ACT 305

S.B. NO. 249

A Bill for an Act Relating to County Building Codes.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that burns caused by household water that is too hot is a serious problem affecting young children, the elderly, and some disabled people. About half of all burn incidents involving young children are due to their immersion in water that is too hot. The legislature also finds that many apartment dwellers are particularly vulnerable because they cannot easily control water-heater temperatures. As a result, it is the purpose of this Act to prevent or reduce the number of these incidents by requiring that all counties incorporate in their building codes, a requirement that all new showerheads and bathtub faucets have anti-scald devices.

SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§46- Individual shower control valves required. Every county building code shall require that all showers in new dwelling units shall be equipped with individual shower control valves of the pressure balance or the thermostatic mixing valve type unless the temperature of the water serving the showers is limited to 110 degrees Farenheit. The requirements of this section shall be applicable to building permits issued after December 31, 1992."

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SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored. SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 26, 1991.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.