
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every school day,
2 each student throughout the State produces about half a pound of
3 waste. This unnecessary amount of waste is then transported for
4 a fee to Hawaii landfills such as Waimanalo gulch, which are
5 approaching, or have already reached, capacity. Schools use up
6 to thirty-one thousand cubic yards of landfill space every month
7 at a cost of \$6 per cubic yard. Thus, the lack of comprehensive
8 school recycling programs is costing the State up to \$186,000
9 per month for schools to have trash picked up and disposed of at
10 landfills. School recycling programs would reduce unnecessary
11 spending on waste disposal and alleviate some of the spatial
12 issues that landfills in Hawaii are currently facing.

13 The Long Beach Unified School District, located in Los
14 Angeles County, California, has adopted a recycling program that
15 recycles solid waste, food waste, paper, aluminum, glass,
16 plastic, and other materials, and will reduce its spending by
17 \$310,000 per year. A similar recycling program in Hawaii



1 schools could use compost from recycled food and green waste to
2 fertilize plants, grass, and fields, save schools thousands in
3 disposal fees, and teach students important recycling habits.

4 Reportedly, every ton of paper that is recycled saves seven
5 thousand gallons of water, three hundred eighty gallons of oil,
6 and enough electricity to power a house for six months;
7 recycling a single aluminum can reportedly conserves enough
8 energy to power a television for six hours. Financial benefits
9 aside, establishing school recycling programs would also benefit
10 the environment.

11 For the foregoing reasons, the purpose of this Act is to
12 enact a recommendation from the thirty-fifth secondary student
13 conference held on Oahu between November 28 and 30, 2007. The
14 conference recommended that the department of education create a
15 task force to evaluate recycling options available to schools,
16 including a summary feasibility report related to the
17 establishment of a school recycling program in the State.

18 SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established within the
19 University of Hawaii college of social sciences public policy
20 center a task force to conduct an evaluation of the recycling
21 options available to schools as evidenced at a small number of
22 pilot sites, including a summary feasibility report related to



1 the establishment of a school recycling program, the use of
2 reverse vending machines, and the feasibility of providing
3 recycling bins in schools throughout the State.

4 (b) The dean of the college of social sciences shall
5 appoint task force members without regard to section 26-34,
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, based on lists of candidates submitted
7 by the department of education, the board of education, and the
8 Hawaii state student council; provided that at least two task
9 force members shall be students.

10 (c) Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be
11 reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their
12 duties under this Act, including travel.

13 (d) The task force shall submit a report to the
14 legislature, including its findings, recommendations, and any
15 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
16 convening of the regular session of 2009.

17 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2009.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to
21 carry out the operations of the task force that are consistent
22 with this Act.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
2 Hawaii college of social sciences public policy center for the
3 purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Schools; Task Force; Recycling; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a task force within the University of Hawaii to conduct an evaluation of the recycling options available to schools, including a summary feasibility report relating to the establishment of a school recycling program, the use of reverse vending machines, and the feasibility of providing recycling bins in schools throughout the State. Appropriates funds.
(SB2774 SD2)

