

ACT 73

S.B. NO. 2386

A Bill for an Act Relating to Waste Management.

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

SECTION 1. Section 183C-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) The department shall adopt rules governing the use of land within the boundaries of the conservation district that are consistent with the conservation of necessary forest growth, the conservation and development of land and natural resources adequate for present and future needs, and the conservation and preservation of open space areas for public use and enjoyment[-]; provided that no waste or disposal facility shall be located in a conservation district except in emergency circumstances where it may be necessary to mitigate significant risks to public safety and health; provided further that emergency circumstances shall not exceed three years. No use except a nonconforming use as defined in section 183C-5, shall be made within the conservation district unless the use is in accordance with a zoning rule.

For the purposes of this subsection:

“Emergency” means any actual or imminent natural or human-caused occurrence that results or likely will result in substantial injury or harm to the population or substantial damage to or loss of property.

“Waste or disposal facility” means any transfer station or landfill as defined in section 340A-1, open dump as defined in section 342H-1, solid waste reduction facility or waste reduction facility as defined in section 342G-1, disposal facility, or any other facility for the disposal of solid waste that is required by law to obtain a permit from the department of health. “Waste or disposal facility” excludes individual, state certified, non-industrial redemption centers.”

SECTION 2. Section 342H-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

~~“[§342H-52] Prohibition.”~~ **Prohibitions; buffer zones.** (a) No person, including ~~[any federal agency,]~~ the State[, or any county, shall construct, operate, modify, expand, or close a municipal solid waste landfill unit, or any component of a municipal solid waste landfill unit, without first obtaining a permit from the director. All permits for municipal solid waste landfill units shall be subject to ~~[such]~~ any terms and conditions ~~[as]~~ that the director determines are necessary to protect human health or the environment.

(b) No person, including the State or any county, shall construct, modify, or expand a waste or disposal facility including a municipal solid waste landfill unit, any component of a municipal solid waste landfill unit, a construction and demolition landfill unit, or any component of a construction and demolition landfill unit without first establishing a buffer zone of no less than one-half mile around the waste or disposal facility. This subsection shall not apply to the continued operation of an existing waste or disposal facility that is properly permitted; provided that continued operation does not require physical expansion, vertical or horizontal, of the facility requiring additional permitting review and a permit modification.

For the purposes of this subsection:

“Buffer zone” means the distance between the edge of waste or waste activity and the nearest residential, school, or hospital property line.

“Waste or disposal facility” excludes individual, state certified, non-industrial redemption centers.”

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

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

(Approved September 15, 2020.)