

SB 2714

Measure Title: RELATED TO RECYCLING.

Report Title: Repeal of State Recycling Program

Description: Repeal of failing recycling program to allow for exploration of sustainable alternatives.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to S.B. 2714
RELATED TO RECYCLING**

SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND
TECHNOLOGY

Hearing Date: 2/5/2016
Time: 1:15 p.m.

Room Number: 414

1 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health respectfully opposes this measure.
2 S.B. 2714 proposes to repeal the Deposit Beverage Container (DBC) and glass Advance
3 Disposal Fee (ADF) programs to allow for exploration of sustainable alternatives. It is important
4 to note that the DBC and ADF programs have diverted over **7 billion** containers from our state
5 landfills since 2005.

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

William P. Kenoi
Mayor

Randy Kurohara
Managing Director



BJ Leithead Todd
Director

John A. Medeiros
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
345 Kekūānāo'a Street, Suite 41 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 961-8083 · Fax (808) 961-8086
<http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/environmental-management/>

February 3, 2016

The Honorable Representative Glen Wakai, Chair
Committee on Economic Development, Environment and Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 414
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu

Re: Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 2714– Related to Recycling (Repeal of State Recycling Program)

The valuable community recycling programs affected by SB 2714 would be the Deposit Beverage Container (DBC) or HI-5 and the Advanced Disposal Fee (ADF) glass recycling. These have been the State's most successful programs and have been a catalyst to recycling state-wide.

Notwithstanding some of the issues related to management and oversight of these programs, these issues can and should be addressed. However, a decision to eliminate them completely will result in needless landfilling and incineration of valuable resources. Additionally, it will create more litter on our roadways, parks and beaches with plastic bottles and aluminum cans which are now collected for the 5 cent deposit value .

This legislation is counter to the State's goal was 50% waste diversion by January 1, 2000, based on Hawaii Revised Statutes HRS §342G-3(a)(2).

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS			MAILING ADDRESS
John Bickel, President	Guy Archer	Chuck Huxel	George Simson	PO. Box 23404
Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer	Stanley Chang	Jan Lubin	Emmanuel Zibakalam	Honolulu
Karin Gill, Secretary	Josh Frost	Jenny Nomura		Hawai'i 96823
	Fritz Fritschel	Stephen O'Harrow		

Feb. 1, 2016

TO: Honorable Chair Wakai and Members of the Senate EET Committee

RE: SB 2714 Relating to Recycling
Opposition

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We oppose SB 2714 as it would repeal our recycling program. There may be problems with administration. Accusations of fraud should be investigated. Yet we should not end a program do to minor failures in administration. Our streets are cleaner due to low-income people picking up recyclables for small amounts of cash. Our landfills have more room. Our environment is better due to this program. Maybe amend its administration but don't end it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 2:37 PM
To: EET Testimony
Cc: psgegen@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2714 on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM

SB2714

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for EET on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pat gegen	Zero Waste Kauai	Oppose	No

Comments: Zero Waste Kauai Strongly opposes SB2714. We feel that SB 2714 is the completely wrong approach, rather than killing the existing Deposit/Redemption program the Legislature should focus on the positives of the current effort and discuss the issues that need to be corrected. The DBC program is performing well – the state has achieved over a 70% diversion rate and many residents, who couldn't be bothered with recycling are learning how easy it is to participate in benefiting our environment (and that doesn't even touch on the benefits of keeping all those cans and bottles off our roadways) But the program can be improved. It isn't time to destroy years of hard work by the OSWM and County Recycling programs, but time to correct some nagging issues and take the effort to the next level! Some of those issues that need to be addressed include: Providing adequate funding and staff resources to oversee the operations and promote participation (continued education is essential to any recycling program) Long overdue increases in the Advanced Disposal Fee to address both the real costs of handling glass containers or inclusion of Wine & Liquor containers in the DBC program) The need to facilitate / simplify the payment of redemption fees to curbside collection programs The need to develop an aggressive local market development effort for glass that focuses first on a commitment from DAGS, DOT Highways, and County Roads Divisions to mandate the local use of glass in construction.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Testimony in OPPOSITION of
SB2714 Relating to Recycling

To: The Chairs and members of the Economic Development,
Environment, and Technology Committee and the Ways and
Means Committee

Position: OPPOSE

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Slom, Vice Chair
Dela Cruz, and committee members,

I am writing in opposition of SB2714, which would repeal the current State recycling program by dismantling the Deposit Beverage Container (HI-5) program and the Advanced Disposal Fee/Fund (ADF). Without a system in place to manage the billions of containers imported and disposed of in Hawaii, we lose decades of work protecting Hawaii's environment. This bill calls for no specific replacement program, which would create a vacuum of no regulation or oversight, which would be a disaster for Hawaii's people and environment.

