



RESOLUTION

URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO PROHIBIT THE UTILIZATION OF "SMART" ELECTRIC METERS ON OAHU.

WHEREAS, jurisdictions in the U.S. and Europe have been installing "smart" electric meters, which are electronic devices that track and record a customer's energy usage in intervals of an hour or less and automatically communicate the information to the utility by wireless frequencies; and

WHEREAS, "smart" electric meters replace analog meters that measure electricity use and are read manually once a month; and

WHEREAS, the new meters are promoted as a means by which consumers are provided with detailed feedback on energy use and are encouraged to manage electricity use by taking advantage of various pricing options; and

WHEREAS, however, concerns have been raised over the possible long-term adverse health effects on individuals and households who are involuntarily exposed to the radio frequency radiation emitted by the meters; and

WHEREAS, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, a branch of the World Health Organization, has classified certain radio frequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans; and

WHEREAS, the Health Officer of Santa Cruz County, in a memorandum to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on health risks associated with smart meters, noted that there is no scientific data to determine if there is a safe radio frequency exposure level regarding its non-thermal effects; and

WHEREAS, the memorandum further notes that government public health agencies should be much more vigilant toward involuntary environmental exposure because they are the only defense against such exposure; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the benefits of smart meters are outweighed by the potential public health hazards the devices pose; and

WHEREAS, the State Public Utilities Commission is the body regulating electrical utilities in the State of Hawaii; now, therefore,



RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the legislature is urged to enact legislation that would prohibit the use of "smart" electric meters on Oahu; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, the Public Utilities Commission, and the Governor.

INTRODUCED BY:

TOM BERG

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUL 10 2012

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

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CITY CLERK
RECEIVED