

JAN 17 2025

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State did not  
2 reach mandates established in 1991 to reduce the solid waste  
3 stream by fifty per cent by 2000. The legislature also finds  
4 that the Aloha+ Challenge established the goal to reduce by  
5 seventy per cent the solid waste stream prior to disposal by  
6 2030 through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and  
7 landfill diversion methods for organic waste.

8       To meet United Nations Sustainable Development and Aloha+  
9 Challenge goals related to waste reduction, there is a need to  
10 embed in statute existing goals and further benchmarks to track  
11 and require progress toward reducing solid waste production and  
12 increasing organic waste diversion.

13       SECTION 2. Chapter 342G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16       "§342G-    Benchmarks.   It is the goal of the State to  
17 reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by requiring



1 organic waste generators to divert material to any certified  
2 facility within twenty miles by:

3 (1) January 1, 2027: (Tier 1) All wholesale food vendors,  
4 food service providers, food distributors, grocery  
5 stores greater than ten thousand square feet,  
6 supermarkets, hotels, and any entity generating one  
7 ton per week or one hundred four tons per year or  
8 more;

9 (2) January 1, 2032: (Tier 2) All restaurants, local  
10 education agencies, large venues and event spaces,  
11 state agencies, health facilities, and any entity  
12 generating one half ton per week or twenty-six tons  
13 per year or more;

14 (3) January 1, 2036: Any multifamily complexes and any  
15 entity generating one third ton per week or eighteen  
16 tons per year or more; and

17 (4) January 1, 2037: Organic wastes shall be banned from  
18 landfills and co-generation plants, including that  
19 produced by single family residences."



SECTION 3. Section 342G-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding two new definitions to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

""Biodegradable" means capable of being broken down or decomposed into carbon dioxide, methane or simpler organic compounds by bacteria or other living organisms.

"Organic waste" means any material that is compostable or biodegradable and is derived from either a plant or an animal, and includes green waste, food waste, food-soiled paper that is acceptable for food storage, and untreated and unpainted wood waste."

SECTION 4. Section 342G-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**"[+]§342G-3[+] Goals.** (a) It is the goal of the State to reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by:

(1) ~~[Twenty-five]~~ Forty per cent by January 1, ~~[1995,]~~ 2027; and

(2) ~~[Fifty]~~ Seventy per cent by January 1, ~~[2000,]~~ 2032; through source reduction, recycling, organic waste landfill diversion, and bioconversion. Where feasible, the office shall



1 establish other state goals for specific commodities,  
2 recognizing market considerations.

3 (b) It is the goal of the State to reduce [~~by not less~~  
4 ~~than twenty-five per cent the amount of office paper generated~~  
5 ~~by all state and county agencies by January 1, 1995, through~~  
6 ~~source reduction. The base year for calculating progress toward~~  
7 ~~this goal shall be total office paper consumption by state and~~  
8 ~~county agencies in 1990.~~] organic waste stream disposal via  
9 incineration, waste-to-energy, or landfill by:

- 10 (1) Forty per cent by January 1, 2027;  
11 (2) Seventy per cent by January 1, 2032; and  
12 (3) One hundred per cent by January 1, 2037.

13 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict  
14 a county from setting waste reduction goals higher than those of  
15 the State."

16 SECTION 5. Section 342G-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

18 "(c) The recycling [~~and~~], bioconversion, and organic waste  
19 diversion component shall identify and assess:

- 20 (1) The level of waste reduction the county is achieving  
21 through existing recycling and bioconversion efforts;



1       (2)   The type and amount of solid waste that it is  
2           technically and economically feasible to recycle or  
3           alter through bioconversion; ~~and~~

4       (3)   Methods to increase and improve the recycling and  
5           bioconversion efforts, including opportunities for  
6           backyard composting[-]; and

7       (4)   Diversion of all organic waste produced within the  
8           county by facilities generating more than a minimum  
9           amount, as established in section 342G- .

10       For recycling, the counties shall assess the type and  
11       amount of solid waste that it is technically feasible to  
12       recycle, giving consideration at a minimum to clear glass,  
13       colored glass, aluminum, steel and bimetallic cans, high-grade  
14       office paper, newsprint, mixed paper, corrugated paper, HDPE,  
15       PET, and green waste.

16       For bioconversion, the counties shall assess the type and  
17       amount of solid waste that it is technically feasible to alter  
18       through bioconversion, giving consideration at a minimum to  
19       green waste, wood waste, animal manure, sewage sludge, and food  
20       wastes."



1       SECTION 6. Each county shall incorporate the new  
2 requirement established by section 4 of this Act into its next  
3 integrated solid waste management plan revision for submission  
4 to the office of solid waste management pursuant to section  
5 342G-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes.


6       SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                   or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
10 year 2026-2027 for the department of health to reimburse the  
11 counties for incorporation of the new requirements under this  
12 Act into their respective integrated solid waste management plan  
13 revisions as required by this Act.

14       The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
15 of health for the purposes of this Act.

16       SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18       SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY:



**Report Title:**

DOH; Counties; Solid Waste Reduction; Organic Waste Diversion;  
Benchmarks; Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion. Requires each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks. 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.*