In 2002, in an effort to increase participation in recycling, connect manufacturing decisions and recycling program management, and reduce litter, the State Legislature passed Act 176. This Act promoted recycling through an incentive program for consumers, providing a five cent redemption for each beverage container recycled. This bill has helped recycle 70% of containers sold, for a total of over 6.6 billion containers in the last decade.

Although the current system is not without flaws, it has greatly improved recycling and materials management in the state as compared to pre 2002 figures. I am in support of creating a more sustainable and efficient recycling program. However, I think a

new program would be better achieved by amending the current laws and programs using lessons learned rather than repealing the entire State Recycling Program.

As you consider the merits of SB 2714, I respectfully request that you consider our overflowing landfills and the need to increase our State's waste management efficiency as we strive to become a leader among the several states for environmental protection and green policy. SB 2714 would undue many years of work improving our State's recycling system, with no directive for a timeline or strategy to create a new "sustainable alternative"

I oppose SB 2714.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Arlander

Testimony in OPPOSITION of
SB2714 Relating to Recycling

To: The Chairs and members of the Economic Development,
Environment, and Technology Committee and the Ways and Means
Committee

Position: OPPOSE

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Cruz, and committee members,

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I oppose SB 2714.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Carina Squire
Hanapepe, Kauai

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 12:27 PM
To: EET Testimony
Cc: scoleman@surfrider.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2714 on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM

SB2714

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for EET on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Surfrider Foundation	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Slom and Committee Members, My name is Stuart Coleman, and I am writing on behalf of Surfrider's Hawaii Chapters and thousands of supporters, activists and members across the state. We strongly oppose SB2714 because it takes a slash-and-burn approach to ending all recycling in Hawaii instead of finding ways to improve any problems or inefficiencies in the system. Like throwing the baby out with the bathwater, this bill would end decades of valuable recycling efforts just because of a few problems that need to be addressed. We have been teaching Hawaii's children the values of the 3 R's--Reduce, Reuse, Recycle--but this bill would add a 4th R- and Reject all of these values in one fell swoop. Please reject this negative bill and help us find ways to improve the important and enduring recycling programs in Hawaii. Mahalo. Aloha, Stuart Coleman Surfrider Foundation, Hawaii Chapters 2927 Hibiscus Pl. Hon., HI 96815

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Testimony in OPPOSITION of
SB2714 Relating to Recycling

To: The Chairs and members of the Economic Development, Environment, and
Technology Committee and the Ways and Means Committee

Position: OPPOSE

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Slom, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and
committee members,

I am writing in opposition of SB2714, which would repeal the current State
recycling program.

In 2002, in an effort to increase participation in recycling, connect manufacturing
decisions and recycling program management, and reduce litter, the State Legislature
passed Act 176. This Act promoted recycling through an incentive program for
consumers, providing a five cent redemption for each beverage container recycled. This
bill has helped recycle 70% of containers sold.

Although the current system is not without flaws, it certainly has improved recycling in
the state as compared to pre 2002 figures. I am in support of creating a more sustainable
and efficient recycling program. However, I think a new program would be better
achieved by amending the current law rather than repealing the entire State Recycling
Program.

As you consider the merits of SB 2714, I respectfully request that you consider our
overflowing landfills and the need to increase our State's waste management efficiency
as we strive to become a leader among the several states for environmental protection and
green policy. SB 2714 would undue many years of work improving our State's recycling
system, with no directive for a timeline or strategy to create a new "sustainable
alternative"

I oppose SB 2714.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kaily Wakefield

wakai1 - Lilinoe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 12:26 PM
To: EET Testimony
Cc: jbrunger@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2714 on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM

SB2714

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for EET on Feb 5, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Brunger	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: How can you possibly repeal a recycling program first? You should investigate other possibilities and figure out how to fix the program before repealing it. Is this an excuse to repeal the program and then not thoroughly research better solutions? We live on a tiny island chain in the middle of the Pacific. Excess land for use as landfills is one of our most limited resources. Much of our State money comes from tourism. Who's going to want to come to a heap of rubbish in the middle of the ocean? Don't repeal this program out of laziness. Get off your lazy behinds and find a solution....that's why you're sitting in that leather chair.

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