



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME L. FUKINO, M.D., DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

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**State committed to implementing
Beverage Container Law**

The Hawaii State Department of Health is working diligently to implement the "Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container Law." Since the passage of Act 241, a series of meetings and discussion groups have been conducted with the counties and their recycling coordinators, distributors and manufacturers of beverage containers, retailers and the food industry, and recyclers. Current efforts are focused on the certification of redemption centers which are the key to success of the program.

Health Director Dr. Chiyome Fukino said, "The Governor is committed to implementing the Deposit Beverage Container Law and the Department has been working very hard to organize the many components necessary for the success of the program." She added, "It is a great disservice to my staff and the state, and misleading to the public to say that we are not working aggressively to implement the law."

The Department is also working on a detailed comprehensive plan which includes public education. An extensive public education and outreach program is planned, meetings have already been held with potential vendors and a coordinator will be hired within days. The public is asked to be alert to upcoming information on the new law. Detailed information on the Deposit Beverage Container Program is currently available on the Department of Health website at www.hawaii.gov/health on the homepage under Community Events and Projects.

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For more information, contact:
Janice Okubo
Communications Office
Phone: (808) 586-4442
Email: jsokubo@mail.health.state.hi.us