

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 304

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 574  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 574 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve recycling rates in the State.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Extends the reverse vending machine rebate program and provides additional financial incentives for participation in the program; and
- (2) Appropriates \$1,750,000 to the counties to plan and operate county recycling programs.

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter and Reynolds Recycling submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Department of Health submitted testimony in opposition to this measure. Three individuals from the University of Hawaii Environmental Center submitted comments on this measure.

Your Committee finds that efforts to extend the reverse vending machine program and expand its scope would increase recycling in the State by making it more convenient for



individuals to recycle their deposit beverage containers. In addition, providing the counties with the means to develop recycling programs would further increase recycling rates throughout the State.

Upon further consideration, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the repeal date of Act 228, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, which established the reverse vending machine rebate program from June 30, 2009 to June 30, 2014; and
- (2) Changing the eligible installation date of reverse vending machines in section 342G-102.5(b)(1) to June 30, 2012. This will allow reverse vending machines to be eligible for the program if installed by June 30, 2012, and will further allow the State to rebate a portion of the operating cost for machines for up to two years from that date, as applicable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 574, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 574, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Energy &  
Environmental Protection,



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HERMINA MORITA, Chair



