

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

189

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 2009

RE: S.B. No. 584

S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Energy and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 584 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SOLID WASTE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ban the use of non-biodegradable plastic shopping bags in Hawaii, on the basis that these bags are a hazard to the natural environment.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by four private organizations and four individuals. Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by two private organizations. Comments were submitted by a state department and one private organization. Copies of written testimony are available for review on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that plastic bags contribute to Hawaii's solid waste problem and also pose a consistent threat to avian and marine life in Hawaii. Your Committee finds that, although plastic bags are being recycled, there is still more that we can do.

In response to comments from the Hawaii Food Industry Association, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the measure by deleting the words "petroleum" and "fossil-fuel-based" throughout; and



- (2) Substituting more accurate language regarding the biodegrading process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 584, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 584, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy and
Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Environment
ENE

Bill / Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
<i>SB 584</i>	<i>ENE, J60</i>	<i>12 Feb 2009</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
HOOSER, Gary L.	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.				✓
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
TOTAL	<i>6</i>			<i>1</i>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>J. Kalani English</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes