

JAN 20 2010

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECYCLING IN SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that according to
2 Edutopia and the George Lucas Educational Foundation, many
3 students and teachers across the nation are actively involved in
4 earth-friendly ventures and for many schools, the recycling
5 program is first on the agenda. In some places, however,
6 recycling is still very difficult to do, or even unheard of, and
7 Edutopia is currently conducting a poll on the status of
8 recycling programs in America's schools, including what can be
9 done to increase their size and scope.

10 The legislature further finds that the United States
11 Environmental Protection Agency has noted that every ton of
12 paper recycled would save enough energy to power the average
13 American home for six months, save 7,000 gallons of water, save
14 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space, and reduce greenhouse gas
15 emissions by one metric ton of carbon equivalent. In addition,
16 recycling a single plastic bottle can conserve enough energy to
17 light a sixty watt bulb for up to six hours, and recycling one
18 ton of plastic saves 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space.



1 RecycleNow Schools, in a 2007 study in England, found that
2 on average, primary schools generated forty-five kilograms
3 (about ninety-nine pounds) of waste per pupil per academic year,
4 and secondary schools, twenty-two kilograms (forty-nine pounds)
5 per pupil per academic year, primarily of food and paper waste.

6 The Environmental Protection Agency promotes recycling to
7 reduce the amount of energy used to make materials and products,
8 which in turn drastically reduces the amount of carbon dioxide
9 that is released into the atmosphere. Education World, a
10 provider of learning management solutions, found that schools
11 that have implemented recycling programs have saved the school
12 and school district money, by avoiding unnecessary disposal
13 costs.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
15 education to assist public schools statewide in adopting and
16 implementing comprehensive campus recycling policies.

17 SECTION 2. The department of education shall assist public
18 schools statewide in adopting and implementing comprehensive
19 campus recycling policies. The department shall review current
20 recycling policies and implementation, including the costs and
21 savings associated with the recycling activities.



1 The department of education shall report its findings and
2 recommendations to the legislature no later than twenty days
3 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2011 on the:

- 4 (1) Status of campus recycling policies statewide;
- 5 (2) Proposed additional or revised recycling options;
- 6 (3) Anticipated costs associated with the additional or
7 revised options; and
- 8 (4) Anticipated savings or revenues generated through
9 campus recycling and provide a recommendation on how
10 the revenues generated through campus recycling are to
11 be remitted to the department of education for deposit
12 to the credit of programs that fund K-12 education.

13 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Public Schools; Recycling; Keiki Caucus

Description:

Requires the department of education to assist public schools statewide in adopting and implementing comprehensive campus recycling policies; requires report to 2011 legislature.

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