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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WASTE STREAM REDUCTION.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that telephone  
2       directories, such as the yellow pages and white pages, are  
3       automatically distributed to consumers. Many of these  
4       directories go unclaimed, causing litter and an unnecessary use  
5       of resources. In an effort to reduce paper waste, directories  
6       should be distributed only to those consumers who have  
7       specifically requested them.

8       By comparison, the *MidWeek* tabloid is not automatically  
9       distributed to consumers. It is mailed only to consumers who  
10      have signed a postcard authorization for the mailing, which is  
11      valid for three years. The postcard reads, "Postal regulations  
12      require a signed request card from *MidWeek* readers to qualify  
13      for Periodicals mailing privileges." The legislature finds that  
14      adopting a similar approach with the distribution of telephone  
15      directories will significantly reduce paper waste and  
16      unnecessary use of resources.



1       The purpose of this Act is to require telephone directories  
2 to be distributed only to persons who have signed a written  
3 authorization to receive the directory.

4       SECTION 2. Chapter 342H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
6 designated and to read as follows:

7       "§342H-       Distribution of telephone directories. (a)  
8 Beginning January 1, 2012, a telephone directory distributor  
9 shall not distribute telephone directories to any person,  
10 household, entity, or business without having first received a  
11 request card signed by the person, a person residing at the  
12 household, or a person representing the entity or business,  
13 authorizing the telephone directory distribution; provided that  
14 any telephone directory distributor that has implemented an opt-  
15 out or opt-in program for the distribution of telephone  
16 directories shall not be subject to this section. A self-  
17 addressed prepaid request card shall be mailed by the directory  
18 distributor to each person, household, entity, or business from  
19 which distribution authorization is sought. A signed request  
20 card authorizing distribution shall be valid for three years and  
21 may be renewed for an additional three-year period, without  
22 limit on the number of renewals.



1        (b) A request card under subsection (a) shall include  
2        check-mark boxes to indicate the number of telephone directories  
3        requested, if any, including locality directories and yellow  
4        pages.

5        (c) Violators of this section shall be subject to a civil  
6        fine of \$50 for each telephone directory distributed in  
7        violation, to be imposed by the director. Any person,  
8        household, entity, or business may report a violation to the  
9        department.

10       (d) As used in this section:

11       "Distribute" means the delivery or giving to another, or  
12       leaving with another of a telephone directory.

13       "Telephone directory" means a book in which are listed  
14       alphabetically the names of persons, businesses, and other  
15       entities having telephones in a specified area, along with their  
16       addresses and telephone numbers. "Telephone directory" includes  
17       locality directories and the yellow pages.

18       "Yellow pages" means a book or a section of a telephone  
19       directory listing businesses, services, or products  
20       alphabetically according to field."

21       SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Report Title:**

Telephone Directories; Waste Stream Reduction

**Description:**

Requires telephone directories to be distributed only to persons who have signed a written authorization to receive the directory; exempts telephone directory distributors that implement opt-in or opt-out programs. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

