
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ONSITE NON-POTABLE WATER REUSE SYSTEMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that as an island state,
2 Hawai'i has limited access to natural fresh water and unlike in
3 other states, it is not economically feasible to ship in
4 additional supplies when needed. Competition for fresh water,
5 increasing population, development pressures, and the impact of
6 climate change require that Hawai'i develop strategies for
7 increasing water conservation, recharge, and reuse in order to
8 ensure fresh water supplies for current and future generations.
9 To ensure fresh water security, the Hawai'i fresh water
10 initiative was developed as a statewide goal to increase water
11 security by one hundred million gallons a day by 2030, which
12 includes more than doubling the amount of wastewater currently
13 being reused in the islands to provide an additional thirty
14 million gallons a day in water availability.

15 The legislature further finds that the use of recycled
16 water for non-potable applications has proven safe and feasible
17 under existing regulatory regimes in Hawai'i and many other



1 states, as well as in other industrialized countries of the
2 world. Onsite water reuse in high-rise and mid-rise
3 developments in particular has proven feasible and safe in New
4 York, California, Japan, Australia, and other locations. The
5 use of recycled water generated onsite at high-rise and mid-rise
6 developments can replace a large percentage of the future
7 potable water demand of such developments.

8 In order to increase onsite water reuse at the development
9 level, the legislature finds that guidance from the National
10 Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-potable Water Systems
11 would be invaluable. The National Blue Ribbon Commission
12 advances best management practices to support the use of onsite
13 non-potable water systems within individual buildings or at the
14 local scale through a commitment to protect public health and
15 the environment. To support the adoption of onsite non-potable
16 systems, the commission has developed tools and resources based
17 on world class research and best practices underway in local
18 communities.

19 To help reach the 2030 goal for water reuse, in 2018 a
20 water reuse task force was organized by the department of health
21 based on House Concurrent Resolution No. 86, S.D. 1 (2018), with



1 the purpose of identifying policies to help scale water reuse in
2 the Hawaiian islands. Task Force participants included
3 representatives from the department of health, board of land and
4 natural resources, commission on water resource management,
5 board of agriculture, Honolulu board of water supply, Hawaii
6 fresh water initiative, Hawaii Community Foundation, county
7 representatives, and representatives from the house of
8 representatives and the senate. The legislature notes that this
9 Act was informed and guided by the water reuse task force with
10 the goal of safely, effectively, and economically scaling water
11 reuse throughout Hawai'i.

12 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
13 health to adopt rules by January 1, 2021, for onsite non-potable
14 water reuse systems.

15 SECTION 2. By January 1, 2021, the department of health
16 shall adopt rules for onsite non-potable water reuse systems,
17 based on the National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-
18 potable Water Systems' "A Guide for Developing and Implementing
19 Regulations for Onsite Non-Potable Water Systems."

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Department of Health; Onsite Non-potable Water Reuse Systems

Description:

Requires the department of health to adopt rules by January 1, 2021, for onsite non-potable water reuse systems. (SD1)

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

