HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF, AND PROCEDURES FOR, IMPLEMENTING A BULKY WASTE ITEM REDEMPTION PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 342H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the illegal disposal of solid waste, or illegal dumping, may result in, among other things, a petty misdemeanor or felony conviction, depending on the volume and size of the illegally dumped waste items; and

WHEREAS, nevertheless, illegal dumping continues to plague the State; and

WHEREAS, the illegal dumping of bulky waste items, including motor vehicles, tires, mattresses, and scrap metal, on Hawaii's streets and beaches and in Hawaii's streams poses public health, safety, aesthetic, and environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii deposit beverage container program was established in 2002 to increase participation in recycling and reduce litter; and

WHEREAS, through this program, deposit beverage distributors are assessed a deposit beverage container fee on each eligible beverage container, after which the eligible beverage containers may then be redeemed for a refund of the fee at an authorized redemption center; and

WHEREAS, implementation of a bulky waste items redemption program, similar to the deposit beverage container program, may help to curb the illegal dumping of bulky waste items throughout the State; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Environmental Management Division of the Department of Health is requested to conduct a study on the feasibility of, and procedures for, implementing a bulky waste item redemption program, either through establishment of a new redemption program or inclusion of bulky waste items in the existing Hawaii deposit beverage container program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Environmental Management Division is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health and Chief of the Environmental Management Division of the Department of Health.

OFFERED BY

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