
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GREEN WASTE RECYCLING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is an
2 opportunity to develop green infrastructure that benefits the
3 State. The research, job creation, and environmental diligence
4 that can be realized by green infrastructure are invaluable.
5 Replenishing nutrients into the soil and sustaining the health
6 of the land is a top priority for any vision of the future. The
7 ability to treat organic waste and progressively ban organic
8 waste in landfills can create a new, sustainable resource, as
9 well as serve as a symbol of sustainable production. Areas such
10 as energy and food security can become vastly improved and
11 optimized.

12 "Green waste" is defined by the state department of health
13 as "solid waste that includes leaves, grass clippings, garden
14 and yard wastes, tree trunks, holiday trees, tree trimmings,
15 and/or prunings." Although there are curb side pick-ups for
16 certain urban communities, there is a much larger source of
17 green waste in rural areas. A coordinated and comprehensive



1 statewide green waste recycling and reuse system would be a
2 profitable and sustainable system.

3 Since the implementation of the deposit beverage container
4 law (Act 176, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002) on January 1, 2005,
5 the State has received positive feedback and a growing interest
6 in the bottle recycling program. The law's success has opened
7 possibilities for more cooperative and profitable recycling
8 projects between the State and local businesses.

9 In April of 2010, the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.,
10 began a quest to find a long term supply of biofuels. Given the
11 demand for biofuel by the biggest electrical supplier in the
12 State, there is an opportunity to create a long term partnership
13 in which communities, businesses, and the State can benefit.

14 More importantly, the recycle and reuse movement has shown
15 that the general population supports sustainability. It is time
16 to incorporate green waste into the recycling movement at a
17 statewide level so that everyone in Hawaii can benefit.

18 Residents and tourists alike appreciate and have an unspoken
19 connection to the land. The health of this land is a top
20 priority for maintaining prosperity.

21 SECTION 2. The legislature, in coordination with the
22 office of solid waste management of the department of health,



1 shall hold a symposium hosting community stakeholders, business
2 representatives, and researchers to develop initiatives for
3 improved reuse and recycling of green waste. The symposium
4 shall explore:

- 5 (1) Possible uses of green waste in energy or fuel
6 production and agriculture;
- 7 (3) Public private partnerships to create efficient and
8 mutually beneficial relationships throughout the
9 community;
- 10 (4) New technologies and alternatives;
- 11 (5) Incorporating alternative technologies or switching
12 out current technologies;
- 13 (6) Federal funding and programs;
- 14 (7) Cutting edge ideas and research relating to green
15 waste;
- 16 (8) A roadmap for Hawaii to recycle all green waste
17 statewide;
- 18 (9) A methodology to achieve the goals set out by the
19 Hawaii 2050 sustainability task force, including
20 priority action 4, which issues a call to "increase
21 recycling, reuse, and waste reduction strategies" by
22 2020;



1 (10) The need for a center for recycling and reuse to
2 continuously research and test new ideas and
3 technologies for green waste;

4 (11) The current regulatory environment between county and
5 state agencies to determine any controlling agencies
6 and rules that apply and any inconsistencies in
7 definitions;

8 (12) Each county's requirements and challenges of locating,
9 transporting, distributing, and marketing the end
10 product of reuse and recycling; and

11 (13) Integration of all types of organics, including food
12 waste and green waste.

13 SECTION 3. The office of solid waste management of the
14 department of health shall submit an interim report and a final
15 report to the legislature on the status of the initiatives
16 established pursuant to section 2 of this Act no later than
17 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2013 and 2014 regular
18 sessions, respectively. Each report shall include a description
19 of the role that the office of solid waste management plays in
20 carrying out the initiatives of the symposium.

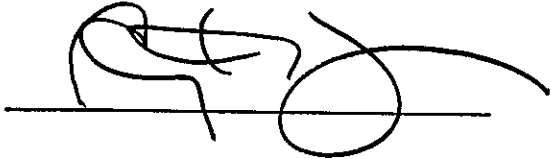
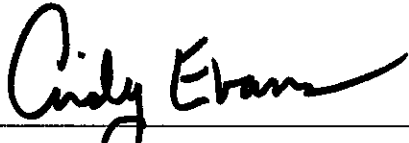




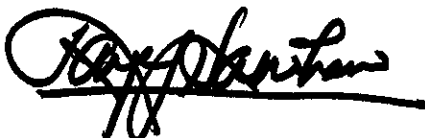
H.B. NO. 2167


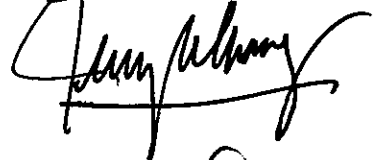
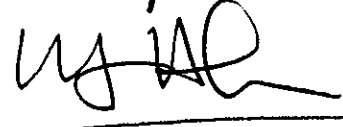
1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.




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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 20 2012



H.B. NO. 2167

Report Title:

Green Waste; Symposium; Office of Solid Waste Management

Description:

Requires the office of solid waste management to host a symposium to develop initiatives for improved reuse and recycling of green waste. Requires a report to the legislature.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

