

MAR 11 2022

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO EXAMINE ISSUES AND BARRIERS TO ENFORCEMENT TO REDUCE NOISE FROM TWO-STROKE ENGINES, MOPEDS, AND SMALL OFF-ROAD ENGINES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE TO HELP REDUCE NOISE POLLUTION FROM THESE SOURCES.

1           WHEREAS, noise pollution is a serious, prevalent, and  
2 increasing problem affecting peace, tranquility, and quality of  
3 life in the State, particularly in urban areas, but also in  
4 suburban and rural areas; and

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6           WHEREAS, Hawaii residents should not be exposed to noise  
7 pollution that is hazardous to their health or welfare as  
8 excessively loud and unabated noises can result in  
9 physiological, psychological, and economic damage; and

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11           WHEREAS, efforts to protect this right have been codified  
12 under chapter 342F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and in chapter 11-  
13 46, Hawaii Administrative Rules; and

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15           WHEREAS, in addition, section 46-17, Hawaii Revised  
16 Statutes, authorizes any county to adopt ordinances regulating  
17 noise, among other things; and

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19           WHEREAS, existing regulatory measures lack effective  
20 enforcement and do not adequately address noise pollution; and

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22           WHEREAS, loud two-stroke engines, such as internal  
23 combustion engine mopeds, are significant contributors that have  
24 raised ongoing concerns in communities throughout the State; and

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26           WHEREAS, mopeds and other motor vehicles with after-market  
27 modifications to engine or exhaust systems are often many times  
28 louder than what is allowable; and

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# S.C.R. NO. 194

1 WHEREAS, small off-road engines, which are used primarily  
2 in lawn and garden equipment, can also emit excessive noise; and

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4 WHEREAS, excessively loud vehicles and small off-road  
5 engines such as leaf blowers and other lawn and garden equipment  
6 are difficult to regulate because of the mobile and dispersed  
7 nature of this type of equipment; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
12 Health is requested to examine issues and barriers to  
13 enforcement of restrictions to reduce noise pollution, including  
14 the possibility of funding commercial rebates or similar  
15 incentive funding to support the transition to quieter  
16 operations by zero-emissions mopeds and small off-road  
17 equipment; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
20 requested to prepare and submit a report of its findings and  
21 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
22 Legislature no later than thirty days prior to the convening of  
23 the Regular Session of 2023; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.

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29 OFFERED BY:

