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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 196-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending its title and subsection (a) to read as  
3 follows:

4           "~~§196-6.5~~ ~~[Solar water]~~ Water heater system ~~[required]~~  
5 requirements for new single-family residential construction.

6 (a) On or after January 1, 2010, no building permit shall be  
7 issued for a new single-family dwelling that does not include a  
8 solar water heater system that meets the standards established  
9 pursuant to section 269-44~~[7]~~ or an ENERGY STAR certified heat  
10 pump water heater, unless the chief energy officer of the Hawaii  
11 state energy office approves a variance. A variance application  
12 shall only be accepted if submitted by an architect or  
13 mechanical engineer licensed under chapter 464, who attests  
14 that:

15           (1) ~~[Installation]~~ For a solar water heater system,  
16 installation is impracticable due to poor solar  
17 resource~~[7]~~ and for a heat pump water heater,



- 1           installation is impracticable due to interior or  
2           exterior space constraints;
- 3           (2) Installation of either a solar water heater system or  
4           a heat pump water heater is cost-prohibitive based  
5           upon a life cycle cost-benefit analysis that  
6           incorporates the average residential utility bill and  
7           the cost of the new solar water heater system [~~with a~~  
8           ~~life cycle that does not exceed fifteen years;~~] or new  
9           heat pump water heater;
- 10          (3) A renewable energy technology system, as defined in  
11          section 235-12.5, is substituted for use as the  
12          primary energy source for heating water; or
- 13          (4) [A] An ENERGY STAR certified demand water heater  
14          device [~~approved by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.,~~]  
15          is installed; provided that at least one other gas  
16          appliance is installed in the dwelling[+] and a life  
17          cycle cost-benefit analysis justifies the variance.
- 18          For the purposes of this paragraph, "demand water  
19          heater" means a gas-tankless instantaneous water  
20          heater that provides hot water only as it is needed.



# H.B. NO. 350

1        For the purposes of this subsection, "heat pump water  
2 heater" means a water heater that uses electricity to move heat  
3 from one place to another instead of generating heat directly."

4        SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
5 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
6 begun before its effective date.

7        SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9        SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 16 2025



# H.B. NO. 350

**Report Title:**

Energy; Water Heater System Requirements

**Description:**

Expands the types of water heater systems that may satisfy the relevant requirement for the issuance of a building permit for new single-family dwellings to include ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

