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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE OR WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE LOCAL ALTERNATIVES TO SHIPPING GLASS OUT OF STATE, DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY AND COSTS OF SUCH LOCAL ALTERNATIVES COMPARED TO SHIPPING THE GLASS OUT OF STATE, AND RECOMMEND ANY CHANGES TO THE ADVANCE DISPOSAL FEE AND REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF THE ADVANCE DISPOSAL FEE PROGRAM.

1           WHEREAS, the cost of recycling non-deposit glass containers  
2 exceeds the revenue that the State collects through the 1.5 cent  
3 fee imposed on each of these glass containers through the  
4 Department of Health's advance disposal fee program; and

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6           WHEREAS, the advance disposal fee is deposited into the  
7 environmental management special fund; and

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9           WHEREAS, the counties receive approximately ninety per cent  
10 of the revenue deposited into the fund and establish the amount  
11 that they pay glass recyclers for accepting recyclable glass  
12 from the counties; and

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14           WHEREAS, the counties report that they commonly exhaust the  
15 advance disposal fee revenue before the end of each fiscal year;  
16 and

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18           WHEREAS, there is a limited market in Hawaii for scrap  
19 glass, so most recyclable glass is shipped elsewhere; and

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21           WHEREAS, the high cost of shipping and the relatively low  
22 revenue from scrap glass are major causes of the advance  
23 disposal fee program's deficit; and

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25           WHEREAS, requiring that the advance disposal fee cover the  
26 entire cost of shipping scrap glass to recyclers would cause



1 consumers to pay for shipping glass containers both to and from  
2 the State; and

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4 WHEREAS, before requiring consumers to pay a higher  
5 disposal fee, the existing recycling program, including the use  
6 of state funds by the counties, should be examined; and

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8 WHEREAS, an audit of the State's deposit beverage container  
9 program found significant deficiencies in that program's  
10 administration; and

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12 WHEREAS, it is necessary to examine whether the advance  
13 disposal fee program is the most cost-effective way to handle  
14 recyclable glass, and how costs may be reduced; and

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16 WHEREAS, an examination of the advance disposal fee is  
17 necessary to determine whether changes to the fee are warranted;  
18 now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the  
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
23 Health is requested to convene a task force or working group to  
24 examine local alternatives to shipping glass out of State,  
25 determine the feasibility and costs of such local alternatives  
26 compared to shipping the glass out of State, and recommend any  
27 changes to the advance disposal fee; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
30 requested to invite the participation in the task force or  
31 working group of:

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- 33 (1) The recycling coordinator of each of the counties;
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  - 35 (2) One or more representatives of the glass recycling  
36 industry, as determined by the Director of Health;
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  - 38 (3) One or more representatives of the asphalt  
39 manufacturing industry, as determined by the Director  
40 of Health;
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  - 42 (4) One or more representatives of landfills, as  
43 determined by the Director of Health;
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1 (5) One or more representatives of glass bottle importers,  
2 as determined by the Director of Health; and  
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4 (6) Any other individuals or entities the Director of  
5 Health determines appropriate to include; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
8 requested to submit the findings and recommendations of the task  
9 force or working group to the Legislature no later than twenty  
10 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
13 conduct an audit of the Department of Health's advance disposal  
14 fee program, including the use of fee revenue by the respective  
15 counties and the accuracy of payments made to recyclers from fee  
16 revenues; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
19 submit the findings and recommendations from the audit to the  
20 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
21 the Regular Session of 2015; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Director of  
25 Health, Director of Finance, and the mayors of each county.  
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