Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2025

RE: S.B. No. 724

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

    Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was
referred S.B. No. 724 entitled:

    "A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER
    REDEMPTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

    The purpose and intent of this measure is, beginning July 1,
2026, to:

    (1) Repeal the exemptions for certain dealers of deposit
         beverage containers and related provisions; and

    (2) Require all dealers of deposit beverage containers to
         operate as redemption centers.

    Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from the Hawaii Food Industry Association, Reynolds
Recycling, and one individual.

    Your Committee received comments on this measure from the
Department of Health.

    Your Committee finds that a significant contributing factor
of declining beverage container redemption rates in the State is
the scarcity and inaccessibility of redemption centers statewide.
Your Committee recognizes that the exemptions in the existing law
on the redemption of empty deposit beverage containers have

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resulted in a scarcity of redemption centers in many areas, which disincentivizes residents from redeeming empty deposit beverage containers because of the inconvenience and significant travel often required to do so. This measure upholds the purpose of container deposit laws by repealing all exemptions and requiring all dealers of deposit beverage containers to operate as redemption centers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 724 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment,

MIKE GABBARD, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 724	AEN, CPN	2/3/25

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☒ Pass, unamended 2312   ☐ Pass, with amendments 2311   ☐ Hold 2310   ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)		X		
DECOITE, Lynn				X
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton			X	
TOTAL	2	1	1	1

Recommendation:
☒ Adopted   ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: _[signature]_

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*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes