



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### H.B. 422, RELATING TO SOLID WASTE

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Acting Director of Health

February 3, 2011  
3:30 P.M.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports this bill.

2 **Fiscal Implications:** Maintain solid waste program funding

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this bill is to clarify that the solid waste management  
4 surcharge shall also apply to waste-to-energy facilities and facilities that prepare waste for final  
5 disposition outside the state of Hawaii.

6 The department supports the changes proposed by this bill because they will help us address the  
7 changing waste management field. The solid waste management surcharge is the main funding source  
8 for the department's solid waste regulatory program. The current surcharge is 35 cents per ton and is  
9 applied to landfills and incinerators, including H-Power.

10 The department is aware of waste-to-energy facilities that are proposing to use new technologies  
11 that the current solid waste management surcharge will not apply to. The past year has also seen  
12 attempts to operate a facility to prepare waste for out of the state disposal. Waste currently being  
13 handled by facilities subject to the surcharge would be diverted to the newer facilities. Both of the  
14 activities mentioned would avoid the solid waste management surcharge as it is currently structured,  
15 thus reducing solid waste program revenue while actually increasing the program's workload.

1           Solid waste program funding is already below sustainable levels. Allowing the changes  
2 proposed in this bill would help the solid waste program to maintain current funding levels.

3           Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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