

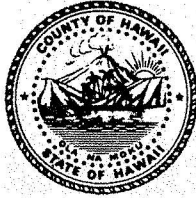
**BOB JACOBSON**

**Councilmember**

*Chair, Environmental Management Committee*

*Vice-Chair, Finance Committee*

*Vice-President Hawai'i State Association of Counties*



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## **HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL**

*County of Hawai'i*

March 17, 2008

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Rep. Hermina M. Morita, Chair

Rep. Mele Carroll, Vice Chair

And, Members

Hearing Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 9:00 am

Conference Room 312

Re: SB 2711, SD 2 RELATING TO INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

I strongly support SB 2711, SD 2. This Bill would provide much needed recycling moneys to the County. The County of Hawaii would greatly benefit if the department of health was able to distribute excess moneys in the deposit beverage container deposit special fund to the counties to support the establishment and maintenance of beverage bottle and related county-run recycling programs.

I urge you to pass SB 2711, SD 2.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Jacobson".

Bob Jacobson

**TESTIMONY OF THE  
COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

**TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

March 18, 2008  
9:00 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2711, SD 2, RELATING TO INTEGRATED SOLID  
WASTE MANAGEMENT.**

**TO THE HONORABLE HERMINA M. MORITA, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE:**

My name is Bryan J. Baptiste, Mayor, testifying on behalf of the County of Kaua'i (County).

The County supports Senate Bill No. 2711, SD 2.

The bill allows the distribution of excess moneys in the deposit beverage container deposit special fund to the counties to support beverage bottle and other related recycling programs.

The Council of Mayors has supported distribution of excess funds to the counties to assist in their recycling programs. We understand that the special fund has over \$20 million accumulated because consumers and other purchasers have not claimed beverage container deposits. These funds could be put to use to expand and improve our recycling efforts. However, the current language of the bill requires the county to use the funds for beverage bottle and related programs. As there are other worthy recycling programs in our communities that could benefit from the funds, we support the broader language proposed by the Council of Mayors, which allows the funds to be used for any "county-run recycling programs."

We thank the Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter.



# THE LEGISLATIVE CENTER

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March 18, 2008

Testimony To: House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Representative Hermina M. Morita, Chair

Presented By: Tim Lyons, Legislative Liaison  
Anheuser Busch Companies

Subject: S.B. 2711, SD 2 - RELATING TO INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Chair Morita and Members of the Committee:

I am Tim Lyons, Legislative Liaison for Anheuser Busch Companies and we support the intent of this bill.

First, the bill talks about excess money in the beverage container deposit special fund. In our opinion, if there are excess monies, then the legislature should strongly consider allowing for a temporary suspension of the one cent deposit beverage container fee that everyone pays as long as there are sufficient funds. Everyone pays the nickel and as long as you participate in the recycling program you get your nickel back; you do not get your penny back...EVER!

When the program was first launched, we noted that we thought that there would be extra money in this fund due to unredeemed deposits and it would seem to us that the individuals who are

taking advantage of this program should be rewarded over those who are not. The reason for the extra money, of course, is from the 30% of the people who do not participate in the program. There is no reason in our mind why that 30% should not go towards administration of the program and other costs that are currently being covered by the one cent deposit beverage container fee.

Secondly, while we have no problem in seeing some of the funds put to use by the counties, we believe there should be a very tight restriction that it is not for their use on just any recycling program, but on bottle bill container programs. We think it is inherently unfair to ask consumers of this state to have their unredeemed nickels from beverages go towards tire recycling, computer or electronic recycling or any other type of recycling program except for that which it was paid. The amendments to this bill do that and we think that is the right direction however, the bill, as proposed in SD 2, allocates money based on a percentage and without regard for a need or an approved plan to expend the money. This should be changed to allow only for approved beverage bottle programs.

Based on the above, we support this bill but hope you can further amend it to allow for a "suspension of the penny" and approved plans.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

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To: Representative Hermina Morita, Chair  
Representative Mele Carroll, Vice Chair  
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Ralph C. Boyea  
Legislative Advocate, Hawai'i County Council

Subject: Testimony in **FAVOR** of SB 2711, SD2 –RELATING TO INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE  
MANAGEMENT

For: Hearing on March 18, 2008  
9:00 a.m. Conf. Room #312

Chair Morita, Vice Chair Carroll and Honored Representatives,

On behalf of the Hawai'i County Council, I ask that you pass SB 2711, SD2.

Senate Bill 2711, SD2 permits the Department of Health to distribute excess moneys in the deposit beverage container deposit special fund to the counties to support the establishment and maintenance of beverage bottle and related county-run recycling programs.

The Hawai'i County Council and Hawai'i County Administration are serious about recycling. Working together they have established recycling center at our landfills and at many of our transfer stations. There is far more that can be done to expand these efforts. Passage of SB 2711 will provide the County with additional funds that will be used to improve our recycling activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.