
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO COMPILE STUDIES AND MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE AND COUNTY LEGISLATION TO BEST
PROTECT RESIDENTS FROM NOISE POLLUTION IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, unwanted and disturbing sound increases the risk
2 for a variety of negative health outcomes, such as heart
3 disease, diabetes, hypertension, hearing loss, and sleep
4 disturbance; and

5
6 WHEREAS, environmental noise, also known as noise
7 pollution, is unwanted or harmful outdoor noise created by human
8 activities, including noise emitted by several means of
9 transportation and from sites of industrial activities; and

10
11 WHEREAS, tens of millions of Americans suffer from a range
12 of adverse health outcomes due to noise exposure, including
13 heart disease and hearing loss; and

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15 WHEREAS, two studies in 2013, involving millions of British
16 residents living near airports, reported an association between
17 exposure to airport noise and increased hospital admissions for
18 cardiovascular disease; and

19
20 WHEREAS, according to the European Environmental Agency,
21 environmental noise causes at least ten thousand cases of
22 premature death in Europe each year, with almost twenty million
23 adults suffering annoyance and a further eight million suffering
24 sleep disturbance; and

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26 WHEREAS, according to the European Court of Human Rights in
27 2003, sleep is an essential part of healthy life and is
28 recognized as a fundamental right under the European Convention
29 on Human Rights; and

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31 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has identified noise



1 as the second most significant environmentally related cause of
2 ill health, second only to air pollution; and
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4 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Clean Air Act, the Administrator
5 of the federal Environmental Protection Agency established the
6 Office of Noise Abatement and Control to investigate and study
7 noise and its effect on public health and welfare; and
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9 WHEREAS, through the Office of Noise Abatement and Control,
10 the Environmental Protection Agency coordinated all federal
11 noise control activities, but in 1981, it was determined that
12 noise issues were best handled at the state and local level of
13 government; and
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15 WHEREAS, as a result of the 1981 determination, the Office
16 of Noise Abatement and Control was closed and primary
17 responsibility of addressing noise issues was transferred to
18 state and local governments; and
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20 WHEREAS, different areas around the State have different
21 levels of noise pollution from various sources and may require
22 different recommendations than those of the continental United
23 States or other countries; now, therefore,
24

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
27 of 2018, that the Department of Health is requested to compile
28 studies and make recommendations for state and county
29 legislation to best protect residents from noise pollution in
30 the State; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
33 requested to submit a report of its findings and
34 recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the
35 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
36 the Regular Session of 2020; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:

[Signature]

[Signature]

John M. [Signature]

[Signature]

Sen. Arslan

Richard [Signature]

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MAR - 9 2018

