



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

H.B. 701, RELATING TO WASTE DISPOSAL

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

January 31, 2013
8:30 a.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The department respectfully opposes this measure at this time because it
2 needs to first discuss more fully the provisions of this measure with its abandoned tire task force and
3 then report back to the legislature next year, as directed by Act 271 (12).

4 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined, but additional staff and resources will be required to develop and
5 implement the voucher program.

6 **Purpose and Justification:** This measure requires the department to develop and implement a voucher
7 system for used tire collection. It requires "authorized tire collection services" to deliver tires to
8 "authorized tire recyclers" who will use a voucher or "cashless" reimbursement systems.

9 The department on January 9, 2013 convened a task force on abandoned tires per the direction of
10 the previous legislature. We believe it is necessary to first discuss the provisions of this measure with as
11 many stakeholders as possible through the task force and include their feedback in the report to next
12 year's legislature, as directed by Act 271 (12). We are working with affected businesses, trade
13 associations and those who represent communities affected by this issue to first verify the extent of the
14 tire dumping problem, and then review likely ways to control or prevent this problem.

1 If this measure becomes law, the department requests additional authority to establish new
2 permanent positions because current staff cannot be expected to run this program over the long-term.

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

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Support of HB 701

Members of the Energy and environmental Protection

My name is Mark Suiso. I am a Makaha resident and a participant for many years in clean ups in our community. One of the biggest problems we have is the dumping of tires on roadsides and open lots. I suspect most of these tires are from people recycling and junking cars. The recycle facilities will not take cars with fluid or tires so people are on their own to deal with this.

The current practice of people replacing tires at a tire store and paying a disposal fee is not, I believe, the source of the tires being dumped.

The City operates a convenience station in our neighborhood. It limits people to 2 tires and will turn people away when the bin is full. This happens too often. A few conscientious people will take tires to a disposal site in Campbell Industrial Park at their own cost. Most find it easier and cheaper to dump them somewhere. The enforcement on dumping is poor. Photo documentation and eye witness testimony has not resulted in any prosecution to date.

We used to have a problem with dumping of: cars, beverage containers, metals, car batteries...This kind of dumping has largely gone away. I believe because there is enough economic incentive for people to dispose these items for value. There is no current value for tires. Worse there is no enforcement for dumping of tires.

This bill should provide the seed to do something.