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# 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 because it has low economic value, is  
3 difficult to recycle, and does not easily break down in the  
4 environment. For over a decade, China has been importing the  
5 majority of the United States' plastic scrap. However, in July  
6 2017, China announced that it will effectively ban imports on  
7 twenty-four types of scrap. This has disrupted the global  
8 recycling market and necessitates that Hawaii continue to  
9 innovate and improve to find local alternatives to plastics  
10 recycling in this changing 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) Establish a plastics recycling grant program to  
3 identify Hawaii-based alternatives for the sustainable  
4 recycling and reuse of plastic commodities;

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

8 (3) Increase the refund value for deposit beverage  
9 containers from 5 cents to 10 cents, contingent upon a  
10 finding by the department of health that the  
11 redemption rate for deposit beverage containers  
12 remained below eighty per cent for two consecutive  
13 calendar years;

14 (4) Require the department of health to annually report to  
15 the legislature on redemption rates, progress, and  
16 plans regarding the deposit beverage container  
17 program; and

18 (5) Appropriate funds to establish two positions for the  
19 glass advance disposal fee program.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
3 to read as follows:

4 "PART . PLASTICS RECYCLING GRANT PROGRAM

5 §342G- Plastics recycling grant program. There is  
6 established within the department the plastics recycling grant  
7 program to provide grants to identify Hawaii-based alternatives  
8 for the sustainable recycling and reuse of plastic commodities  
9 within the State. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to  
10 chapter 91 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this  
11 section."

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

15 "§342G- Redemption benchmarks. No later than  
16 January 1, 2019, the department shall establish benchmarks to  
17 reach a redemption rate of eighty-five per cent by July 1, 2023.

18 §342G- Reporting requirements. The department shall  
19 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including  
20 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than  
21 twenty days before the convening of each regular session



1 detailing redemption rates, progress, and plans regarding the  
2 deposit beverage container program."

3 SECTION 4. Section 342G-105, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

5 "(b) The amount due from deposit beverage distributors  
6 shall be the net number of deposit beverage containers sold,  
7 donated, or transferred multiplied by the sum of the prevailing  
8 deposit beverage container fee and the refund value [~~of 5~~  
9 ~~cents.~~] as provided by section 342G-110. Payment shall be made  
10 by check or money order payable to the "Department of Health,  
11 State of Hawaii". All inventory reports and payments shall be  
12 made no later than the fifteenth day of the month following the  
13 end of the payment period of the previous month."

14 SECTION 5. Section 342G-110, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

16 "(a) By January 1, 2005, every deposit beverage container  
17 sold in this State shall have a refund value of 5 cents[~~-~~];  
18 provided that the refund value shall be 10 cents beginning on  
19 the later of:

20 (1) Eight months after the department determines that in  
21 each of the two previous fiscal years, the number of



1 beverage containers returned for the refund value  
2 specified in this section was less than eighty per  
3 cent of the total number of beverage containers that  
4 were sold in this State; or

5 (2) July 1 of the fiscal year following the determination  
6 by the department described in paragraph (1).

7 The department shall not make a determination under this  
8 subsection before July 1, 2020. The department may adopt rules  
9 pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to carry out the purposes of  
10 this section, including implementing an increase in refund value  
11 over time. Each container shall have the refund value clearly  
12 indicated on it as provided in section 342G-112."

13 SECTION 6. Section 342G-111, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

15 "(f) The amount due from a deposit beverage distributor  
16 shall be the net number of deposit beverage containers sold  
17 multiplied by the sum of the prevailing deposit beverage  
18 container fee and the deposit value [~~of 5 cents.~~] determined  
19 pursuant to section 342-110. Payment shall be made by check or  
20 money order payable to the "Department of Health, State of  
21 Hawaii". All reports and payments shall be made no later than



1 the fifteenth day of the month following the end of the previous  
2 payment period."

3 SECTION 7. There is established one full-time equivalent  
4 (1.0 FTE) environmental health specialist IV position and one  
5 full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner IV position for the glass  
6 advance disposal fee program within the department of health.

7 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for two  
10 full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions for the glass advance  
11 disposal fee program, which shall be allocated as follows:

- 12 (1) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)  
13 environmental health specialist IV position; and
- 14 (2) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner  
15 IV position.

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

18 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the  
21 plastics recycling grant program.



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

3           SECTION 10. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5           SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

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

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Health to set benchmarks to reach an 85% 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. Automatically increases the deposit beverage container fee from 5 cents to 10 cents if the redemption rate remains below 80% for 2 consecutive calendar years. 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 2 positions for the glass advance disposal fee program. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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

