SB 2767
RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF CFCs, HALONS, AND OTHER MAN-MADE CHEMICALS THAT DESTROY THE EARTH'S PROTECTIVE OZONE LAYER

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environmental Protection

Public Hearing - February 11, 1992
1:00 P.M., Rm. 305 SOT

By
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SB 2767 would amend the Hawaii Revised Statutes to add a chapter addressing regulation of refrigeration appliances and machines. In addition, Chapters 342C, 437B, and 444 HRS would be amended to address specific chlorofluorocarbon (CFC)-related issues. Finally, funds are appropriated to the department of commerce and consumer affairs to facilitate implementation of these proposed amendments.

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

This bill has been drafted with the intent of remedying regulatory omissions of Chapter 342C, HRS, enacted in response to Act 316 of last year's legislature. Need for effective implementation of CFC management locally and globally recently was underscored by the disclosure by NASA that ozone layer depletions of up to 10% over the Hawaiian Islands are imminent. Economic implications with regard to the state's reliance on a vigorous visitor industry are profound.

We suggest that Section (3), lines 19-22 on page 7, may pose undue hardships on automotive repair facilities. We note that the majority of motor vehicle service activities are unrelated to refrigeration components. Amendment to specify service on components related to the use of CFCs would be appropriate. Also, item (10), page 9, prohibiting abandonment or disposal of any refrigerant device without recovery of coolant could lead to problems of compliance and enforcement, particularly since there are no existing facilities for acceptance of these items. A possible solution to this problem might be to provide funding to the counties to establish refrigerant recovery facilities at landfills and/or refuse transfer stations to facilitate public compliance with this prohibition.
critical problems to those responsible for articulating and implementing these research programs.