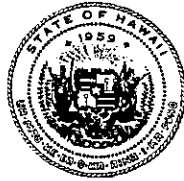


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

S.B. 1363, S.D.2, H.D.1, RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health

April 6, 2011
4:00 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports the intent of this measure to reduce
2 solid waste generation, but has serious reservations about this bill as written.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** The bill imposes substantial administrative duties on the department with no
4 resources. This bill does not provide the department the necessary funds or personnel to implement the
5 program. The added cost to the department is estimated to be \$750,000 initially, with annual costs of
6 \$650,000 thereafter.

7 This bill allows businesses to retain 20 percent of offset fees collected as revenue subject to
8 income tax but exempt from excise tax. The handling of the offset fee and monthly reporting to the
9 department also imposes an additional burden on stores. Penalty amounts are more stringent than
10 existing county plastic bag ordinances.

11 The department is to deposit all fees collected into the general fund. The revenue generating
12 potential of this bill is unknown.

13 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill requires all businesses to charge a 5 cent fee for each single-use
14 checkout bag provided to their customers. Single-use checkout bags have a minimum thickness of 2.25
15 mils. Exemptions remain for specified types of non-reusable packaging. For counties with existing

1 single-use checkout bag ordinances, the fee applies only to paper bags. Businesses must state the fee on
2 transaction receipts and submit monthly all fees collected to the department, who is to deposit all fees
3 into the general fund. Businesses may retain 20 percent of fees collected as revenue subject to income
4 but not excise tax.

5 The department generally supports the reduction of solid waste, litter, and the use of petroleum
6 resources.

7 The measure attempts to set a minimum statewide fee-based standard for single-use checkout
8 bags. Plastic bag reduction ordinances for both the County of Kauai and County of Maui County just
9 took effect in early January 2011. The County of Hawaii has attempted to pass a similar ordinance
10 without success and may reconsider the issue.

11 Department Concerns

12 While this measure accounts for existing bag bans, the department is concerned about possible
13 conflicts between this measure and current County of Maui and County of Kauai ordinances. For
14 example, the proposed \$1,000 minimum fine per violation is more stringent than fines used in existing
15 plastic bag reduction ordinances for first-time, second and subsequent violations. We feel that at the
16 very least the passage of this measure would create a confusing regulatory patchwork for non-reusable
17 bags.

18 This measure requires the department to process the payments and receipts of fees from virtually
19 every retail business in the state with no new staff or other resources. Previous versions of the bill
20 designated a portion of the revenue to fund the department's administrative costs. Current solid waste
21 program resources are inadequate for implementing this program without additional funding and
22 personnel. The department has previously described these deficiencies in testimonies submitted for S.B.
23 725 and H.B. 786.

24 Estimated the annual costs to implement this proposed program are as follows:

- 1) Outreach and education = \$100,000 (first year only);
- 2) Rulemaking and implementation (i.e., monitoring, inspections, enforcement) = 6 FTE =
\$550,000; and
- 3) Annual audit = \$100,000.

Estimated total cost per year : \$755,000.

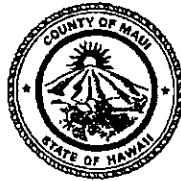
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor

KYLE K. GINOZA, P.E.
Director

MICHAEL M. MIYAMOTO
Deputy Director



Wastewater Reclamation Division

TRACY N. TAKAMINE, P.E.
Solid Waste Division

**COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**

2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 100
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

March 23, 2011

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

Hearing Date and Time: April 6, 2011, 4:00 PM

TESTIMONY ON SB 1363 SD2HD1, RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (PLASTIC CHECKOUT BAGS)

The County of Maui supports the intent of this bill and applauds the State in taking action to help preserve the environment and reduce wind blown litter. The County of Maui's ordinance prohibiting the use of plastic bags by all business at the point of sale for the transporting of goods purchased recently took effect on January 11, 2011.

The County does not oppose the requirement of charging a fee for single use paper bags, however, we do not believe a charge of \$0.05 per bag is enough of a disincentive to modify the behavior of customers to not use single use bags. We also have reservations about allowing the State to keep the majority of the funds collected to fund additional staff and enforcement. These funds should be retained by the business and used to offset the costs of providing reusable bags at an affordable price. The goal should be to get customers to use more reusable bags as we phase out the single use bags. The County believes that anything less than \$0.25 per bag will prove to be ineffective.

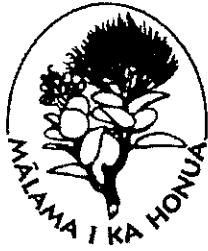
If the intent of this bill is "To protect Hawaii's environment..." then exclusions to this law should be kept to a minimum. Allowing businesses that transport prepared foods or bakery goods, and hotels that provide bags to guests to carry wet or dirty clothing are too broad and open the door for many businesses to still use the single use bags. All businesses must be treated equally and all customers should be treated equally, whether they shop at a big store or a small store. Bags carrying prepared food for take out or transport from restaurants should not be excluded.

We thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Ginoza".

Kyle Ginoza, Director of Environmental Management



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 6, 2011, 4:00 p.m.
(Testimony is 5 pages long)

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1363 SD2 HD1 WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Aloha Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club *supports* SB 1363 SD2 HD1, which creates an offset fee for the use of all single use bags (whether paper or plastic) and incentivizes retail stores to encourage the use of less impactful bags. An offset fee smartly creates a direct market reflection of the actual economic and environmental costs created by the abuse of single-use bags in Hawai'i.

