

JAN 24 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECYCLING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii faces a solid
2 waste crisis. Landfill siting on all islands is a contentious
3 issue, and the solid waste permit for Oahu's main landfill,
4 Waimanalo gulch, will expire by May 2008.

5 Hawaii lags behind many other states in its commitment to
6 recycling, with less than one-third of its municipal waste being
7 recycled. Over ten thousand cities across the mainland have a
8 curbside recycling program. Honolulu is the largest city in the
9 country without a curbside recycling program. Further, Oahu
10 residents generate an average of over six pounds of trash per
11 person daily. This amount is forty-one per cent greater than
12 the national average of over four pounds per person and two
13 hundred ten per cent greater than the average German resident
14 who generates less than two pounds daily.

15 Tens of thousands of tons of recyclable material will be
16 trashed annually without convenient curbside recycling, wasting
17 natural resources, energy, and landfill space. A curbside



1 recycling program that allows residents to recycle bottles,
2 cans, food jars, cardboard, newsprint, and other recyclables at
3 their own curb would vastly increase Hawaii's real recycling
4 rate.

5 It is estimated that a well-run curbside recycling program
6 in Honolulu could capture over forty thousand tons of
7 recyclables annually. This figure is based on capture rates of
8 curbside recycling programs in cities of comparable size, such
9 as the city of Portland, Oregon, with approximately two hundred
10 thousand households, whose curbside program diverted over forty-
11 eight thousand tons of recyclables, or inorganics, in 2000. The
12 city of San Diego, California, with two hundred seventy-six
13 thousand households, recycled seventy-two thousand tons with its
14 curbside collection program in 2004.

15 The city and county of Honolulu 1999 Waste Composition
16 Study found that Oahu's residential solid waste contains over
17 forty-three per cent or one hundred thirty-seven thousand tons
18 of paper, plastics, metal, and glass, most of which could be
19 recycled. Almost ninety thousand tons of paper are discarded
20 annually from Oahu homes. The city and county of Honolulu 1999
21 Analysis of Curbside Recycling found that an average curbside



1 collection program could capture about thirty-nine thousand tons
2 of recyclables annually.

3 The benefits of a curbside recycling program extend beyond
4 the environmental gains. The city of Mesa, Arizona, with a
5 population of three hundred fourteen thousand, saved money by
6 integrating curbside recycling into its solid waste management
7 system. After implementing curbside recycling, the city was
8 able to reduce the number of garbage pick-ups from twice per
9 week to just once.

10 The legislature further finds that Hawaii's solid waste
11 problems warrant mandating curbside recycling in Hawaii's
12 largest county.

13 The purpose of this Act is to require counties with a
14 population of over seven hundred fifty thousand to establish a
15 residential curbside recycling program and to appropriate moneys
16 to the counties to establish the programs.

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
19 and to read as follows:

20 **"§342G- County residential curbside recycling program.**

21 Beginning January 1, 2008, each county with a population of over
22 seven hundred fifty thousand residents shall establish and



1 implement a residential curbside recycling program. The
2 residential curbside recycling program shall include newspaper,
3 plastics, glass, and aluminum. The residential curbside
4 recycling program shall be integrated into the county's
5 residential solid waste collection and disposal program."

6 SECTION 3. Section 342G-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
8 and to read as follows:

9 "Residential curbside recycling" means the collection and
10 recycling of residential recyclable materials from the same area
11 where the residential household's solid waste is collected for
12 disposal."

13 SECTION 4. Section 342G-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

15 "(b) The program element shall include [~~at a minimum~~]:

- 16 (1) A waste stream assessment component;
- 17 (2) A source reduction component;
- 18 (3) A recycling and bioconversion component[+], including
19 provisions for residential curbside recycling, if
20 applicable, pursuant to 342G- ;
- 21 (4) An energy-balance component;
- 22 (5) A special waste component;



- 1 (6) A household hazardous waste component;
- 2 (7) A public education and information component;
- 3 (8) A landfill and incineration component;
- 4 (9) A marketing and procurement of materials component;
- 5 (10) A program implementation component; and
- 6 (11) A program funding component."

7 SECTION 5. Section 342G-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

9 "(c) The recycling and bioconversion component shall
10 identify and assess:

- 11 (1) The level of waste reduction the county is achieving
12 through existing recycling and bioconversion efforts;
- 13 (2) The type and amount of solid waste that it is
14 technically and economically feasible to recycle or
15 alter through bioconversion; and
- 16 (3) Methods to increase and improve the recycling and
17 bioconversion efforts, including ~~[opportunities for]~~
18 residential curbside recycling and backyard
19 composting.

20 For recycling, the counties shall assess the type and
21 amount of solid waste that it is technically feasible to
22 recycle, giving consideration at a minimum to clear glass,



1 colored glass, aluminum, steel and bimetallic cans, high-grade
2 office paper, newsprint, mixed paper, corrugated paper, HDPE,
3 PET, and green waste.

4 For bioconversion, the counties shall assess the type and
5 amount of solid waste that it is technically feasible to alter
6 through bioconversion, giving consideration at a minimum to
7 green waste, wood waste, animal manure, sewage sludge, and food
8 wastes."

9 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
12 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
13 year 2008-2009, for a grant-in-aid to the city and county of
14 Honolulu to establish a residential curbside recycling program.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the city and
16 county of Honolulu for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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Report Title:

Curbside Recycling

Description:

Requires counties with a population of over 750,000 to establish a residential curbside recycling program; makes a grant-in-aid to the city and county of Honolulu for this purpose.

