
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change is
2 real and that sea level rise poses a threat to our quality of
3 life. Preparation for sea level rise now will protect our
4 natural resources and save money in the long term. Inundation
5 of underground storage tanks poses risks to our aquifers,
6 coastal water quality, and marine ecosystems.

7 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit the issuance of
8 permits for new underground storage tanks within one hundred
9 yards of the shoreline and to phase out the use of all such
10 tanks by January 1, 2030.

11 SECTION 2. Section 342L-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding the definition of "shoreline" to be
13 appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

14 "Shoreline" means the upper reaches of the wash of the
15 waves, other than storm and seismic waves, at high tide during
16 the season of the year in which the highest wash of the waves



1 occurs, usually evidenced by the edge of vegetation growth, or
2 the upper limit of debris left by the wash of the waves."

3 SECTION 3. Chapter 342L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§342L- Permits near shoreline prohibited; exception.

7 (a) The department shall not issue a permit for a new
8 underground storage tank within one hundred yards of the
9 shoreline.

10 (b) The holder of a permit for an existing underground
11 storage tank within one hundred yards of the shoreline may renew
12 the permit until January 1, 2029.

13 (c) As of January 1, 2030, no person shall operate an
14 underground storage tank within one hundred yards of the
15 shoreline."

16 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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H.B. NO. 2626

Report Title:

Underground Storage Tanks

Description:

Prohibits the permitting of new underground storage tanks within one hundred yards of the shoreline and phases out all such tanks by January 1, 2030.

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