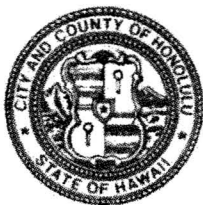


DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



February 6, 2008

ERIC S. TAKAMURA, Ph.D., P.E.
DIRECTOR

KENNETH A. SHIMIZU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
RA 08-015

The Honorable Hermina M. Morita, Chair
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
State Representative
State Capitol, Room 314
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: H.B. NO. 2711
RELATING TO INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Dear Representative Morita:

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services strongly supports H.B. No. 2711 which would distribute excess moneys in the deposit beverage recycling special fund to the counties to further support the establishment and maintenance of recycling programs on all the islands.

This bill was submitted to the legislature as part of the Hawaii Council of Mayors' legislative package, and has the support of all the counties. Hawaii's counties are facing serious challenges to manage solid waste and reduce waste to landfills. Alternative solutions, including increasing material recycling require significant resources to develop. All of the counties need to make recycling easier and more accessible to the public, and limited funds are hampering our efforts to be more aggressive.

There is currently an excess of approximately \$20 million in the State deposit beverage container special fund, which is the result of unclaimed and unutilized deposits that have accumulated since the beginning of the program in January 2005. The counties could employ these funds to further recycling efforts with numerous programs that would complement the State's HI-5 program, including promoting the use of community recycling bins, implementing curbside collection programs, providing assistance to multi-family complexes, providing assistance to businesses and establishing public recycling receptacles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric S. Takamura".

Eric S. Takamura, Ph.D., P.E.
Director