

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A STUDY RELATING
TO ASBESTOS PREVALENCE AND ABATEMENT IN RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTIES IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral known
2 for its damaging effects to human health; and
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4 WHEREAS, damage or disturbance to asbestos-containing
5 materials releases microscopic fibers into the air, which can
6 remain airborne for weeks; and
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8 WHEREAS, inhaled asbestos fibers lodge in the lungs' soft
9 tissues, forming scar tissue that blocks airways and may lead to
10 deadly conditions, such as asbestosis, mesothelioma, and lung
11 cancer; and
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13 WHEREAS, residential structures built prior to 1978 likely
14 contain asbestos, since asbestos-containing materials were used
15 for residential construction until the mid-1980s; and
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17 WHEREAS, other municipalities in the United States require
18 an asbestos survey and abatement prior to demolition or
19 renovation of a residential property; and
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21 WHEREAS, asbestos abatement is not required for the
22 demolition or renovation of residential properties in the State,
23 allowing for potential asbestos exposure to families and
24 workers; and
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26 WHEREAS, the State lacks an estimate of the number of
27 residential properties potentially containing asbestos and the
28 degree of danger faced by those occupying or working on
29 residential properties undergoing renovations; and
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31 WHEREAS, the State has an interest in knowing the number of
32 residential properties estimated to contain dangerous levels of
33 asbestos and the potential beneficial impacts on citizens if
34 asbestos abatement for residential property renovations were



