
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, OR THE GOVERNOR'S DESIGNEE, TO CONVENE
A WORKING GROUP ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the permit for the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary
2 Landfill in Kapolei on Oahu expires in 2028; and
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4 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu (City) has not
5 identified any sites for a new landfill that the Honolulu Board
6 of Water Supply finds acceptable because the sites identified
7 are located above aquifers and therefore development of a new
8 landfill there has the potential to contaminate ground water;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the City claims that the legally available and
12 feasible options for a new landfill are located above aquifers
13 and lands with soils classified by the Land Study Bureau's
14 detailed land classification as overall (master) productivity
15 rating class A or B; and
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17 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense holds that
18 federal lands controlled by the military are not available for
19 landfill use under federal rules; and
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21 WHEREAS, if no new landfill site is identified, the City
22 will be forced to pursue a legally prohibited expansion of the
23 Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill; and
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25 WHEREAS, a new landfill on Oahu is inherently problematic
26 and is not necessarily the best way that communities in the
27 State can reduce and handle the solid waste produced by their
28 linear extract, package, and throw-away economy; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor, or the



1 Governor's designee, is requested to convene a Solid Waste
2 Management Working Group; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Solid Waste Management
5 Working Group is requested to comprise the following:

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7 (1) A representative from the Department of Health;
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9 (2) A representative from the Department of Environmental
10 Services of the City and County of Honolulu;
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12 (3) A representative from each county, as designated by
13 the mayor of that county;
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15 (4) A representative from the Honolulu Board of Water
16 Supply;
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18 (5) A representative from the recycling industry, who is
19 requested to be invited by the Governor;
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21 (6) A representative from the composting industry, who is
22 requested to be invited by the Governor;
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24 (7) A representative from the reuse industry, who is
25 requested to be invited by the Governor;
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27 (8) A representative from the deconstruction industry, who
28 is requested to be invited by the Governor;
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30 (9) A representative from Zero Waste USA, who is requested
31 to be invited by the Governor;
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33 (10) A representative from a Hawaii-based environmental
34 nonprofit organization advocating for zero waste
35 priorities, who is requested to be invited by the
36 Governor;
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38 (11) A landfill expert with specialization in landfill
39 liner leakage, who is requested to be invited by the
40 Governor;
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1 (12) An expert in unit-based pricing, who is requested to
2 be invited by the Governor; and

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4 (13) A representative from the United States Armed Forces,
5 who is requested to be invited by the Governor; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor, or the Governor's
8 designee, is requested to convene the initial meeting for the
9 Solid Waste Management Working Group; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Solid Waste Management
12 Working Group is requested to elect a chair from among its
13 members at the initial meeting of the working group, who is in
14 turn requested to convene subsequent meetings for the working
15 group; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Solid Waste Management
18 Working Group is requested to submit a report of its findings
19 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
20 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
21 the Regular Session of 2026; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to
24 include:
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26 (1) Information on materials management policies and
27 programs that reduce solid waste and protect the
28 environment, which includes the groundwater, earth,
29 and air; and
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31 (2) A list of alternative technologies to address solid
32 waste management of waste that cannot typically be
33 recycled or composted; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, who is in
37 turn requested to transmit a copy to each stakeholder invited to
38 participate in the Solid Waste Management Working Group;
39 Director of Health; Mayor of each county; and Manager and Chief
40 Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

