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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO RESOURCE RECOVERY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of  
2 education produces a large amount of rubbish and waste from two  
3 hundred sixty-five schools across the State, which significantly  
4 impacts the State's environment and finances.

5           The legislature further finds that on-site campus  
6 composting programs involving students have been extremely  
7 successful in providing a beneficial method of waste diversion.  
8 These programs foster learning about scientific principles and  
9 social practices while allowing students to take responsibility  
10 for the amount of waste generated.

11          The legislature believes that a demonstration of the  
12 effectiveness of on-site campus composting allows students to  
13 see the relationships between food waste, composting, nutrient  
14 cycling, healthy soils, and local food production. This is a  
15 natural extension of the legislature's commitment to increasing  
16 garden- and farm-based opportunities and is one of five pillars  
17 of the department of agriculture's Hawaii farm to school



1 program, established by Act 218, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015.  
2 Proper guidance from the departments of health and education  
3 regarding campus composting would increase the safety of  
4 existing programs while expanding opportunities for new programs  
5 in state schools.

6 The legislature finds that developing a statewide model for  
7 on-site campus composting provides a way to reach the Aloha+  
8 challenge waste reduction goals, increase local food production,  
9 and promote natural resource management.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish  
11 composting grant pilot projects in department of education  
12 schools to:

- 13 (1) Address opportunities for waste diversion;
- 14 (2) Engage students to learn about different composting  
15 methods;
- 16 (3) Develop nutrient-rich soil for school gardens and  
17 local agricultural endeavors;
- 18 (4) Decrease the amount of methane-producing waste being  
19 dumped in landfills;
- 20 (5) Decrease the overall trash hauling cost to taxpayers;
- 21 and



1           (6)   Develop campus composting guidelines in conjunction  
2                   with department of health rules for system-wide  
3                   guidance.

4           SECTION 2.   (a)   The department of education shall issue  
5   grants to establish composting grant pilot projects in  
6   department of education schools pursuant to the recommendation  
7   of the composting grant pilot project working group.

8           (b)   The department of education shall establish the  
9   composting grant pilot project working group, and shall invite  
10   the following members or their designees to participate in the  
11   working group:

12           (1)   The superintendent of education;

13           (2)   A representative of the department of education,  
14                   facilities branch;

15           (3)   A representative of the department of education,  
16                   office of curriculum, instruction, and student  
17                   support;

18           (4)   A representative of the department of health,  
19                   sanitation branch;

20           (5)   The Hawaii farm to school coordinator in the  
21                   department of agriculture;



- 1           (6) The dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa college  
2           of tropical agriculture and human resources;  
3           (7) A representative of the Kokua Hawaii Foundation;  
4           (8) An experienced school composting program leader; and  
5           (9) A volunteer member of the community.

6           (c) The composting grant pilot project working group  
7 shall:

- 8           (1) In conjunction with the department of health, develop  
9           guidelines and provide oversight for campus  
10          composting, which shall include leachate monitoring,  
11          pathogen testing, involvement of community members,  
12          development of a fire plan, material categorization,  
13          and volume recording;  
14          (2) Consider multiple composting and fermentation  
15          techniques that can be tested and monitored for  
16          effectiveness in schools of varying sizes, such as  
17          bokashi for meats, dairy products, and bones;  
18          vermicomposting for vegetable wastes; hot composting  
19          for vegetative wastes; and aerated compost tea and  
20          vermicast tea for soil amendments;



1           (3)   Establish networks and relationships with local farms  
2                   and piggeries that may be able to accept surplus food  
3                   waste; and

4           (4)   Make recommendations to the department of education  
5                   regarding the issuance of grants to schools pursuant  
6                   to this section.

7           (d)   The composting grant pilot project working group shall  
8   elect one of its members to serve as its chair.

9           (e)   The composting grant pilot project working group shall  
10   be administratively attached to the department of education,  
11   which shall provide support staff for the composting grant pilot  
12   project working group.

13          (f)   Members of the composting grant pilot project working  
14   group shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed  
15   for reasonable expenses, including travel expenses, incurred  
16   during the performance of their duties.

17          (g)   No member of the composting grant pilot project  
18   working group shall be made subject to chapter 84, Hawaii  
19   Revised Statutes, solely because of that member's participation  
20   on the composting grant pilot project working group.



1 (h) The composting grant pilot project working group shall  
2 submit a report to the legislature with its findings and  
3 recommendations no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
4 of the regular session of 2019 and each regular session  
5 thereafter.

6 (i) The department of education shall adopt rules,  
7 pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to implement  
8 the composting grant pilot project.

9 (j) The department of agriculture's farm to school  
10 program, established by section 141-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
11 shall provide oversight of the composting grant pilot project.

12 (k) Any school that is a recipient of a grant issued  
13 pursuant to this Act shall pay a portion of the initial  
14 operating costs of the grant using either its elective funds or  
15 any applicable fundraising proceeds, as prescribed by rules  
16 adopted pursuant to subsection (i).

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to  
20 establish and implement the composting grant pilot project.



1       The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
2 education for the purposes of this Act.

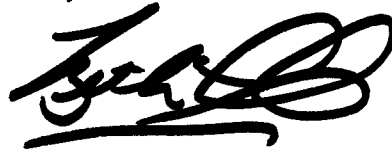
3       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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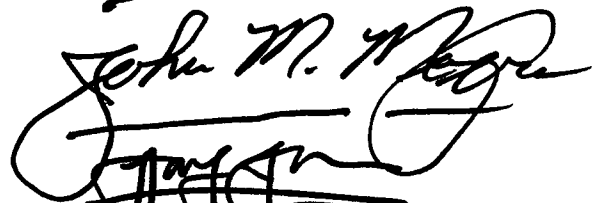
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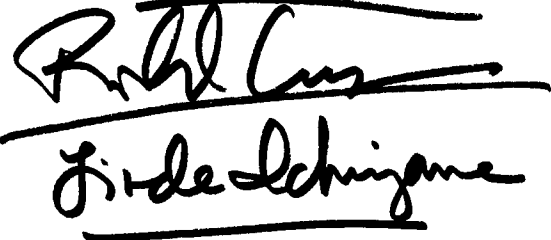
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JAN 19 2018



# H.B. NO. 2025

**Report Title:**

Composting; DOE; Resource Recovery; Composting Pilot Project;  
Working Group; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes the Department of Education to issue grants to establish a composting grant pilot project in Department of Education schools. Establishes a composting grant pilot project working group. Requires report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

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

