H.B. NO. 3222

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NOISE.

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

1	SECTION 1. Chapter 291, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is		
2	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated		
3	and to read as follows:		
4	" <u>§291-A</u> Noise abatement area for motor vehicles and		
5	mopeds; penalties. (a) For purposes of this section:		
6	"Building" means any structure used for the lodging of		
7	persons therein; each unit of a building consisting of two or		
8	more units separately secured or occupied is a separate		
9	building.		
10	"Motor vehicle" means the same as defined in section 291C-		
11	<u>1.</u>		
12	"Moped" means the same as defined in section 291C-1.		
13	(b) No person or persons shall:		
14	(1) Operate or cause to operate a motor vehicle or		
15	moped which emits any noises or sounds exceeding		
16	ninety-five decibels from its point of origin,		
17	within 500 feet from the nearest point of any		
18	building;		



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1	(2)	Drive of operate a motor vehicle or moped in such	
2		manner as to make or create any noise exceeding	
3		ninety-five decibels;	
4	(3)	Operate or cause to operate a motor vehicle or	
5		moped without the EPA approved sticker matching	
6		the muffler to the vehicle type; or	
7	(4)	Operate or cause to operate a motor vehicle or	
8		moped with an exhaust system which has been	
9		modified to make more noise or sound than the	
10		vehicle made when manufactured.	
11	(c) Any person violating any provision of this section		
12	shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$100		
13	for the first conviction, \$200 for the second, and \$500 for the		
14	third or subsequent convictions or by imprisonment not exceeding		
15	thirty days, or by both.		
16	<u>(d)</u> If a	law enforcement officer has probable cause to	
17	believe that any motor vehicle or moped has been used in		
18	violation of this section, the law enforcement officer may seize		
19	and impound the vehicle for not longer than fourteen days. The		
20	owner of a vehicle subject to impoundment is liable for all fees		
21	and costs associated with such impoundment. The citation shall		
22	require that the owner of the vehicle must restore the vehicle		
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1 to comply with subsection (b), above, before operating the 2 vehicle on public streets and highways." 3 SECTION 2. Section 291-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 4 amended to read as follows: 5 "§291-24 Motorcycles and mopeds, noisy mufflers; penalty. 6 (a) Every motorcycle and moped moving under its own power on a 7 public highway shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in 8 constant operation to prevent any excessive or unusual noise and 9 no such muffler or exhaust system shall be equipped with a 10 cutout, bypass, or similar device. No person shall modify the 11 exhaust system of a motorcycle or a moped in a manner which will 12 amplify or increase the noise emitted by the motor of such 13 motorcycle or moped above that emitted by the muffler originally 14 installed on the motorcycle or moped except a motorcycle or 15 moped that: 16 (1) Has three wheels; 17 Is powered by an electric motor; (2)18 Has a full body enclosed cab; and (3) 19 Has a seat belt assembly or a child restraint system (4)20 for the driver and passenger; 21 shall not be required to be equipped with a muffler.

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1 As used in this section, "muffler" means a device (b) 2 consisting of a series of chambers or baffle plates, or other 3 mechanical design, for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from 4 the engine of the motorcycle or moped, and being effective in 5 reducing noise. 6 [Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more (C) 7 than \$100.] Violation of this section shall be a petty 8 misdemeanor; provided that a fine of at least \$500 shall be 9 imposed on a person convicted under this section." 10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much 12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009, for the 13 storage of motor vehicles and mopeds taken into custody by law 14 enforcement pursuant to this Act. 15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the police 16 departments of the respective counties for the purposes of this 17 Act. 18 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored. 19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008 20

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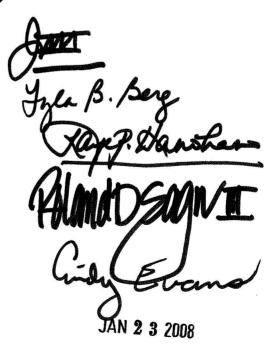
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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Noise pollution; modification; penalty; impoundment

Description:

Establishes a noise abatement zone for motor vehicles and mopeds. Authorizes impoundment of vehicles for transgressors; criminalizes the modification of motorcycles and moped mufflers.

