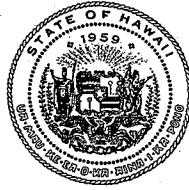


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
S.B. 2571, RELATING TO FOOD WASTE RECYCLING

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health

February 4, 2008
1:15 P.M.

1 **Department's Position:** The department supports both the prevention of food waste and food waste
2 recycling, but respectfully opposes this measure as worded because of major resource limitations.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** Unspecified amount from the Environmental Management Special Fund. Use of
4 this fund will jeopardize the regulatory functions of the department's solid waste program.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill requires the Department of Education, in partnership with the
6 Department of Health, to establish a three-year food waste recycling pilot project within one or more
7 public school districts, to be paid through DOH's Environmental Management Special Fund (EMSF).

8 This bill proposes using the EMSF to fund the recycling program. Because of statutory
9 limitations on the different accounts within the fund, the funding would have to come from the account
10 that collects the solid waste disposal surcharge. This account currently receives about \$500,000 per year
11 for a program that requires about \$800,000 per year to fully meet obligations under HRS Chapters 342G,
12 342H and 342I. This account is also facing reduction in income due to plans by the City and County of
13 Honolulu and private operators to ship waste out of state for disposal. Together, these proposed
14 facilities have the potential to reduce funding by about \$200,000 per year. Any additional burden on

1 this fund account will would essentially eliminate our solid waste regulatory and planning program. For
2 the foregoing reasons, we oppose this bill.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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