

JAN 21 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2021, Hawaii was
2 the first state to declare a climate emergency. The State has a
3 target to sequester all the atmospheric carbon and greenhouse
4 gases than emitted within the State before 2045.

5 One way to help the State achieve its carbon-negative
6 target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. One of the most
7 potent greenhouse gases is methane, which can be found in
8 natural gas. Methane produces approximately eighty-five times
9 the atmospheric warming power of carbon dioxide over a twenty-
10 year period. The legislature further finds that over the past
11 two years, various city councils in California, Colorado, New
12 York, Oregon, and Washington have prohibited the installation of
13 natural gas burning appliances such as water heaters,
14 refrigerators, stoves, ranges, dishwashers, clothes dryers, air
15 conditioners, decorative fireplaces, and other similar devices
16 in new construction within their cities.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit the
2 installation of natural gas-burning appliances in new
3 construction within the State.

4 SECTION 2. Section 196-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "~~§196-5 Gas appliances [with pilot light prohibited];~~
7 exemptions. (a) No ~~[new residential-type]~~ gas appliance that
8 is equipped with a pilot light shall be sold or installed in new
9 construction within the State after [June 30, 1980. Gas
10 ~~appliances sold after June 30, 1980, shall be equipped with an~~
11 ~~intermittent ignition system or other ignition devices in lieu~~
12 ~~of gas pilot lights.] December 31, 2023.~~

13 (b) Beginning ninety days after ~~[May 30, 1978,]~~ June 30,
14 2022, the chief energy officer of the Hawaii state energy office
15 or its successor entity shall notify, in writing, all retail
16 sellers of gas appliances doing business in the State of the
17 provisions of this section.

18 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply ~~[to any~~
19 ~~hot water heaters with pilot lights or]~~ to any gas appliance
20 ~~[which]~~ that can be conclusively demonstrated by the equipment
21 manufacturer, to the satisfaction of the chief energy officer of



1 the Hawaii state energy office or its successor entity, that the
2 ~~[gas pilot device in the]~~ appliance[+]

3 ~~(1) Has a substantial lower life cycle cost than an~~
4 ~~electric ignition or other alternate ignition system;~~

5 ~~(2) Is more energy efficient than available alternatives;~~
6 ~~or~~

7 ~~(3) Is]~~ is necessary to safeguard public health and
8 safety.

9 (d) ~~[The provisions of this section shall not apply to~~
10 ~~people living in areas that are served with unreliable electric~~
11 ~~service or where it is not available.~~

12 ~~(e)]~~ As used in this section[+],

13 ~~[(1) "Gas]~~ "gas appliance" includes any new residential
14 type heater, refrigerator, stove, range, dishwasher,
15 dryer, air conditioner, decorative fireplace, or other
16 similar devices[+].

17 ~~[(2) "Intermittent ignition device" means an ignition~~
18 ~~device which is activated only when the gas appliance~~
19 ~~is in operation; and~~



1 ~~(3) "Pilot light" means any gas operated device that~~
2 ~~remains continually operated or lighted in order to~~
3 ~~ignite a gas appliance to normal operation.] "~~

4 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
5 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
6 begun before its effective date.

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

10 INTRODUCED BY: _____





S.B. NO. 2952

Report Title:

Natural Gas Appliances; New Construction; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits the sale or installation of natural gas-burning appliances such as water heaters, refrigerators, stoves, ranges, dishwashers, clothes dryers, air conditioners, decorative fireplaces, and other similar devices in new construction within the State.

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