



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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

**S.B. 2822, S.D. 1, RELATING TO RECYCLING**

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

**February 28, 2012  
9:00 a.m.**

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

2 **Fiscal Implications:** Unquantified cost of operating the task force.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** Recycling has come a long way in Hawaii. The state, counties and private  
4 industry have worked hard over the past 20 years to put various recycling programs in place. Systems  
5 have evolved over the years and existing recycling programs cover many materials.

6 The Department of Health recognizes that more work remains. The increased pace of  
7 development in consumer products has resulted in very short life-spans of many electric products which,  
8 in turn, results in large amounts of waste.

9 Past efforts in addressing this portion of our waste stream have resulted in the current computer  
10 and television recycling program. However, two years of experience has shown the program to be  
11 ineffective in providing a convenient program for Hawaii consumers. The department hoped to enhance  
12 existing recycling efforts with its initial proposal of a comprehensive electric device recycling program.

13 We understand that an undertaking of this magnitude needs input from the many stakeholders

1 involved. We look forward to having constructive conversations in developing an electric device  
2 recycling program that will be effective and convenient.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

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February 28, 2012

Senator David Y. Ige  
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 215

RE: **SB 2822**

Dear Senator Ige:

TechNet is the preeminent bipartisan political network of CEOs and Senior Executives that promotes the growth of technology-led innovation in the fields of information technology, biotechnology, clean energy, venture capital, e-commerce and finance. Our companies represent two million employees and \$800 billion in annual revenues. We write to urge your amendment of SB 2822, which, as amended, establishes a task force to develop solutions for recycling of electric devices, to include representatives of the computer hardware industry.

TechNet and our member companies share your interest and commitment to robust environmental protection. Our companies have established programs to recycle tens of millions of pounds of old computers and related devices annually, and the technology sector continues to innovate in developing ways to recycle more efficiently, incorporate product designs that minimize the use of materials of concerns and promote reuse and recyclability. We do not believe, however, that technology sector companies should have to bear responsibility for the recycling of products of other industry sectors such as televisions

TechNet had expressed its concerns about SB 2822 as introduced. TechNet supports the essence of the amendments adopted by the Energy and Environment Committee February 16. Establishing a task force to consider how to most effectively improve product recycling in Hawaii will enable the state to develop thoughtful, effective policies that best address the needs of the people of the State.

The legislation approved by the Energy and Environment Committee provides that task force membership shall be extended to "up to two representatives of the Consumer Electronics Association." TechNet believes that representation on the task force should be provided to companies who are already undertaking efforts in computer electronics recycling and whose expertise could be valuable to the state.

As you know, Hawaii recently established a program providing for the collection and recycling of computers and other electronic waste. A number of manufacturers have worked with the state to develop and implement e-waste recycling programs. Having worked with states across the country, they have substantial experience that could be useful to the task force as it develops its recommendations. It would appear to us that having companies with experience in Hawaii on the front-end of this process would also increase the likelihood of a positive outcome. We note that the language, for example, includes language to ensure the representation of retailers that conduct take back programs. Therefore we suggest incorporation of language providing for 2 representatives from the electronic sector companies implementing e-waste programs under state law.

We appreciate your attention to these concerns and stand willing to work with you on a solution that delivers better results for the environment and people of Hawaii.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being more prominent than the last name "Hawley".

Jim Hawley  
Senior Vice President, State Policy

Cc: Senate President Shan Tsutsui  
Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee