
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every school day,
2 each student throughout the State of Hawaii produces about half
3 a pound of waste. This unnecessary amount of waste is then
4 transported at a fee to Hawaii landfills such as Waimanalo
5 gulch, which are approaching, or have already reached, capacity.
6 With schools using up to 31,000 cubic yards of landfill space
7 every month at a cost of \$6 per cubic yard, the lack of
8 comprehensive school recycling programs is costing the State up
9 to \$186,000 per month for Hawaii schools to have their trash
10 picked up and disposed of at landfills. School recycling
11 programs would reduce unnecessary spending on waste disposal and
12 alleviate some of the spatial issues that landfills in Hawaii
13 are currently facing.

14 The Long Beach Unified School District, located in Los
15 Angeles County, California, has adopted a recycling program that
16 recycles solid waste, food waste, paper, aluminum, glass,
17 plastic, and other materials, and will reduce its spending by



1 \$310,000 per year. Hawaii can also benefit from a similar
2 recycling program that could use compost from recycled food and
3 green waste to fertilize plants, grass, and fields, save schools
4 thousands in disposal fees, and teach students the importance of
5 recycling habits that they could continue throughout their
6 lives.

7 It is said that for every ton of paper that is recycled,
8 7,000 gallons of water, 380 gallons of oil, and enough
9 electricity to power a house for six months are conserved;
10 recycling a single aluminum can reportedly conserves enough
11 energy to power a television for six hours. Aside from the
12 financial benefits schools would acquire, establishing
13 comprehensive school recycling programs would also benefit the
14 environment in which we all live.

15 For the foregoing reasons, the purpose of this Act is to
16 enact one of the recommendations from the thirty-fifth secondary
17 student conference that was held on Oahu between November 28
18 and 30, 2007. The conference recommended that the department of
19 education create a task force to evaluate comprehensive
20 recycling options available to schools, including but not
21 limited to a detailed cost benefit analysis related to the



1 establishment of a school recycling program in the State of
2 Hawaii.

3 SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established within the
4 University of Hawaii, college of social services public policy
5 center a task force to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the
6 recycling options available to schools, including but not
7 limited to a detailed cost-benefit analysis related to the
8 establishment of recycling programs, the use of reverse vending
9 machines, and the feasibility of providing recycling bins in
10 schools throughout the State of Hawaii.

11 (b) The dean of the college of social sciences shall
12 appoint task force members without regard to section 26-34,
13 Hawaii Revised Statutes, based on lists of candidates submitted
14 by the department of education, the board of education, and the
15 Hawaii state student council; provided that at least two task
16 force members shall be students.

17 (c) Members shall serve without compensation, other than
18 the reasonable reimbursement for travel-related costs.

19 (d) The task force shall submit a report to the
20 legislature, including its findings, recommendations, and any
21 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
22 convening of the regular session of 2009.



1 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2009.

2 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
3 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
4 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to
5 carry out the operations of the task force that are consistent
6 with this Act.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
8 Hawaii college of social science public policy center for the
9 purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Schools; Task Force; Recycling; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a task force within the University of Hawaii to conduct an analysis into the creation of a comprehensive school recycling program; makes appropriation. (SD1)

