



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3011, SD1  
RELATING TO NOISE**

SENATOR KARL RHOADS, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: 2/29/2024

Room Number: 016

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's  
2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and  
3 personnel priorities.

4 **Department Testimony:**

5 The Department supports this measure that proposes to include weed whacker restrictions to  
6 342F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

7 The Department appreciates the intent of the bill in addressing the sound emissions from  
8 weed whackers and favors a quieter environment. Any new mandate, depending on  
9 implementation, may require additional resources for effective enforcement. The intent of 342F,  
10 Hawaii Revised Statutes was to regulate noise sources that are either constant in nature,  
11 stationary, or restricted to a certain location, and can feasibly be enforced. Currently,  
12 enforcement against leaf blowers by the Department continues to be extremely difficult due to  
13 their mobility and duration of use, and documenting a violation is improbable due to our lack of  
14 immediate response capability.

15 Leaf blower complaints are fielded by our office and letters are issued informing the  
16 respondent of existing regulations. Typically, issues are resolved, and we do not receive follow  
17 up complaints. Adding weedwhackers expands our regulatory oversight and allows us to protect  
18 the public to the best of our capabilities.

19 342F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is also limited to in, or within 100 feet of "residential"  
20 zoned properties. Some zoning designations such as business or condo zoning have issues with

1 leaf blower operation and may benefit from an expansion of applicable zones. The Department  
2 is developing a public informational campaign to raise awareness of noise regulations and  
3 improve compliance throughout the State.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

5

6 **Offered Amendments:** None



WAIKIKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 9

/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD. SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817  
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February 24, 2024

Senate Bill 3011

Support

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Aloha Chair Rhodes and Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB3011, a noise bill. At the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board the board voted in favor of support for this bill.

Following the rather eerie quiet of the Pandemic with very little noise generated in Waikiki we are back with the noise from everything from trash trucks to loud mufflers to the loud leaf blowers that seem to be used early in the morning.

Board members and other residents would like to support this bill.

Robert Finley  
Chair

**SB-3011-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2024 6:35:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/29/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Kidd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure and propose that an amendment be added to phase out gas powered 2-stroke motors for lawn care.

**SB-3011-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/23/2024 6:51:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/29/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Not everyone has a 9 to 5 job. How about tightening up the hours from about 11A to 3P?

**SB-3011-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2024 10:46:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/29/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I live in a high rise condo in downtown Honolulu. While I strongly support this bill, it does not go far enough. Many people like me live in high rise buidlings in areas that are not zoned residential, they are zoned business mixed use and will not benefit from this. Please amend the bill to include business mixed use districts.

We are all plagued by this noise. As noise rises, those living higher up will hear the noise louder.

**SB-3011-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 12:31:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/29/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Greg Misakian	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If our legislators can introduce this bill, they can surely introduce one that has been requested by many residents for a very long time, regarding the issue of early trash pickup by private refuse companies.

Just change weed whacker to trash truck.

Makes it unlawful for any non-government entity or agent thereof to operate a weed whacker in or within one hundred feet of a residential zone, except between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on most days. Defines weed whacker. Takes effect 12/31/2050. (SD1)

Mahalo,

Greg Misakian

Kokua Council, 2nd Vice President

Waikiki Neighborhood Board, Sub District-2 Vice Chair