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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CONVENING A WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS LOCAL ISSUES SURROUNDING  
WASTE REDUCTION.

1           WHEREAS, there is a need to create a statewide responsible  
2 waste management system that does not pollute the air, land, or  
3 ocean in order to maintain Hawaii's delicate island ecosystem;  
4 and

5  
6           WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique geography and remote location make  
7 waste-relocation programs uniquely costly; and

8  
9           WHEREAS, the placement of materials in waste disposal  
10 facilities such as landfills and incinerators leads to polluted  
11 air and waterways and transfers liabilities to future  
12 generations; and

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14           WHEREAS, the increasing cost of oil and the continuing  
15 growth in worldwide consumption of our natural resources have  
16 created strong, stable markets for recovered materials; and

17  
18           WHEREAS, waste-reduction technologies are rapidly  
19 advancing, providing many opportunities to reduce the costs of  
20 recycling; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, investing in local recycling facilities can create  
23 diverse employment opportunities and create useful products and  
24 services; and

25  
26           WHEREAS, conserving natural resources and reducing waste is  
27 of primary importance both locally and worldwide; and

28  
29           WHEREAS, the ahupua'a system that was utilized throughout  
30 the Hawaiian islands, from mauka to makai, included principles



1 of sustainability and continues to serve as a guide for making  
2 sustainable decisions today; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, zero waste principles promote the highest and best  
5 use of materials to eliminate waste and pollution by emphasizing  
6 a closed-loop system of production and consumption, moving in  
7 logical increments toward the goal of zero waste through the  
8 core principles of:

- 9
- 10 (1) Improving downstream reuse and recycling of end-of-  
11 life products and materials to ensure their highest  
12 and best use;
  - 13  
14 (2) Pursuing upstream re-design strategies to reduce the  
15 volume and toxicity of discarded products and  
16 materials, and promote low-impact or reduced-  
17 consumption lifestyles; and
  - 18  
19 (3) Fostering and supporting the use of discarded products  
20 and materials to stimulate and drive local economic  
21 and workforce development; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, adopting a goal of zero waste disposal and  
24 pursuing zero waste principles is consistent with and explicit  
25 validation of the State of Hawaii's commitment to state-wide  
26 sustainability; now, therefore,

27  
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
29 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
30 2019, the Senate concurring, that a working group be convened by  
31 the Legislature to discuss local issues surrounding waste  
32 reduction, including:

- 33
- 34 (1) Potential source reduction techniques, including plans  
35 to eliminate single-use plastic packaging from the  
36 Hawaii waste stream and phasing out the use of single-  
37 use plastic beverage containers;
  - 38  
39 (2) Developing strategies to encourage reuse in the food  
40 service industry, such as reusable container incentive  
41 programs for customers;



- 1           (3) Expanding local municipal recycling services  
2           throughout the islands;
- 3
- 4           (4) Incentivizing complimentary recycling facilities on  
5           different islands;
- 6
- 7           (5) Proposing sunset dates for contractual waste  
8           production obligations; and
- 9
- 10          (6) Developing education campaigns to publicize the types  
11          of materials that are compostable or recyclable in  
12          each county; and
- 13

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group consist of  
15 the following members or their respective designees:

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- 17          (1) The State Sustainability Coordinator;
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- 19          (2) A representative from the Office of Solid Waste  
20          Management;
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- 22          (3) A representative from each county's respective  
23          department in charge of sustainability;
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- 25          (4) A representative from each county's respective  
26          department in charge of solid waste and recycling;
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- 28          (5) The Chairpersons of each County Council;
- 29
- 30          (6) The Chairperson of the House of Representatives  
31          Standing Committee on Energy & Environmental  
32          Protection;
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- 34          (7) The Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on  
35          Agriculture and Environment;
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- 37          (8) A representative of the Sierra Club of Hawaii;
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- 39          (9) A representative of the Surfrider Foundation;
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- 41          (10) A representative of Zero Waste Oahu;





~~Franklin~~  
Richard Lopez

Dan Ramos

Frank Stagnaro

Linda Ching

~~Blakely~~

Ly An

Van

Van ~~et~~

Calvin H. Ay

Rida Cabrilla Frakawa

Anthony Thiel

Michelle Pelletti

Lynn De Costa

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