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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S SOLID WASTE SECTION TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF INITIATIVES FOR IMPROVED WASTE DIVERSION BY WORKING WITH THE COUNTIES TO ADDRESS EACH COUNTY'S UNIQUE NEEDS ACCORDING TO ITS GEOGRAPHY, POPULATION, AND INDUSTRY MAKE-UP.

1           WHEREAS, the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan defines  
2 sustainability as meeting the needs of the present without  
3 compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own  
4 needs; striking a balance between economic, social and  
5 community, and environmental priorities; and respecting the  
6 culture, character, beauty, and history of the State's island  
7 communities; and

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9           WHEREAS, Act 324, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, was enacted  
10 in 1991 to establish the landfill waste diversion goal of  
11 twenty-five percent by 1995 and fifty percent by 2000; and

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13           WHEREAS, in 2020, the United States Environmental  
14 Protection Agency set its national landfill waste diversion goal  
15 to be fifty percent by 2030; and

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17           WHEREAS, from 2018 to 2022, the State's average waste  
18 diversion rate was 24.8 percent, more than half the waste  
19 diversion goal set in 1991; and

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21           WHEREAS, from 2018 to 2022, the State's average waste  
22 diversion rate, in addition to the incineration rate, was 54.3  
23 percent, meeting the State's and United States Environmental  
24 Protection Agency's diversion goals of fifty percent by 2000 and  
25 2030, respectively; and

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1           WHEREAS, with current infrastructure, facilities, and  
2 deployed technology, the State would not be able to meet its  
3 landfill diversion goals without the use of incineration; and  
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5           WHEREAS, incineration, or the use of waste-to-energy  
6 technology, is a promising strategy for reducing the State's  
7 solid waste from landfills, while extracting energy and valuable  
8 materials for recycling; and  
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10           WHEREAS, each county's solid waste management agency has  
11 autonomy within its county to negotiate, collect, recycle,  
12 reuse, or dispose of waste within the county in a manner that  
13 reflects that county's unique needs; and  
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15           WHEREAS, part III of chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
16 authorizes each county to develop county integrated solid waste  
17 management plans and requires that these plans be submitted for  
18 public review and comment and state review; and  
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20           WHEREAS, these county waste management plans are guidelines  
21 that offer direction and an implementation plan but do not  
22 penalize or enforce losses if a county fails to meet the goals;  
23 and  
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25           WHEREAS, the State's current role in this process is to  
26 integrate the counties' goals and provide a framework for what  
27 counties should accomplish, as well as to recognize challenges  
28 that each county faces; and  
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30           WHEREAS, many of the counties' waste management plans  
31 incorporate existing county documents, such as Hawaii County's  
32 Zero Waste Plan and Maui County's Recycling Initiative, and  
33 these existing plans may be reviewed and incorporated statewide  
34 based on feasibility; and  
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36           WHEREAS, given the public's support, the State's  
37 initiatives may be more effective if each county's goals are  
38 incorporated into combined goals for all levels of government;  
39 now, therefore,  
40

41           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
42 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular



1 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
2 Health's Solid Waste Section is requested to develop a plan of  
3 initiatives for improved waste diversion by working with the  
4 counties to address each county's unique needs according to its  
5 geography, population, and industry make-up; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health's  
8 Solid Waste Section is requested to:

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- 10 (1) Evaluate the viability, particularly the economies of  
11 scale, of shipping waste from multiple counties to be  
12 recycled or incinerated in another county, given  
13 current county infrastructure, facilities, and  
14 deployed technology;
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- 16 (2) Evaluate the viability of shipping waste from multiple  
17 counties to be recycled or incinerated in another  
18 county with the development of additional  
19 infrastructure and facilities, which are appropriately  
20 zoned by the State, through a public-private  
21 partnership or otherwise;
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- 23 (3) Estimate the statewide legacy landfill capacity if an  
24 inter-county recycling and incineration program were  
25 to be established with and without any additional  
26 state infrastructure and facilities; and
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- 28 (4) Submit a preliminary report of its findings and  
29 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,  
30 to the Legislature no later than thirty days prior to  
31 the convening of the Regular Session of 2024 and a  
32 final report no later than thirty days prior to the  
33 convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director  
37 of Health; Director of Business, Economic Development, and  
38 Tourism; Mayor of each county; Director of the City and County  
39 of Honolulu Department of Environmental Services; Acting County  
40 Engineer of the County of Kauai Department of Public Works;  
41 Director of the County of Maui Department of Environmental

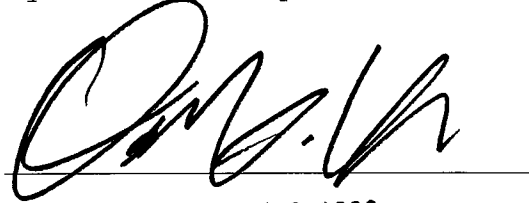


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1 Management; and Director of the County of Hawaii Department of  
2 Environmental Management.

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OFFERED BY:



MAR 10 2023

