

**Date:** 03/25/2010

**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn Matayoshi, Interim Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 2709, SD1,HD2 (HSCR-812-10) RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE PRODUCTS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Adds the design for the environment program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency as an additional program whose approved cleaning and maintenance products will be given first preference by public schools in the purchase and use of environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products. (HD2)

**Department's Position:** The Department of Education supports HD2 of this bill.  
This bill changes the identifier of environmentally sensitive products from the Green Seal program to include the Design for the Environment Program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.  
We understand the Department of Health would like to be relieved of the responsibility for maintaining lists of environmentally sensitive products.  
We have no objection to this.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

### SB 2709, SD1, HD2, Relating to Environmentally Sensitive Products

Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.  
Director of Health

March 25, 2010  
2:00 P.M.

1 **Department's Position:** Amend to include the EPA list only and remove the Department of Health's  
2 role.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The bill directs the Department of Education to use cleaning products for  
5 the public schools that have been approved by the Design for the Environment program of the United  
6 States Environmental Protection Agency, or the Green Seal program for use in public school facilities.

7 In addition, the bill directs the Department of Health to maintain a list of products that have been  
8 approved by these third parties and to review and evaluate existing research regarding environmentally-  
9 sensitive cleaning and maintenance products issued by the Environmental Protection Agency.

10 The original bill included only the EPA list, and that is preferred.

11 The two third-parties referenced in Section 1 maintain their own lists of approved products and  
12 these are publicly available on their respective websites. Therefore, the maintenance of a list by DOH  
13 adds no value and is not necessary. Additionally, the evaluation of existing research issued by the  
14 Environmental Protection Agency by the DOH adds little practical value. Given the current difficult

1 fiscal conditions, maintaining guidelines, specifications, and a list of environmentally-sensitive cleaning  
2 and maintenance products, and conducting research, are better left to EPA or national organizations,  
3 rather than state agencies.

4 We ask that SECTION 2 of the bill delete section 321-26.5, not merely amend it.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



March 29, 2010

To: Members of the House Finance Committee

From: Tim Shestek  
American Chemistry Council

Re: **SB 2709 SD 1, HD 2 – SUPPORT**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on SB 2709, legislation pertaining to “environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products for use in public schools.”

As you may know, ACC members manufacture products that are essential to helping protect public health. For example, chlorine disinfectants can be highly effective in controlling many disease-causing microbes, including bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli and viruses such as hepatitis A.

ACC supports recent amendments in Section 1 that would ensure schools continue to have access to important disinfectants and sanitizers that are essential to protecting public health.

Thank you for the opportunity to express these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or via email at [tim\\_shestek@americanchemistry.com](mailto:tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com) if you have any questions or comments. You may also wish to contact ACC’s Hawaii based representatives Red Morris or John Radcliffe at 808-531-4551.