

SB807

**Date:** 02/13/2009

**Committee:** Senate Education and  
Housing/Senate Energy and Environment

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 0807 RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds to the public school system to establish a recycling program and provide recycling bins on every school campus.

**Department's Position:** The Department **supports SB 807** as long as its implementation does not impact or replace the priorities set forth in the Executive Biennium Budget for Fiscal Years 2009-2010. Many of our schools already take advantage of the recycling of aluminum cans and plastic bottles through the State's HI 5 program by incorporating their collection into the school's fund raising programs. Schools on Oahu have also taken advantage of the Honolulu City and County's Community Recycling Bin program. This bill seems to be addressed at the schools with vending machines on campus, primarily our secondary schools. Having convenient recycling bins on campus near the vending machines may provide an incentive for students to recycle. However, the challenge is to get students and adults to change their behavior and use the recycling bins.

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**Subject:** Testimony for SB807 on 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:24:19 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kelli O'Toole  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I **strongly support this bill** because I feel that having recycling bins in schools would be a really great and progressive thing. The school I attend, the Honolulu Waldorf School has recycling bins around the campus and we recycle paper, aluminum cans and both plastic and glass bottles. I can only imagine how many cans and bottles and also paper are used everyday at public schools so if the majority of those items could be recycled it would be a very good thing.

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**Subject:** Testimony for SB807 on 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:26:27 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Paul Businger  
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Comments:

I support this bill because creating a cleaner society is especially important in Hawaii where our every action effects our environment greatly.

If we can cut down on trash our landfills won't be full of non-compost-able materials such as plastic bottles.

If these recycling bins are installed in public schools it will also help encourage the students to recycle more outside of the school as well.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:26:28 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: **Pedro Bergmann**  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I **support this bill** because an in-school recycling program would benefit many schools in Hawaii. Many students consume soft drinks and then throw the bottles in the trash. If a recycling program was instituted then the number of recyclables collected would rise. This bill would benefit both the city of Honolulu, and its schools.

Sabrina Saada

Island Pacific Academy Junior

Senate Bill (SB) Number: SB 807

Title: Relating to the Environment

My name is Sabrina Saada and I am a junior at Island Pacific Academy. I am testifying on SB No. 807, Relating to the Environment. I strongly support Senate Bill Number 807, targeted towards funding a recycling program and recycling bins on every school campus, because it would give the students an opportunity to learn about conserving resources, environmental issues and financially supporting their school.

Establishing a recycling program should be established in every school because it saves energy. Energy requires the consumption of fossil fuels which results in the emission of pollutants in the air and in our waters. Recycling materials (collection, processing and transportation) uses less energy than new “virgin” materials. So basically, by recycling cans, bottles, and paper products we would reduce the energy required by 60%. As stated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, in 2004, the state saved over 66 trillion British thermal units (BTU) of energy. That is enough energy to power 643,000 houses.

By reducing the amount of energy used, recycling also reduces greenhouse gases which add to global warming. In addition to reducing energy and greenhouse gases, recycling reduces the amounts of pollutants that enter the air and water. Pollutants enter the air and water during the initial stages of extraction of materials from the earth as well as during the refining process.

When you recycle, you conserve our natural resources. Students learn that through recycling, you are preventing the cutting down of trees and saving resources by not creating new landfills to hold the waste. Recycling eliminates the need to create or expand landfills . Rather than continuing to throw away materials through recycling, those material can be converted and utilize in new ways. For the Hawaiian Islands, who are so removed from the rest of the world, limited in space and existing in such a fragile environment, recycling is becoming a true necessity for our survival and the survival of all of Hawaii species.

From an economic and business perspective, recycling would create jobs and foster a positive economic development for future generations. For every job created in the waste management and disposal industry, four jobs are created by recycling, as stated by the National Recycling Coalition (NCR).

Lastly, recycling cans, bottles and paper products will decrease the school’s financial cost for disposal and it allows a school to reduce the size of waste collection dumpsters or frequency of pickups.

To conclude, establishing funds for recycling programs on every school campus will save money by reducing the amounts and size of disposal systems on campuses. School can generate steady revenue by redeeming recyclables and students can learn about conserving resources and how their actions affect our planet.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:39:29 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I **strongly support this bill** because people need to be aware of the importance of recycling. Especially students as they are the next generation and will have to deal with the negative results if we choose to fill our landfills with recyclable plastics and aluminums. In schools, many cans and bottles are brought from home or purchased from soda machines. Without recycle bins at the large public schools, all of these recyclable items are thrown away when they could be made into park benches and other useful materials. I think helping to clean up the environment is a good use of our tax money.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:34:40 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
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Organization: Individual  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I do **support this bill** because schools can need to start organizations to place in recycle cans and bottle bins at schools that do not have them. One thing we can do to help the schools that do not have recycle bins is to create a budget to help start a recycling program. Recycling is important because schools can make money and not just that, they can make beautiful artifacts.

