

JAN 15 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 83, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2012, prohibits counties from requiring the
3 installation or retrofitting of automatic fire sprinkler systems
4 in one- and two-family dwellings, except to meet fire fighting
5 road access or water supply requirements. The legislature also
6 finds that prohibiting counties from adopting measures that may
7 improve and enhance the ability of residents to protect
8 themselves and their property from fire does not serve the best
9 interest of public health and safety. The legislature further
10 finds that fire sprinkler systems in homes can significantly
11 improve the safety of the occupants, as it has been shown that
12 occupant survivability increases eighty per cent for residential
13 structures protected by fire sprinkler systems. Furthermore,
14 the intensity, severity, and extent of fire in residential
15 structures are directly related to residential contents and
16 furnishings, with the volatility of residential contents and
17 their arrangement increasing dangerous fire conditions more
18 rapidly. Those hazards or risks can be addressed and reduced



1 through the use of fire sprinkler systems, thus lessening
2 property damage and loss.

3 Finally, the legislature finds that county jurisdictions
4 may face unique challenges and issues relating to fire
5 protection, including but not limited to urban population
6 density, proximity of structures and unique residential building
7 spacing or setbacks, limited infrastructure, access, and limited
8 fire protection response resources. This Act recognizes and
9 establishes individual county authority or "home rule" for
10 residential fire sprinkler requirements. Local authority over
11 residential fire sprinkler systems is recognized, acknowledged,
12 and supported by the evidence presented in the National Fire
13 Protection Association's Fire Sprinkler Initiative,
14 Legislation/Adoptions report that notes that twenty-one states
15 lack statewide residential fire sprinkler requirements, but
16 instead allow local jurisdictions to require fire sprinklers.

17 The purpose of this Act is to repeal Act 83, Session Laws
18 of Hawaii 2012.

19 SECTION 2. Act 83, Session laws of Hawaii 2012, is
20 repealed.



S.B. NO. 2089

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Anna Mercedes K.

BY REQUEST



S.B. NO. 2089

Report Title:

State Fire Council Package; Public Safety; Fire Protection

Description:

Repeals Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, which prohibits counties from requiring the installation of fire sprinkler systems in one- and two-family dwellings, thereby authorizing counties to adopt regulations that would require the installation of residential fire protection sprinkler systems.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

