

HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO ENSURE GREATER PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF WIND MACHINES HAVING A RATED CAPACITY OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED KILOWATTS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to table 21-3 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, conditional use permits (minor) are required for wind machines having a rated capacity of up to one hundred kilowatts, and conditional use permits (major) are required for all wind machines having a rated capacity of over one hundred kilowatts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 21-5.700 (c), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, accessory wind machines having a rated capacity of up to one hundred kilowatts may be installed in agricultural and country zoning districts; and

WHEREAS, section 21-2.40-2, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, requires the Director of Planning and Permitting to hold a public hearing regarding any application for "any major permit which does not require the approval of the city council;" and

WHEREAS, conversely, section 21-2.40-1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, only requires that the Director of Planning and Permitting ask adjoining property owners if the owners would like to have a public hearing, and if "in the judgment of the director, there is sufficient cause to hold a public hearing, the director shall hold a public hearing;" and

WHEREAS, the noise pollution, shadow flicker, and flashing red lights caused by wind machines may adversely affect neighboring communities and property owners; and

WHEREAS, changing conditional use permits required for wind machines having a rated capacity of up to one hundred kilowatts from minor to major permits will allow for greater public input; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the House of Representatives concurring, the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and the Honolulu City Council are urged to ensure that:

(1) Wind machines having a rated capacity of up to one hundred kilowatts are subject to a more stringent conditional use permit application review process by amending Chapter 21 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu to require a conditional use permit (major) for all wind machines; and

(2) Waivers of compliance with Hawaii's environmental impact statement law, codified in Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for wind machines having a rated capacity of up to one hundred kilowatts are prohibited; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, and Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council.

OFFERED BY:

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