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**Subject:** Testimony for SB807 on 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:32:41 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Patryk Borko  
Organization: Individual  
Address:  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I **strongly support this bill** because recycling would be of great value to our support of our eco-system. Schools in Hawaii produce a lot of trash that could be recycled instead of going into our landfills and oceans. Putting recycling bins in our public schools would be a great solution to this problem. The school I currently attend, the Honolulu Waldorf School, has recycling bins and we recycle a lot.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:32:10 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: comments only  
Testifier will be present: No  
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Comments:

**recycling in schools is a good idea.** it would promote recycling at home and in the students community.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 11, 2009 11:30:42 AM

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Testimony for EDH-ENE 2/13/2009 3:00:00 PM SB807

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: **Hannah Lam**  
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Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

My reasons for **supporting** this are that usually the reason as to why people litter is because there aren't any recycling or trash bins around. It would be better if there are recycling bins because the students could learn to help the environment by keeping it clean. It may cost to put recycling bins in school, but over time, by recycling, it would save money by reusing materials. So this would not only help the environment, but also the characters of Hawaii's students. It could just be one more step to a better, cleaner future.

**Senate Bill (SB) Number 807****Title: Relating to the Environment**

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Benjamin Fischberg and I am a sophomore at AOP High School. I am testifying on SB No. 807, Relating to the Environment. I support this Bill as I feel that recycling could help conserve precious energy, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, and therefore enhancing national security. Recycling one (1) aluminum can could save enough energy to run a 100-watt bulb for 20 hours. In these tough economic times, saving energy could be extremely helpful to society in general. Along with conserving energy, establishing recycling centers in schools will encourage children and adolescents to care more about the environment. By learning about recycling at a young age, students can learn to become responsible citizens that respect our environment. Please consider these views before voting on this issue.

Senate Bill (SB) Number- SB807  
Title- Relating to the Environment

Good afternoon, Senators, my name is Megan Sakauye and I am a freshman at Moanalua High School. I am testifying on SB No. 807, Relating to the Environment. I support this bill for the following reasons:

I believe that having recycling bins in all public schools across the state will make a significant impact on our environment and the behavior of our next generation. Children as young as kindergartners can start learning about recycling and protecting our environment. This will make for a better future because when the younger kids learn to recycle early the more likely they are to grow up with good recycling habits. Recently in the Honolulu Advertiser the Early School Preschool was highlighted about how they teach children as young as 3 to recycle and compost. These young children then go home to influence their parents and older siblings—this is how we make change. We have to begin as early as possible and make it part of our culture--- WE HAVE TO MAKE IT A PRIORITY!

Additionally, this will also keep kids from throwing away recyclables. Most of my classmates, and I am sorry to say myself included, throw our recyclables into the trash can every day because we don't know of a recycling bin on campus to throw it into. If we had an extensive recycle program at our school I would be more than willing to recycle my bottles and cans each day. I feel terrible when I realize how much plastic I have wasted and thrown into the landfill when it could have been easily recycled.

Here in Hawaii we are all one very large ohana, and once the young people in this great big family of ours starts recycling it will spread and soon our whole state will be throwing plastics into recycling bins instead of trash cans. Our population is growing, our state resources are becoming scarce--- that is why I believe it is of the utmost importance that we mandate and provide the means for EVERY public school to have recycle bins and a recycle program on campus. This is why I am in URGENT support of SB807, relating to the Environment. We must act NOW!!!

Senate Bill Number SB 807.

Title: Appropriate funds to establish a recycling program and recycling bins on every school campus.

Good afternoon, Senators. My name is Clariann Clark and I am a freshman at Moanalua High School. I am testifying on SB Number 807, appropriate funds to establish a recycling program and recycling bins on every school campus. I support this bill for the following reasons. Recycling saves us hours of energy, which is consumed for the production, because new products are manufactured from raw material obtained to recycle products. Recycling saves Environmental Conditions and Reduces Pollution. It helps in preventing global climate change to a great extent. Recycling saves Natural Resources, which involves the processing and usage of the core elements of an old product to a new one. The Economic Benefits. It helps in saving a lot of cash and expenses. It Saves spaces for the Waste Disposal. Most landfill sites are piled and filled with a lot of waste products that should have been recycled. We could be running short on landfill use unless we start to recycle. Those are my reasons on why I support the bill. Thank you.

Senate Bill 807

Title- Relating to the Environment

Good Afternoon, Senators. My name is Heidi Osborne and I am a freshman at Moanalua High School. I am testifying on Senate Bill 807. Relating to the Environment.

I strongly support this bill for the following reasons.

Many campuses serve water during lunch and if the other campuses are like mine then there is a lavish amount of bottles being thrown away, 5 cents down the drain. Not only is it 5 cents down the drain it is adding build up to our state's landfill. When bottles are recycled landfill space is conserved. Why should we throw away things that can be recycled and made into new things? It just takes up more space in the landfill.