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Environmental Center

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HB 2336 RELATING TO RECYCLING

House Committee on
Energy and Environmental Protection
January 22, 1992, 8:30 am, Room 1310

By
John T. Harrison, Environmental Center

HB 2336 amends HRS 342H to include a provision requiring publishers of newspapers in Hawaii having a circulation greater than 50,000 to utilize newsprint containing at least ten percent recycled paper.

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

We applaud the intent of this bill, but we suggest that the timetable for implementation might be shortened significantly. Although there presently may be a slightly higher cost to newsprint containing recycled fiber, those costs are likely to be relatively minor, and will be passed on to the consumer. As the market for recycled fiber containing newsprint matures, it is likely that costs will even out. The benefits of contributing to the consolidation of the recycled newsprint market will offset the minor price adjustments which consumers will confront.