

JAN 17 2025

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[+] 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.



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: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. L.', is written over a horizontal line.

S.B. NO. 748

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.

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