



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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HB 2036  
RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

House Committee on  
Energy and Environmental Protection

Public Hearing - February 6, 1993  
8:30 A.M., Room 1310 SOT

By  
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Bob Hamburg, Geography  
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HB 2036 creates a special fund for solid waste management and implements a glass container advance disposal fee.

Our statement on this bill does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

This measure continues the trend of developing user support funding mechanisms for environmental programs. We certainly cannot argue the need for creative funding in this context, but whether the finance managers will go along with all these proposals remains an open question.

The proposed tipping surcharge would seem to provide the majority of the input to the special fund, but we have concerns that such a charge may be inappropriate, since waste hauling and disposal is largely a county responsibility. Any surcharge would effectively be charging the counties, and as such would probably be viewed as an intrusion by the state into county affairs.

The proposed advance disposal fee for glass containers appears a good idea. Oregon has a model program along these lines, and perhaps some of the vagueness of the language here could be improved by referring to that and other functioning state programs.

We have several comments and suggested amendments, both for clarity and to improve the perspective on these issues:

P.2, lines 16-17 This should read, "...certain resources, once

commingled into the solid waste stream..."

P.3, line 19 "...with direct costs of consumer purchases and service..."

P.3, lines 21-24 Actually, it may be quite efficient "for the general taxpayer to bear the financial burden of environmental protection and waste diversion" if, through this:

- A) they become educated about the greater social and environmental costs of profligate consumerism and waste;
- B) they begin to change their consumption habits; and
- C) they begin to demand less wasteful habits of larger entities more responsible for the problem.

P.4, line 5 Replace the word, "waste" with "residuals".

P.4, line 16 Instead of "disposal" use "management".

P.6, line 12 Same as above.

P.11. line 23 Same as above.