SB 2774 SD 2 SCR 2547
RELATING TO THE INTEGRATED
WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT

Statement for House Committees on
Planning, Energy and Environmental Protection
Intergovernmental Relations and International Affairs
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SB 2774 SD 2 recognizes the need to establish a firm foundation within which the State can move forward to develop a comprehensive and environmentally responsible approach to the management of solid waste in Hawaii.

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

We are in full concurrence with the intent of this bill to create a new branch within the Department of Health specifically designated with the responsibility to administer a comprehensive solid waste management program. It must be the policy of the state to pursue source reduction, recycling, and reuse whenever and wherever feasible in the management of the solid waste. Cooperative operations between the state and county are essential for the maximum success of the program and to minimize reliance on landfills.

In an island environment where almost all consumer products are imported and where landfill space is severely limited and at a premium cost, an integrated solid waste management plan as is proposed by SB 2774 SD 2 is not only economically and environmentally responsible but essential.

We fully support the intent of this bill.