

**HB 2644,
HD2, SD1
Testimony**

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
VIA EMAIL: WAMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

FROM: Gary M. Slovin / Mihoko E. Ito

DATE: March 30, 2010

RE: **H.B. 2644, H.D.2, S.D.1 -- Relating to Solid Waste
Hearing: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.**

Dear Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

We offer the following comments on behalf of PVT Land Company ("PVT"), the construction and demolition landfill located in Nanakuli on Oahu. As part of its ongoing operations, PVT has incorporated recycling of metals and concrete, and also has applied for a new permit to allow recycling of combustible material (like wood and other building materials) to support renewable energy projects.

PVT takes no position as to the substance of the measure, but supports the removal of the purpose section of H.B. 2644, H.D. 2, S.D.1. This measure proposes to extend the 35 cent surcharge from solid waste disposal facilities to waste-to-energy facilities and solid waste shipped out of state for disposal or incineration.

PVT believes that removing the purpose section was proper because it made certain assumptions that were inaccurate. When the disposal surcharge was adopted by the Legislature in 1993, the funds raised from the surcharge were supposed to be used to support "source reduction, recycling and bioconversion activities" created by the expansion of solid waste regulations. The surcharge was implemented to provide funding to "support solid waste management, statewide waste reduction, recovery, and diversion programs." Thus, the solid waste disposal surcharge was not meant to be just another tax to fund the general administration of the department.

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PVT believes that the funds from the surcharge should continue to support recycling and waste reduction, not fund the general administration of the Office of Solid Waste Management.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.