

JAN 23 2015

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECYCLING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the cost of  
2 recycling glass containers far exceeds the revenue that the  
3 State receives through the advance disposal fee, which is  
4 imposed on sealed glass containers that are not glass deposit  
5 beverage containers, resulting in shortfalls in payment for  
6 glass recycling or stoppages in the recycling of glass  
7 containers. The advance disposal fee is deposited into the  
8 environmental management fund, and ninety per cent is then  
9 disbursed to the counties to pay for recycling of glass  
10 containers. However, the counties typically exhaust these funds  
11 by the third quarter of a fiscal year and must then expend their  
12 own funds for glass recycling or stop paying for glass  
13 recycling.

14           The legislature further finds that there is a very limited  
15 local market for recycled or scrap glass and that, as a result,  
16 most of the glass is shipped to the mainland. The department of  
17 health has determined from the reports that it receives from the



1 counties that it costs about 8 cents per pound to recycle glass  
2 containers.

3       The legislature further finds that the advance disposal fee  
4 of 1.5 cents per glass container has not been increased since it  
5 was established on September 1, 1994. Also, there is a huge  
6 disparity in weight between small glass containers and larger  
7 glass containers, which cost more to recycle. For example, an  
8 empty glass bottle capable of holding twelve fluid ounces  
9 averages seven to nine ounces in weight, whereas, an empty glass  
10 bottle capable of holding 750 milliliters, or 25.36 fluid  
11 ounces, averages 24 ounces or 1.5 pounds in weight and an empty  
12 glass bottle capable of holding 1.5 liters, or 50.72 fluid  
13 ounces, typically weighs at least 60 ounces, or 3.75 pounds.

14       The legislature further finds that it is easier to  
15 calculate the interior volume of glass containers, instead of  
16 the actual weight of the glass containers.

17       The purpose of this Act is to revise the advance disposal  
18 fee for glass containers to a tiered structure based on the  
19 interior volume of the glass containers.

20       SECTION 2. Section 342G-82, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:



1           "(a) Every glass container importer shall pay to the  
2 department an advance disposal fee. The fee shall be imposed  
3 only once on the same glass container and shall not be assessed  
4 on drinking glasses, cups, bowls, plates, ashtrays, and similar  
5 tempered glass containers. For the period beginning  
6 September 1, 1994, and ending December 31, 2015, the fee shall  
7 be one and one-half cents per glass container. Beginning  
8 October 1, 2004, the glass advance disposal fee shall only apply  
9 to glass containers that are not glass deposit beverage  
10 containers. Beginning January 1, 2016, the advance disposal fee  
11 shall be as follows:

- 12           (1) 1 cent per glass container for glass containers with  
13           interior volumes of less than eight fluid ounces;  
14           (2) 3 cents per glass container for glass containers with  
15           interior volumes of at least eight fluid ounces but  
16           not more than twenty-four fluid ounces; and  
17           (3) 5 cents per glass container for glass containers with  
18           interior volumes greater than twenty-four fluid  
19           ounces."

20           SECTION 3. The state auditor shall conduct an audit of the  
21 advance disposal fee as soon as feasibly possible and five years



1 thereafter, the results of which shall be submitted to the  
2 legislature.

3 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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# S.B. NO. 353

**Report Title:**

Advance Disposal Fee; Glass Containers

**Description:**

Amends the advance disposal fee for glass containers to a tiered structure based on the interior volume of the glass container. Requires the auditor to audit the advance disposal fee program.

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