HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT FUNDING IS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COUNTIES FOR THE PAYMENT OF RECYCLERS WHO CARRY OUT COUNTY GLASS RECOVERY PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, the Environmental Management Special Fund (Special Fund) was established in 1993 to develop an efficient system to fund various state solid waste management programs, including waste reduction and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, the glass advance disposal fee was established in 1994 to be paid by glass container importers on certain glass containers and to be deposited into a special account within the Special Fund specifically to be used for county glass recovery programs, under section 342G-84, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), for glass containers that are not part of the deposit beverage container program; and

WHEREAS, funds in the glass advance disposal fee special account are distributed by the Department of Health to the counties to be used by the counties for glass recovery programs; and

WHEREAS, funding to Maui County from the glass advance disposal fee special account is expected to be insufficient as of January 2007, for fiscal year 2006-2007; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of each county's glass recovery program is essential to our state's solid waste management program; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Department of Health is requested to take steps to ensure that each of the counties has sufficient funds to pay for the services of the recyclers and other vendors who carry out their glass recovery programs; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is requested to submit to the Legislature a report no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008, setting forth its recommendations on how to ensure the counties receive sufficient funding to continue their glass container recovery programs under part VII of Chapter 342G, HRS; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, the Director of Budget and Finance, and the Mayors of each county.

OFFERED BY: Mele Carrier

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