HB 1012 HD1
RELATING TO THE CLEAN HAWAII FUND

Senate Committee on Economic Development

Public Hearing - March 22, 1999
6:30 p.m., Room 225, State Capitol

by
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HB 1012 HD1 continues the use of special funds in the Clean Hawaii Fund for the purpose of marketing and promoting the development of recycling and remanufacturing businesses.

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

Oahu’s landfills will close in the next 4-5 years, and no new site has been established.

Beyond all fiscal and organizational arguments, the impending closure of Oahu’s landfills and the huge economic and public policy burdens of siting and establishing a new landfill should motivate support for Clean Hawaii Center. Nationwide, recycling and remanufacturing entrepreneurs have repeatedly demonstrated the value of diverting the waste stream to the reclamation of useful products and materials. However, such small businesses tend to require relatively large lots for sorting and handling, and with Hawaii's high lease rents, achieving a profitable venture has proven difficult. To succeed, these efforts must build upon a growing public awareness of both the direct and external costs of disposal, an awareness which the Clean Hawaii Fund can help to foster.