
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTIES TO ESTABLISH GOALS TO REDUCE THE SOLID
WASTE STREAM IN EACH COUNTY BY SEVENTY-FIVE PER CENT BY
JANUARY 1, 2012.

1 WHEREAS, the recent growth in Hawaii's population has
2 resulted in an increase in the amount of waste entering the
3 waste stream and Hawaii's landfills; and

4 WHEREAS, due to limited landfill space, the capacity for
5 disposing of solid waste within the State continues to diminish;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, with available landfill space running out in the
8 face of population growth and economic development, and with few
9 options for acquiring more disposal space, it is important for
10 the State to reassess its waste reduction goals; and

11 WHEREAS, approximately twenty-five years ago, California
12 initiated a solid waste management program that has proved
13 effective, provided for periodic solid waste reduction
14 benchmarks and enforced substantial penalties for counties that
15 failed to meet the benchmarks; and

16 WHEREAS, for example, Monterey County, California, was able
17 to successfully meet solid waste reduction benchmarks by
18 educating the community on the waste reduction and recycling
19 efforts by emphasizing that taxpayers' money would pay any
20 penalties based upon the county's failure to meet the
21 benchmarks, providing each household with recycling sorting
22 bins, providing weekly recycling pickup, and holding frequent
23 community "last chance" sales for sellable items that would
24 otherwise be thrown away; and

25 WHEREAS, Act 324, Session Laws of Hawaii, 1991, established
26 aggressive goals to reduce the solid waste stream by twenty-five
27 per cent by 1995 and by fifty per cent by 2000; and



H.C.R. NO. 227

1 WHEREAS, further reductions in the waste stream are
2 necessary to preserve the sustainability of Hawaii and its
3 growth and it may be helpful to look to other states for
4 effective models of waste management and reduction; now,
5 therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
8 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the counties are
9 requested to establish goals to reduce the solid waste stream in
10 each county by seventy-five per cent by January 1, 2012; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
12 requested to submit a report to the Legislature detailing past
13 progress in solid waste reduction in the State and future
14 strategies and methods that will assist the counties in meeting
15 the solid waste reduction goals called for herein, no later than
16 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
17 2009; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health
20 and the Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.

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OFFERED BY:



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