HB 64 HD 2 directs the Department of Health to adopt a state community noise code by June 30, 1992. This noise code is to recognize specific differences in noise level standards in urban and rural areas of the State.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

HB 64 HD 2 is identical to the original version of HB 64 except for an extension of the effective date of the act to July 1, 1992. As we pointed out in our earlier statements on the prior versions, we are in general concurrence with the intent of the bill. HB 64 HD 2 will provide the necessary statutory authority to permit the Department of Health to regulate noise, particularly on the neighbor islands where present noise regulatory authority is seriously lacking. Given the information and noise code already in place on Oahu and the existing task force made up of acoustical experts assembled by the DOH, plus the availability of information from the counties and noise codes developed for hundreds of other municipalities, the establishment of a workable state community noise code by the designated date should be a manageable task. It should be recognized that HRS 342F-2 gives the Director of Health the authority to delegate administration of this noise pollution chapter to political subdivisions [counties] of the state, hence county enforcement and control is clearly an option.