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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF FLUORESCENT, COMPACT FLUORESCENT, AND HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM LAMPS AND TO RESTRICT OR PREVENT THE DISPOSAL OF THESE ITEMS IN LANDFILLS OR BY INCINERATION.

1           WHEREAS, fluorescent and compact fluorescent light bulbs  
2 contain small amounts of mercury, an element that is toxic to  
3 humans, and when found in the human body, even in small  
4 quantities, can result in internal bleeding, kidney failure,  
5 brain damage, and even death; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, it is estimated that on average, 49 percent of  
8 traditional fluorescent light bulbs contain seven milligrams of  
9 mercury, 66 percent of compact fluorescent light bulbs contain  
10 two and one-half milligrams of mercury, and 97 percent of all  
11 high pressure sodium lamps contain 30 milligrams of mercury; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, it is also estimated that eight million to ten  
14 million high pressure sodium lamps are imported annually into  
15 the State, of which an unknown number of lamps are incinerated  
16 at a waste-to-energy power plant or disposed of at various  
17 landfills; and

18  
19           WHEREAS, it takes only one fluorescent or compact  
20 fluorescent lamp containing five milligrams of mercury to  
21 contaminate 6,000 gallons of water; and

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23           WHEREAS, 500,000 fluorescent and compact fluorescent lamps,  
24 containing an average of five milligrams of mercury per lamp,  
25 amounts to approximately five and one-half pounds of mercury;  
26 and

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28           WHEREAS, the State currently has no program or laws to  
29 regulate the proper disposal of fluorescent lamps, compact  
30 fluorescent lamps, and high pressure sodium lamps; now,  
31 therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 2 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 3 of 2011, that the Department of Health is urged to develop a  
 4 program that includes an educational component, for the proper  
 5 disposal of fluorescent, compact fluorescent, and high pressure  
 6 sodium lamps; and

7  
 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health,  
 9 through its various divisions and by use of its regulatory  
 10 authority, is urged to restrict or prevent the disposal of  
 11 fluorescent, compact fluorescent, and high pressure sodium lamps  
 12 in landfills or by incineration; and

13  
 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
 15 requested to submit a report of the actions taken to comply with  
 16 this request, including any proposed legislation, to the  
 17 Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the  
 18 Regular Session of 2012; and

19  
 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
 21 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health

22  
 23  
 24 OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 16 2011

