
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INJURY PREVENTION.

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

1 SECTION 1. According to the department of health's injury
2 prevention and control program, injuries lead to more deaths of
3 children and young adults from age one to thirty-nine than all
4 other causes combined, including heart disease, stroke, and
5 cancer. In fact, injuries accounted for more than one-third of
6 all deaths among children age one to fourteen years.

7 One type of injury that often leads to or results in death
8 is injuries to children who fall from high-rise apartment
9 buildings. Since 1991, nine children aged four or younger have
10 died after falling from a high-rise structure in Hawaii. The
11 legislature believes that the requirement of window guards and
12 higher lanai door locks for all residential high-rise apartment
13 buildings will help protect the lives of young children from
14 accidental death and injury from window, lanai, and balcony
15 falls.

16 The purpose of this Act is to require each county to enact
17 an ordinance requiring the installation of window guards and



1 higher lanai door locks for all residential high-rise apartment
2 buildings in the State.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
4 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
5 read as follows:

6 "§46- Window guards, lanai locks. Not later than
7 December 31, 2007, each county shall adopt an ordinance
8 requiring the owner of a dwelling unit that is part of a
9 multiple dwelling unit building containing more than one floor
10 to install and maintain, window guards and lanai door locks, if
11 applicable, of a type approved by the county. Each county shall
12 require window guard and lanai door lock installations to be
13 made pursuant to specifications provided by the county as
14 follows:

- 15 (1) On the windows of each dwelling unit in which a child
16 or children ten years of age or under reside;
17 (2) On the windows, if any, in the public halls, except
18 that this section shall not apply to windows providing
19 access to fire escapes; and
20 (3) On lanai doors of each dwelling unit in which a child
21 or children ten years of age or under reside; provided
22 that lanai door locks shall be installed no lower than



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1 twenty-four inches from the top of a lanai door and
2 shall be child proof, as determined by the department
3 of health.

4 Each county's ordinance shall require the installation of window
5 locks and lanai door locks by January 1, 2009, and shall include
6 penalties to address violations of and noncompliance with the
7 ordinance."

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 17 2007



Report Title:

Dwelling Units; Window and Balcony Safety

Description:

Requires counties to adopt ordinances requiring the installation of window guards and locks located at the top of lanai doors in all dwelling units in which a child or children 10 years of age and under reside.

