

JAN 23 2009

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECYCLING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii faces a solid  
2 waste crisis, with rapidly filling landfills and the  
3 proliferation of illegal dumping. Despite the imminent danger  
4 these problems pose to the State's economic, environmental, and  
5 social health, Honolulu remains the largest city in the country  
6 without a curbside recycling program. Oahu residents generate,  
7 on average, forty-one per cent more trash per person daily than  
8 the national average, and, according to the City and County of  
9 Honolulu 1999 Waste Composition Study, over forty-three per cent  
10 of Oahu's solid waste could have been recycled, but was not.

11           The State has recognized the need to implement recycling  
12 programs and reduce waste in order to avoid the risks to the  
13 environment and public health caused by irresponsible disposal  
14 of solid waste. The City and County of Honolulu 2008 Curbside  
15 Recycling Pilot Program Evaluation found that pilot curbside  
16 programs in Mililani and Hawaii Kai were successful. The



1 evaluation recommended expansion of the curbside program to the  
2 entire island as quickly as possible.

3         Nevertheless, Hawaii lags behind other communities in its  
4 commitment to recycling. In Oregon, cities with populations of  
5 over four thousand people must offer monthly curbside recycling.  
6 In addition, Oregon law provides for recycling collection  
7 service for multi-family dwelling complexes, regular on-site  
8 collection of recyclable materials from commercial  
9 establishments, provision of at least one durable recycling  
10 container to each residential collection customer, residential  
11 and commercial composting services, an expanded system of  
12 recycling depots to best serve county populations, and the  
13 establishment of garbage collection rates to encourage waste  
14 reduction.

15         The State's recycling program is surpassed internationally,  
16 as well. In Canada, British Columbia has implemented curbside  
17 recycling programs in the cities of Kelowna and Victoria. Both  
18 cities have implemented programs to encourage reusing or  
19 donating goods rather than disposing of them, thus reducing the  
20 amount of solid waste disposal overall. The cities also accept  
21 more types of materials for recycling than Hawaii does,  
22 including tin, aluminum, glass, newsprint, cardboard, writing



1 paper, magazines, plastics, telephone books, plastic film, rigid  
2 plastic containers, metals, batteries, green waste, and wood  
3 chips.

4 The purpose of this Act is to establish a recycling program  
5 model task force. The task force shall prepare a comprehensive  
6 report on the recycling program models in the State of Oregon  
7 and the province of British Columbia, Canada, and submit its  
8 findings and recommendations to the legislature, along with a  
9 plan for implementation of a statewide recycling program based  
10 on the task force's recommendations.

11 SECTION 2. There is established the recycling program  
12 model task force within the department of health for  
13 administrative purposes. The recycling program model task force  
14 shall:

15 (1) Prepare a comprehensive report of recycling program  
16 models in place both nationally and internationally,  
17 including the task force's findings and  
18 recommendations. Specifically, the report shall  
19 address the models in place in the State of Oregon and  
20 the province of British Columbia, Canada, and shall  
21 include in its report for both of these locations:



- 1 (A) Methods of collecting residential and commercial  
2 recyclables;
- 3 (B) Outreach and education programs relating to  
4 recycling, reusing, and reducing solid waste;
- 5 (C) Types of materials accepted for recycling;
- 6 (D) Incentives provided for recycling and  
7 disincentives or penalties in place to discourage  
8 excess solid waste disposal; and
- 9 (E) Statistics related to recycling for both  
10 locations, including cost-benefit analyses, costs  
11 of service provision, tonnage of solid waste  
12 diverted from landfills into recycling programs,  
13 percentages of participation in recycling  
14 programs, and economic gains as a result of  
15 recycling programs, if available; and
- 16 (2) Prepare a plan to implement the recycling program  
17 model in Hawaii that the task force finds most  
18 practical, effective, and aligned with the State's  
19 goals by no later than January 1, 2011.

20 SECTION 3. The recycling program model task force shall  
21 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses



1 necessary for the performance of their duties, including travel  
2 expenses.

3 SECTION 4. The recycling program model task force shall  
4 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the  
5 legislature, including a plan for implementation of a statewide  
6 recycling program by January 1, 2011, no later than twenty days  
7 prior to the convening of the 2010 regular session.

8 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the deposit  
9 beverage container deposit special fund the sum of \$  
10 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010  
11 for the recycling program model task force to carry out the  
12 purposes of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 health for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
16 provided that section 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

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INTRODUCED BY: Thomas Chum Oakland  
[Signature]



**Report Title:**

Recycling Program; Department of Health; Recycling Program Model Task Force; Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a task force within the department of health to prepare a report on recycling programs in other states and countries and to create a plan for implementing a statewide recycling program based on the task force's findings. Makes an appropriation.

