

JAN 21 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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 by Act 324, Session Laws of Hawaii
3 1991, to reduce the solid waste stream by fifty per cent by
4 2000. The legislature also finds that the Aloha+ Challenge
5 established the goal to reduce by seventy per cent the solid
6 waste stream prior to disposal by 2030 through source reduction,
7 recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion methods for
8 organic waste.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to meet United
10 Nations Sustainable Development and Aloha+ Challenge goals
11 related to waste reduction by embedding similar goals and
12 further benchmarks into statute to track and require progress
13 toward reducing solid waste production and increasing organic
14 waste diversion.

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



1 "§342G- **Benchmarks.** It is the goal of the State to
2 reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by requiring
3 organic waste generators to divert material to any certified
4 facility within twenty miles by:

5 (1) January 1, 2028: (Tier 1) All wholesale food vendors,
6 food service providers, food distributors, grocery
7 stores greater than ten thousand square feet,
8 supermarkets, hotels, and any entity generating one
9 ton per week or one hundred four tons per year or
10 more;

11 (2) January 1, 2033: (Tier 2) All restaurants, local
12 education agencies, large venues and event spaces,
13 state agencies, health facilities, and any entity
14 generating one half ton per week or twenty-six tons
15 per year or more;

16 (3) January 1, 2037: Any multifamily complexes and any
17 entity generating one third ton per week or eighteen
18 tons per year or more; and

19 (4) January 1, 2038: Organic wastes shall be banned from
20 landfills and co-generation plants, including that
21 produced by single family residences."



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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 by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

"(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+]~~ 2028; and

(2) ~~[Fifty]~~ Seventy per cent by January 1, ~~[2000+]~~ 2033; 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, 2028;

11 (2) Seventy per cent by January 1, 2033; and

12 (3) One hundred per cent by January 1, 2038."

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

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

17 (1) The level of waste reduction the county is achieving
18 through existing recycling and bioconversion efforts;

19 (2) The type and amount of solid waste that it is
20 technically and economically feasible to recycle or
21 alter through bioconversion; [~~and~~]



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

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

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

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

SECTION 6. Each county shall incorporate the new requirement established by section 4 of this Act into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision for submission



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1 to the office of solid waste management pursuant to section
2 342G-24, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 health for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

15
INTRODUCED BY: Mike Gabbard



S.B. NO. 2101

Report Title:

Department of Health; Counties; Solid Waste Reduction; Organic Waste Diversion; Benchmarks; Appropriation

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.

