
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GAS APPLIANCES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2021, Hawaii was
2 the first state to declare a climate emergency through the
3 adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44, S.D. 1, H.D. 1,
4 Regular Session of 2021. The legislature further finds that the
5 State enacted a statutory zero emissions clean economy target,
6 which endeavors "to sequester more atmospheric carbon and
7 greenhouse gases than emitted within the State as quickly as
8 practical, but no later than 2045".

9 One way to help the State achieve its zero emissions clean
10 economy target is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
11 Installing appliances that use electricity instead of gas in new
12 construction would substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions
13 and help the State achieve its zero emissions clean economy
14 target.

15 The legislature further finds that over the past three
16 years, the District of Columbia and various cities and counties
17 in California, Colorado, Maryland, New York, Oregon, and



1 Washington have prohibited the installation of gas burning
2 appliances, such as water heaters, refrigerators, ranges,
3 dishwashers, clothes dryers, air conditioners, decorative
4 fireplaces, and other similar devices in new construction within
5 their cities or counties.

6 In addition to emitting greenhouse gases, stoves, ovens,
7 and other indoor appliances may harm human health by leaking
8 hazardous air pollutants inside homes even when not in use,
9 including cancer-causing benzene, according to a recent
10 California study. Another recent study found that gas stove
11 pollution causes roughly 12.7 per cent of childhood asthma in
12 the United States, on par with second-hand smoke.

13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit,
14 beginning January 1, 2025, the installation of gas appliances in
15 new construction within the State.

16 SECTION 2. Section 196-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "**§196-5 Gas appliances [~~with pilot light~~] prohibited;**
19 **exemptions.** (a) [~~No new residential type~~] Beginning January 1,
20 2025, no gas appliance [~~that is equipped with a pilot light~~]
21 shall be [~~sold or~~] installed in any new construction of a



1 ~~residential or commercial structure within the State [after June~~
 2 ~~30, 1980. Gas appliances sold after June 30, 1980, shall be~~
 3 ~~equipped with an intermittent ignition system or other ignition~~
 4 ~~devices in lieu of gas pilot lights].~~

5 (b) Beginning ninety days after [~~May 30, 1978,~~] June 30,
 6 2023, the chief energy officer of the Hawaii state energy office
 7 or its successor entity shall notify, in writing, all [~~retail~~
 8 ~~sellers~~] installers of gas appliances doing business in the
 9 State of the provisions of this section.

10 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply [~~to any~~
 11 ~~hot water heaters with pilot lights or~~] to any gas appliance
 12 [~~which~~] that can be conclusively demonstrated by the equipment
 13 manufacturer, to the satisfaction of the chief energy officer of
 14 the Hawaii state energy office or its successor entity, that the
 15 gas [~~pilot device in the~~] appliance[~~+~~

16 ~~(1) Has a substantial lower life cycle cost than an~~
 17 ~~electric ignition or other alternate ignition system;~~

18 ~~(2) Is more energy efficient than available alternatives;~~
 19 ~~or~~

20 ~~(3) Is]~~ is necessary to safeguard public health and
 21 safety.



1 ~~[(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to~~
2 ~~people living in areas that are served with unreliable electric~~
3 ~~service or where it is not available.~~

4 ~~(e)]~~ (d) As used in this section~~[+~~

5 ~~(1)~~ "Gas, "gas appliance" includes any new residential
6 type heater, refrigerator, stove, range, dishwasher,
7 dryer, air conditioner, decorative fireplace, or other
8 similar devices~~[+~~

9 ~~(2)~~ "Intermittent ignition device" means an ignition
10 device which is activated only when the gas appliance
11 is in operation; and

12 ~~(3)~~ "Pilot light" means any gas-operated device that
13 remains continually operated or lighted in order to
14 ignite a gas appliance to normal operation]."

15 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.

18 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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H.B. NO. 835

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INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H. J. ...', written over a horizontal line.

JAN 23 2023



H.B. NO. 835

Report Title:

Gas Appliances; Prohibition; New Construction

Description:

Beginning 1/1/2025, prohibits the installation of gas appliances in new construction within the State.

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