professional Grounds  
30 Management Society, Big Island Association of Nurserymen, Inc.,  
31 Hawaii Professional Gardeners Association, and Hawaii Turfgrass  
32 Association; and  
33



1           WHEREAS, LICH supports and encourages water conservation,  
2 research and development, and the utilization of best management  
3 practices to conserve outdoor water usage within the landscape;  
4 and

5  
6           WHEREAS, best management practices for new installations or  
7 major renovations include the use of:

- 8  
9           (1) New installations that require a coverage test prior  
10 to acceptance; and irrigation system designs, plans,  
11 and specifications that remain on site and contain  
12 water conservation language;  
13  
14           (2) Systems designed with sprinklers spaced head-to-head  
15 coverage or better, and with a precipitation rate not  
16 exceeding soil infiltration rate;  
17  
18           (3) Systems designed to irrigate similar site, slope, sun  
19 exposure, soil conditions, and plant materials with  
20 similar water use on the same circuit;  
21  
22           (4) Climate-based automatic irrigation controllers  
23 utilizing either evapotranspiration and weather  
24 sensors, or soil moisture sensors and drip irrigation  
25 for individual specimen plants;  
26  
27           (5) Flow sensors with a malfunction valve shutoff system  
28 capability in an irrigation controller and water  
29 submeters that measure outdoor water usage on larger  
30 sites;  
31  
32           (6) Water conserving irrigation components and check  
33 valves;  
34  
35           (7) Storm water design methods, including infiltration  
36 beds, swales, and basins that allow water to collect  
37 and soak into the ground on site, utilizing low impact  
38 development principles;  
39  
40           (8) Non-potable water sources when available; and  
41  
42           (9) Qualified irrigation designers such as an Irrigation  
43 Association-Certified Irrigation Designer, Irrigation  
44 Association-Certified Irrigation Contractor, and a



1 maintenance contractor with water conservation  
2 expertise; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the best management practices for maintenance  
5 include the use of:

- 6  
7 (1) Seasonal timing adjustments to irrigation controller  
8 systems;
- 9  
10 (2) Aeration of lawns when compaction increases, and short  
11 run-time cycle irrigation in areas where runoff and  
12 ponding occur;
- 13  
14 (3) Periodic practical water audits to review the system  
15 components and verify that the components meet the  
16 original design criteria for the efficient operation  
17 and uniform distribution of water;
- 18  
19 (4) Irrigation controllers programmed for long run times  
20 to water as deeply, evenly, and infrequently as  
21 possible to encourage deep rooting and increased  
22 drought resistance;
- 23  
24 (5) Mulch, organic matter in soils, and drought-tolerant  
25 plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the  
26 site and surroundings;
- 27  
28 (6) The practice of allowing grass to grow taller to  
29 conserve water; and
- 30  
31 (7) Schedule systems to run water at night; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, the resource and financial savings resulting from  
34 the effective use of these best management practices would in  
35 turn allow the public and private sectors to plant more "main  
36 street" trees within our communities to achieve increased  
37 livability and sustainability; and

38  
39 WHEREAS, LICH further supports and encourages the  
40 preservation of existing native trees and non-invasive  
41 vegetation that do not require irrigation; and

42  
43 WHEREAS, LICH further supports and encourages attendance  
44 at water conservation seminars with continuing education units



1 by entities such as the American Water Works Association, LICH,  
2 or the Irrigation Association; now, therefore,  
3

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,  
6 that this body encourages the utilization of best management  
7 practices in landscape irrigation to conserve outdoor water  
8 usage; and  
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state and county agencies  
11 and other large water users are encouraged to adopt the  
12 Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii's Irrigation Water  
13 Conservation Best Management Practices to improve the efficiency  
14 of all existing and new landscape irrigation installations  
15 through low-cost, practical measures; and  
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LICH continue its efforts to  
18 disseminate information in support of water conservation,  
19 research and development, and the utilization of best management  
20 practices to conserve outdoor landscape water usage; and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Landscape Industry Council of  
24 Hawaii which in turn is requested to transmit a copy of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution to all state and county agencies and other  
26 large water users in this State.

