
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CONVENING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF RESIDENTIAL
SPRINKLER COSTS IN NEW ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS.

1 WHEREAS, fire departments nationwide responded to more than
2 fifty thousand home structure fires in 2015, resulting in more
3 than two thousand five hundred fatalities, eleven thousand
4 injuries, and more than \$7,000,000,000 in direct damages; and
5

6 WHEREAS, eighty-five percent of all fire deaths in the
7 United States occur in the home, with people over sixty-five
8 years of age, children under five, and those with disabilities
9 at the greatest risk; and
10

11 WHEREAS, in the City and County of Honolulu, there were one
12 thousand sixty-eight structure fires between 2006 and 2015,
13 resulting in twenty-seven civilian deaths, one hundred fifty-two
14 civilian injuries, and more than \$100,000,000 in direct damages;
15 and
16

17 WHEREAS, automatic fire sprinklers have been in service for
18 more than one hundred fifty years and have had great success in
19 saving lives, protecting property, and preserving natural
20 resources; and
21

22 WHEREAS, automatic fire sprinklers operate effectively over
23 eighty-five percent of the time, and reduce civilian deaths by
24 eighty-three percent, civilian fire injuries by fifty-three
25 percent, firefighter injuries by sixty-five percent, and
26 property damage by sixty-nine percent; and
27

28 WHEREAS, use of automatic fire sprinklers reduces
29 greenhouse gas emissions by ninety-seven percent, water usage
30 between fifty and ninety percent, and waste water pollutants
31 generally; and



1 WHEREAS, all editions from 2009 to 2018 of the
2 International Building Code and the National Fire Protection
3 Association 5000's Building Construction and Safety Code mandate
4 fire sprinklers in new one- and two-family dwelling
5 construction; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the costs of automatic fire sprinkler installation
8 may vary among counties; now, therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
11 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
12 Representatives concurring, that a task force be convened to
13 study the costs of installing automatic fire sprinkler systems
14 in new one- and two-family dwellings; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of
17 the following persons or their designees:
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- 19 (1) Chairperson of the State Fire Council, or the Chair's
20 designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the task
21 force;
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- 23 (2) President of the Senate, or the President's designee;
24
- 25 (3) Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the
26 Speaker's designee;
27
- 28 (4) Insurance Commissioner, or the Commissioner's
29 designee;
30
- 31 (5) Director of the City and County of Honolulu Department
32 of Planning and Permitting, or the Director's
33 designee;
34
- 35 (6) Director of the Hawaii County Department of Public
36 Works, or the Director's designee;
37
- 38 (7) Director of the Maui County Department of Planning, or
39 the Director's designee;
40
- 41 (8) County Engineer of the Kauai County Department of
42 Public Works, or the County Engineer's designee;



- 1 (9) Manager and Chief Engineer of the City and County of
2 Honolulu Board of Water Supply, or the Manager and
3 Chief Engineer's designee;
4
- 5 (10) Manager and Chief Engineer of the Hawaii County
6 Department of Water Supply, or the Manager and Chief
7 Engineer's designee;
8
- 9 (11) Director of the Maui County Department of Water
10 Supply, or the Director's designee; and
11
- 12 (12) Manager and Chief Engineer of the Kauai County
13 Department of Water, or the Manager and Chief
14 Engineer's designee; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the task
17 force invite a representative from each of the following
18 entities to serve as task force members:
19

- 20 (1) Building Industry Association of Hawaii;
- 21
- 22 (2) General Contractors Association of Hawaii;
- 23
- 24 (3) American Institute of Architects Honolulu;
- 25
- 26 (4) Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association of
27 Hawaii; and
- 28
- 29 (5) Hawaii Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection
30 Engineers; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
33 perform a comparative analysis of the varying county costs for
34 materials, labor, permits, and other related fees to install
35 automatic fire sprinklers in new one- and two-family dwellings;
36 and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
39 submit to the Legislature a report of its findings and
40 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no later
41 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
42 of 2020; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the State
3 Fire Council; President of the Senate; Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives; Insurance Commissioner; Director of the City
5 and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting;
6 Director of the Hawaii County Department of Public Works;
7 Director of the Maui County Department of Planning; County
8 Engineer of the Kauai Department of Public Works; Manager and
9 Chief Engineer of the City and County of Honolulu Board of Water
10 Supply; Manager and Chief Engineer of the Hawaii County
11 Department of Water Supply; Director of the Maui County
12 Department of Water Supply; Manager and Chief Engineer of the
13 Kauai County Department of Water; President of the Board of
14 Directors of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii;
15 President of the Board of Directors of the General Contractors
16 Association of Hawaii; President of the Board of Directors of
17 the American Institute of Architects Honolulu; Executive
18 Director of the Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association
19 of Hawaii; and President of the Hawaii Chapter of the Society of
20 Fire Protection Engineers.

