
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECYCLING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that discarded mattresses
2 and box springs present a persistent and growing challenge to
3 Hawaii's solid waste management system. Each year, tens of
4 thousands of bulky mattresses are landfilled or illegally dumped
5 along roadsides, in gulches, and near streams, creating public
6 health hazards, fire risks, and visual blight.

7 Because mattresses are large, difficult to compact, and
8 often contain recyclable materials such as steel, foam, and
9 fiber, they take up disproportionate landfill space and increase
10 disposal costs for counties and taxpayers. The transportation
11 of bulky waste to landfills also increases greenhouse gas
12 emissions and strains already limited county budgets.

13 The legislature further finds that mattress materials can
14 be recovered and reused through recycling or renovation,
15 reducing the need for virgin materials, supporting local
16 recycling enterprises, and creating green-sector jobs. Other
17 states, including California, Connecticut, Oregon, and Rhode



1 Island, have established extended producer responsibility
2 programs that have diverted millions of mattresses from
3 landfills, reduced illegal dumping, and provided stable funding
4 through modest, transparent per-unit fees.

5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a
6 mattress stewardship working group to develop a program to
7 ensure the collection, reuse, and recycling of mattresses, box
8 springs, and mattress foundations.

9 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department
10 of health a mattress stewardship working group to develop a
11 program to ensure the collection, reuse, and recycling of
12 mattresses, box springs, and mattress foundations.

13 (b) The working group may consider developing a program
14 that:

- 15 (1) Requires producers of mattresses, box springs, and
16 mattress foundations to designate stewardship
17 organizations to implement mattress stewardship plans;
- 18 (2) Establishes a mattress stewardship fee to be collected
19 at the time of sale of a mattress, box spring, or
20 mattress foundation;
- 21 (3) Establishes a mattress stewardship special fund;



- 1 (4) Includes retailer take-back opportunities in which
2 retailers offer to remove discarded mattresses or box
3 springs; and
- 4 (5) Includes reporting requirements and penalties for
5 noncompliance.
- 6 (c) The working group shall consist of:
- 7 (1) The director of health, or the director's designee,
8 who shall serve as chair;
- 9 (2) The chief of the refuse division of the department of
10 environmental services of the city and county of
11 Honolulu, or the chief's designee;
- 12 (3) The chief of the solid waste division of the
13 department of public works of the county of Kauai, or
14 the chief's designee;
- 15 (4) The chief of the solid waste division of the
16 department of environmental management of the county
17 of Maui, or the chief's designee;
- 18 (5) The chief of the solid waste division of the
19 department of environmental management of the county
20 of Hawaii, or the chief's designee;



- 1 (6) One representative from a mattress stewardship
2 organization, to be invited by the chair of the
3 working group;
- 4 (7) One representative from the mattress manufacturing
5 industry, to be invited by the chair of the working
6 group;
- 7 (8) One representative from the mattress retail industry,
8 to be invited by the chair of the working group;
- 9 (9) One representative from an organization that accepts
10 mattress donations, to be invited by the chair of the
11 working group;
- 12 (10) One representative from a repair and reuse company, to
13 be invited by the chair of the working group;
- 14 (11) One representative from a recycling company, to be
15 invited by the chair of the working group;
- 16 (12) One representative from an in-state waste-to-energy
17 company, to be invited by the chair of the working
18 group; and
- 19 (13) Other members as invited by the chair.
- 20 (d) The working group shall submit a report of its
21 findings and recommendations, including any proposed



1 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
2 to the convening of the regular session of 2028.

3 (e) The working group shall cease to exist on July 31,
4 2028.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

Mattress Stewardship Working Group; Mattresses; Box Springs;
Mattress Foundations; DOH; Collection; Recycling

Description:

Establishes a mattress stewardship working group within the Department of Health to develop a program to ensure the collection, reuse, and recycling of mattresses, box springs, and mattress foundations. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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