

MAR 06 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO AMEND ITS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO INCLUDE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES IN THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK PRACTICE STANDARDS AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEMOLITION AND RENOVATION OF FACILITIES CONTAINING ASBESTOS.

1 WHEREAS, asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral
2 historically used in building construction for its fire- and
3 sound-proofing properties; and
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5 WHEREAS, in the 1970s, the United States implemented a
6 national ban on the use of asbestos in the construction of
7 buildings and residences due to health risks associated with the
8 material; and
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10 WHEREAS, when asbestos is handled or moved, its microscopic
11 fragments can be inhaled and become lodged in the lungs and
12 cause mesothelioma, lung cancer, asbestosis, and other life-
13 threatening conditions; and
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15 WHEREAS, despite the known health risks and the
16 implementation of a national ban, it is believed that asbestos
17 was used in the construction of single-family residences in
18 Hawaii until at least the mid-1980s; and
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20 WHEREAS, although the Department of Health has developed
21 work practice standards and notification requirements for the
22 demolition and renovation of facilities, these standards and
23 requirements do not apply to single-family residences; and
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25 WHEREAS, the lack of regulation surrounding the demolition
26 and renovation of single-family residences containing asbestos
27 leaves families and workers exposed to serious health risks;
28 now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
31 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
32 Department of Health is urged to amend its administrative rules
33 to include single-family residences in the department's work

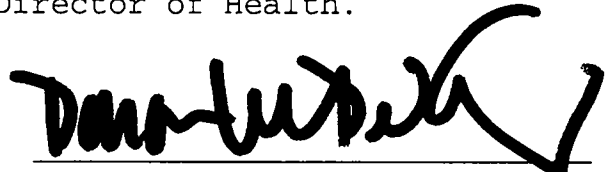


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1 practice standards and notification requirements for the
2 demolition and renovation of facilities containing asbestos; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:



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~~AC Health Agency~~

