A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

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

1	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that non-recyclable non-
2	compostable plastic bags provided to customers by grocery stores
3	and other retailers throughout the State are a hazard to the
4	natural environment. Plastic bags require fossil fuel to
5	manufacture, contribute to litter, endanger wildlife, and crowd
6	landfills with non-biodegradable waste. The legislature further
7	finds that the State has an interest in protecting its natural
8	environment and decreasing the amount of waste flowing into its
9	landfills. The purpose of this Act is to protect the natural
10	environment of the State by requiring retailers in the State to
11	distribute only compostable and recyclable checkout bags to
12	customers.
13	SECTION 2. Chapter 342H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14	amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
15	to read as follows:
16	"PART

17 §342H-A Definitions. As used in this part, unless the

18 context otherwise requires:

HB LRB 08-0234.doc



1 "ASTM Standard" means the American Society for Testing and 2 Materials (ASTM)'s International standard 06400 for compostable 3 plastic. "Checkout bag" means a carryout bag that is provided by a 4 5 store to a customer at the point of sale. "Compostable" means that the product or package meets ASTM 6 7 standards for compostablility. "Compostable plastic bag" means a plastic bag that will 8 break down into, or otherwise become part of, usable compost 9 (e.g., soil-conditioning material, mulch) in a safe and timely 10 11 manner. "Department" means the department of the health. 12 "Director" means the director of health. 13 "Person" means an individual, trust, firm, joint stock 14 company, corporation, cooperative, partnership, limited 15 liability company, or association. 16 17 "Pharmacy" means a retail use where the profession of pharmacy by a pharmacist licensed by the State is practiced and 18 19 where prescriptions (and possibly other merchandise) are offered 20 for sale, excluding those retail uses located inside a hospital. 21 "Recyclable" means material that can be sorted, cleansed,

and reconstituted available recycling collection programs for

HB LRB 08-0234.doc

22

1 the purpose of using the altered form in the manufacture of a 2 new product. Recycling does not include burning, incinerating, 3 converting, or otherwise thermally destroying solid waste. "Recyclable paper bag" means a paper bag that meets all of 4 the following requirements: 5 Contains no old growth fiber; 6 7 (2)Is 100 per cent recyclable overall and contains a minimum of 40 per cent post-consumer recycled content; 8 9 and 10 (3) Displays the words "Reusable" and "Recyclable" in a 11 highly visible manner on the outside of the bag. 12 "Reusable bag" means a bag with handles that is 13 specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and 14 is: 15 (1)Made of cloth or other machine washable fabric; 16 (2) Made of durable plastic that is at least 2.25 mils thick; or 17 18 (3) Both. 19 "Store" means a retail establishment located within the 20 State that meets either of the following requirements: 21 (1)Is a full-line, self-service supermarket with gross

annual sales of not less than \$2,000,000, and which

HB LRB 08-0234.doc

22

sells a line of dry grocery, canned goods, or nonfood 1 items and some perishable items; or 2 Is a retail pharmacy with at least five locations 3 (2) under the same ownership within the State. 4 §342H-B Mandatory use of recyclable and compostable 5 checkout bags. (a) All stores shall provide only the following 6 7 as checkout bags to customers: recyclable paper bags, 8 compostable plastic bags, or reusable bags, or both. 9 (b) Violation of the requirements of subsection (a) shall subject a store to penalties set forth in this part or as 10 11 established by rule pursuant to this part. 12 (c) Nothing in this section shall be read to preclude 13 stores from making reusable bags available for sale to 14 customers. §342H-C Implementation. The director shall adopt rules 15 16 under chapter 91 necessary for the purpose of this part. 17 \$342H-D Enforcement and penalties. Violation of section 342H-B shall constitute a violation as defined in section 701-18 19 107 and shall be enforceable by police officers. Any person who 20 violates section 342H-B shall be subject to:

(1) For a first violation, a fine of not more than \$100;

HB LRB 08-0234.doc

21

(2) For a second violation within one year, a fine of not
more than \$200; and
(3) For a third or subsequent violation within one year, a
fine of not more than \$500.
§342H-E Administrative penalties. In addition to any
other administrative or judicial remedy provided by this part of
by rules adopted under this part, the director is authorized to
impose by order the following administrative penalties:
(1) For a first violation, a fine of not more than \$200;
(2) For a second violation within one year, a fine of not
more than \$400; and
(3) For a third or subsequent violation within one year,
fine of not more than \$600.
§342H-F Injunctive and other relief. The director may
institute a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction
for injunctive and other relief to prevent any violation of this
part, any rule adopted pursuant to this part, to collect
administrative penalties, or to obtain other relief. The court
shall have power to grant relief in accordance with the Hawaii
rules of civil procedure."

HB LRB 08-0234.doc

- 1 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 3 begun, before its effective date.
- 4 SECTION 4. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted or
- 5 applied so as to create any requirement, power, or duty in
- 6 conflict with any federal or state law.
- 7 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
- 8 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
- 9 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
- 10 the new sections in this Act.
- 11 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2010.

12

INTRODUCED BY: K: SIC Caldwell

(Nemic Provide

(Rent amount

Report Title:

Environmental Protection

Description:

Requires retailers in the State to distribute only recyclable, reusable, or compostable checkout bags.