

MAR - 1 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN TO
ELIMINATE DIESEL CREMATORS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, diesel emissions are more toxic and contain more
2 pollutants as compared to those from natural gas and propane;
3 and
4

5 WHEREAS, diesel cremators using diesel fuel for their
6 primary burners have higher and more toxic emissions than those
7 fueled from other sources; and
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9 WHEREAS, three crematoriums that operate in the State use
10 diesel-fueled cremators, while all others use natural gas-fueled
11 or propane cremators; and
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13 WHEREAS, operators of diesel applications continue to lag
14 behind clean air technology advances due to the lack of offered
15 upgrade incentives; and
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17 WHEREAS, some diesel cremators used in the State have been
18 in use for over a hundred years; and
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20 WHEREAS, compared to modern cremators, old diesel cremators
21 do not have automated features for temperature control, damper
22 systems, and opacity sensors to effectively control the burn
23 needed for clean output of emissions; and
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25 WHEREAS, fifty per cent of Oahu's cremations are processed
26 by a diesel cremator and such high volume operations should use
27 the currently best available technology for clean air and
28 emissions; and
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30 WHEREAS, areas surrounding diesel cremators have changed in
31 usage over the past years, becoming more populated with
32 residences, schools, and health care institutions; and



1 WHEREAS, currently diesel cremators are only built for use
2 in developing countries, with all new United States cremators
3 built to operate using natural gas or propane; now, therefore,
4

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
7 that the Department of Health is requested to develop an action
8 plan to eliminate diesel cremator usage within the state within
9 a two year time-frame; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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