THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII

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S.R. NO.51

MAR 0 9 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAX THOSE PROPERTY OWNERS OF RESIDENTIAL UNITS WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE OF AN ACTIVE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL OR CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION LANDFILL.

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WHEREAS, every community in Hawaii deserves a "clean and
 healthful environment" pursuant to article XI, section 9, of the
 Hawaii State Constitution; and

5 WHEREAS, the scientific consensus is that landfills
6 generally -- and construction and demolition landfills
7 specifically -- have negative health impacts for those who live,
8 work, and play in close proximity; and

WHEREAS, Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, established 10 Hawaii's statewide buffer zone law, which prohibits any waste or 11 disposal facility from being located in a conservation district 12 13 except in emergency circumstances and prohibits persons, including the State or any county, from constructing, operating, 14 15 modifying, expanding, or closing a municipal solid waste landfill or construction and demolition landfill without first 16 establishing a buffer zone of no less than one-half mile; and 17 18

19 WHEREAS, the 2008 Hawaii Environmental Justice Initiative 20 Report's definition of "environmental justice" for Hawaii 21 recognized that "no one segment of the population or geographic 22 area should be disproportionately burdened with environmental 23 and/or health impacts resulting from development, construction, 24 operations and/or use of natural resources"; and

26 WHEREAS, residents within one-half mile of an active 27 operation of municipal solid waste landfills or construction and 28 demolition landfills are disproportionately burdened generally; 29 and

WHEREAS, for example, according to Centers for Disease
 Control and Prevention data, residents in the two census tracts
 abutting PVT Land Company LTD.'s landfill in Nanakuli, Oahu, a
 predominantly Native Hawaiian community, live ten years less

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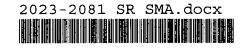


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than the state average of eighty-two years and have the second 1 and third lowest life expectancies in the entire State; and 2 3 WHEREAS, Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, addressed 4 5 only future operations of waste and disposal facilities and did not address the safety and health of those residents suffering 6 from the active operation of existing facilities; and 7 8 WHEREAS, those living within a one-half mile of an active 9 municipal solid waste landfill or a construction and demolition 10 11 landfill would benefit from funds made available from a property tax exemption to address their individual safety and health; 12 13 now, therefore, • 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second 15 16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the City and County of Honolulu is urged to exempt from 17 real property tax those property owners of residential units 18 within one-half mile of an active municipal solid waste landfill 19 20 or construction and demolition landfill; and 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 22 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Mayor of the City and 23 24 County of Honolulu, and each member of the Honolulu City 25 Council. 26 27 28

OFFERED BY:



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