

JAN 22 2016

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMPOSTING TOILETS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 187, Session
2 Laws of Hawaii 2015, authorized the counties to approve the
3 installation and use of composting toilets in areas that are
4 inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems. Composting
5 toilets use no water and produce compost that can be used to
6 enrich the soil. In certain areas of Hawaii, geological
7 features or the limits of existing infrastructure have made the
8 use of conventional flush and septic systems impracticable. In
9 such areas, the legislature finds that composting toilets are an
10 effective way to provide toilet facilities to underserved or
11 remote populations.

12 The legislature further finds that homeless individuals
13 living in encampments frequently suffer from a lack of adequate
14 toilet facilities. Such encampments often exist in areas where
15 geological features such as hard volcanic rock and a shallow
16 water table or a lack of existing infrastructure make the
17 installation of conventional toilets impracticable. Composting



1 toilets have already been proposed as a means to bring much-
2 needed toilet facilities to homeless encampments in the State.

3 The purpose of this Act is to mandate the counties to
4 approve the installation and use of composting toilets in areas
5 that are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems, thereby
6 benefiting the people living in those communities and the health
7 and welfare of the State as a whole.

8 SECTION 2. Section 27-21.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§27-21.6 **Functions reassigned to the counties.** The
11 following functions are hereby reassigned to the several
12 counties:

- 13 (1) The medical care of inmates of county jails;
- 14 (2) The rendering of medical investigatory services
15 requested by the police;
- 16 (3) Physical examinations of employees to the extent that
17 such functions had been performed immediately prior to
18 the adoption of Act 97, Session Laws of Hawaii 1965;
- 19 (4) The care and treatment of county workers' compensation
20 cases to the extent that such functions had been



1 performed immediately prior to the adoption of Act 97,
2 Session Laws of Hawaii 1965; and

3 (5) The regulation of the design, construction, and
4 operation of individual wastewater systems and private
5 wastewater treatment works; provided that:

6 (A) The transfer of this function to each county
7 shall take place on the date that the expenditure
8 of start-up funds is made by the State to such
9 county for this purpose; and

10 (B) The counties [~~may~~] shall approve the installation
11 and use of composting toilets in areas that are
12 inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems. As
13 used in this subparagraph, "composting toilet"
14 means a toilet that uses no water or very little
15 water and uses natural processes to treat waste."

16 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Counties; Wastewater; Individual Systems

Description:

Mandates the counties to approve the installation and use of composting toilets in areas that are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems.

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