

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 22 , 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2159
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEAF BLOWERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to amend the law restricting the use of leaf blowers by:

- (1) Removing the exception for government entities and their agents, but allowing government entities and their agents to use leaf blowers during the prohibited hours in cases of emergency; and
- (2) Defining "residential zone".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that noise pollution is a prevalent and increasing problem in the State. Exposure to excessively loud noise, such as the kind emitted from combustion engine-powered leaf blowers, can result in physiological, psychological, and economic damage. Residents in many high density communities in the State are bombarded by continuous and excessively loud noise



emitted by leaf blowers, which interferes with their ability to live in a healthy and peaceful environment and may have a negative impact on their health and welfare.

Your Committee additionally finds under existing law, government entities are exempt from the restrictions on leaf blowers. This measure appropriately limits the exemption to only in cases of emergency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that "emergency" has the same meaning as that term is defined under the State's emergency management laws.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2159, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-first Legislature

HSCR 1220-22

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2159, SD2	Committee Referral: CPC, JHA	Date: 3/16/22		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling (C)	✓			
2. KITAGAWA, Lisa (VC)	✓			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
6. KONG, Sam Satoru		✓		
7. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
8. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
10. TARNAS, David A.	✓			
11. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	✓			
TOTAL (11)	10	1	0	0
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Lauren Matsumoto</i></u>				
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