

SCR 230

Date: 04/01/2008

Committee: Senate Energy and
Environment; Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 230 REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE RECYCLING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS, INCLUDING A FEASIBILITY REPORT RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOOL RECYCLING PROGRAM IN THE STATE.

Purpose of Resolution: Requesting the establishment of a task force to evaluate recycling options available to schools, including a feasibility report related to the establishment of a school recycling program in the state.

Department's Position: The Department of Education agrees that recycling is important and all schools should implement recycling programs to the extent possible. SB 2774, SD2, establishes a task force within the University of Hawaii to conduct an evaluation of the recycling options available to schools, including a summary feasibility report relating to the establishment of a school recycling program, the use of reverse vending machines, and the feasibility of providing recycling bins in schools throughout the State. The Department will work with that task force and will support the recommendations from the task force within budget limitations. If that bill is not successful, the Department will establish its own task force to evaluate recycling options available to schools. However, implementing recycling programs at schools may take funds which may not be available.



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April 1, 2008

Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Senator Ron Menor, Chair / Senator Gary L. Hooser, Vice Chair

Senate Committee in Education
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair / Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Re: SCR 230 REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE
RECYCLING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS, INCLUDING A FEASIBILITY REPORT
RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOOL RECYCLING PROGRAM IN THE
STATE

Chairs & Committee Members:

We support this resolution as being a critical piece of the entire future of recycling for Hawaii, as the schools can help create the infrastructure that will lead to opportunities for the private sector to follow.

A good example of this is food recycling through composting, and the separation of polystyrene food-ware for recycling. Both will help jump start these programs leading to a change in how waste is handled.

HFIA is now partnering with the Department of Education in the creation of a video contest where high school students will create their own video presentations on what can be done to protect our environment. This may fit in well with this resolution in that it will encourage student participation on protection our environment.



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April 1, 2008

To: Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Senator Ron Menor, Chair / Senator Gary L. Hooser, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Education
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair / Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

By: Gilbert Yamda
Hawaii Foam Products, LLC.

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Chairs & Committee Members

We support this resolution as recycling is the answer to Hawaii needs.

Polystyrene is currently being recycled in Massachusettes by a company called EPG. They already have a plant in operation and the owners name is Michael Forrest and he can be reached at (978) 764-4159 or his email address is michaelrecycle@aol.com. He is willing to set up a plant for recycling if we can provide him with the usage of school lunch trays in the State.