
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that plastic scrap is
2 highly problematic; it has low economic value, is difficult to
3 recycle, and does not easily break down in the environment. For
4 over a decade, China has been importing the majority of the
5 United States' plastic scrap; however, in July of 2017, China
6 announced that it will effectively ban imports on twenty-four
7 types of scrap. This has disrupted the global recycling market
8 and necessitates that Hawaii continue to innovate and improve to
9 find local alternatives to plastics recycling in this changing
10 market.

11 The legislature further finds that the current redemption
12 rate of the deposit beverage container program is 67 per cent,
13 down from 78.7 per cent in 2009. The all-time lowest redemption
14 rate since the program's inception occurred in 2016 at 66.9 per
15 cent. Efforts need to be made to increase the redemption rate
16 and ensure that less plastic is being deposited in landfills and
17 the ocean.



1 The purpose of this Act is to:

2 (1) Require the department of health to set benchmarks to
3 reach an eighty-five per cent redemption rate by 2023;

4 (2) Establish a plastics recycling grant program to
5 identify Hawaii-based alternatives for the sustainable
6 recycling and reuse of plastic commodities;

7 (3) Require the department of health to annually report to
8 the legislature on redemption rates, progress, and
9 plans regarding the deposit beverage container
10 program; and

11 (4) Appropriate funds to establish two positions for the
12 glass advance disposal fee program.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§342G- Plastics recycling grant program. There is
17 established within the department the plastics recycling grant
18 program to provide grants to identify Hawaii-based alternatives
19 for the sustainable recycling and reuse of plastic commodities
20 within the State. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to



1 chapter 91 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
2 section."

3 SECTION 3. Chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding two new sections to part VIII to be
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§342G- Redemption benchmarks. No later than January 1,
7 2019, the department shall establish benchmarks to reach a
8 redemption rate of eighty-five per cent by January 1, 2023.

9 §342G- Reporting requirements. The department shall
10 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
11 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
12 twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session
13 detailing redemption rates, progress, and plans regarding the
14 deposit beverage container program."

15 SECTION 4. There is established one full-time equivalent
16 (1.0 FTE) environmental health specialist IV position and one
17 full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner IV position for the
18 advance disposal fee program within the department of health.

19 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$169,466 or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for two



1 full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions for the glass advance
2 disposal fee program, which shall be allocated as follows:

- 3 (1) \$84,733 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)
- 4 environmental health specialist IV position; and
- 5 (2) \$84,733 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner
- 6 IV position.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
8 health for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
12 plastics recycling grant program.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
14 health for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 2726

Report Title:

Deposit Beverage Container Program; Benchmarks; Plastics Recycling Grant Program; Advance Disposal Fee Program; Reporting Requirements; Positions; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of health to set benchmarks to reach an eighty-five per cent redemption rate by 2023. Establishes and appropriates funds for a plastics recycling grant program to identify Hawaii-based alternatives for the sustainable recycling and reuse of plastic commodities. Requires the department of health to annually report to the legislature on redemption rates, progress, and plans regarding the deposit beverage container program. Appropriates funds to establish two positions for the glass advance disposal fee program.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

