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# 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 facilitate the production of compost  
6 that can be used to enrich the soil. In certain areas of  
7 Hawaii, geological features or the limits of existing  
8 infrastructure have made the use of conventional flush and  
9 septic systems impracticable. In such areas, the legislature  
10 finds that composting toilets are an effective way to provide  
11 toilet facilities to underserved or 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 on July 1, 2030.



**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. (SB2583 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