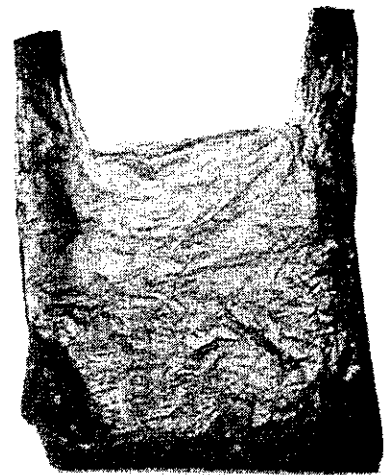
Single use bags simply are not in Hawai'i's sustainable future and strong efforts should be made to discourage their continued use.

I. Reducing Our Opala Problem.

Hawai'i is faced with a solid waste crisis. The proliferation of single use bags directly contributes to this problem. They tax our economy and environment when they are littered or placed in our overflowing landfills. For example, a recent study conducted in Seattle concluded -- even with a high 13% recycling rate (greater than the national average of 3-5%) -- approximately 1,650 tons of plastic bags were put into the landfill annually.¹ The net cost to Seattle and ratepayers of collecting, transferring and disposing of waste was calculated to be approximately \$121 per ton or approximately \$200,000 for plastic grocery bags.

Even if these bags are burned at H-POWER (only on O'ahu), they are essentially converted to greenhouse gasses, further hastening global climate change, and ultimately not addressing the

¹ See Alternatives to Disposable Shopping Bags and Food Service Items, available at <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/util/Services/Recycling/Reduce, Reuse & Exchange/ProposedGreenFee/index.htm>



root of the problem. Similarly, with nearly 40% of the State's solid waste-stream able to be diverted from disposal at the landfill, plastic bags pose the single-most significant challenge to composting facilities, contaminating the compost, getting wrapped in the splines of processing equipment, and reducing the value of the compost product.

II. Consumers Already Indirectly Pay for Single Use Bags.

"Free" single use bags are an expense that is typically not directly visible by customers. Retailers spend hundreds of millions of dollars annually to provide single-use bags to customers. For example, supermarkets can spend up to \$1,500 to \$6,000 a month just to provide single-use bags to their customers at the check-out.² Even major retailers such as Target and CVS are realizing this significant cost burden and are offering discount incentives to customers who bring their own bags.³

The cost of purchasing tens of millions of bags in Hawai'i annually is most certainly passed on to local consumers, but it is not a visible cost and, thus, normal market controls do not take place. As with anything "free," we tend to take advantage of the ready supply plastic bags without considering the indirect costs.

It should be noted that two highly successful business in Hawai'i -- Costco and Wholefoods -- do not offer its customers plastic bags. These businesses are flourishing. The switch by Wholefoods alone kept 100 million plastic bags out of the environment between April 22, 2008 and the end of 2008.



III. Single Use Bags Tax Our Environment.

Single use bags contribute to litter and pose a threat to avian and marine life in Hawai'i -- the endangered species capitol of the world. As noted by NOAA,⁴ plastic photo-degrades -- breaking down into smaller and smaller pieces due to exposure to solar UV radiation. However, when in water plastic does not get direct sunlight exposure, therefore breakdown happens much more slowly in the aquatic environment. So far as we know, plastics do not ever fully "go away," but rather break down into smaller and smaller pieces, sometimes referred to as microplastics.

² Downing, J. "Free Grocery Bags Targeted for Extinction in California," *Sacramento Bee*, Aug. 25, 2008. Estimates from bag manufacturers and the Food Marketing Institute. Available at http://www.roplast.com/documents/Free_grocery_bags_targeted_for_extinction_in_California_-_Sacramento_Politics_-_California_Politics_Sacramento_Bee.pdf.

³ Horovitz, B. "Target, CVS Put Plastic Bags in the Bull's-Eye, Pay for Reusables," *USA Today*, Oct. 19, 2009.

⁴ See <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/plastic.html>

Plastics also have the potential to adsorb contaminants from the marine environment and carry these contaminants through the food chain. Plastic debris attracts and accumulates hydrophobic organic toxins such as PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) up to 100,000-1,000,000 times ambient seawater concentrations. These toxins can then bioaccumulate up the food chain, where they directly impact human health.

IV. Proposed Amendments

As with any measure, improvements could be made.

- 1) **Staggered start.** With regard to section 342H-B, we suggest staggering the implementation date so as to give smaller businesses more time to implement any necessary administrative changes.



Proposed Language:

Beginning January 1, 2012, all businesses in the State having a gross annual income of \$500,000 or more shall charge and collect a fee of 10 cents for each single-use checkout bag that is provided to customers.

Beginning July 1, 2012, all businesses in the State shall charge and collect a fee of 10 cents for each single-use checkout bag that is provided to customers.

- 2) **Fund Implementation.** The Department of Health will need funding to implement, enforce, and facilitate this measure.

Proposed Language:

(d) All fees collected by the department pursuant to this part shall be deposited:

- (1) The first \$750,000 shall be into a special account in the state general fund for expenditure by the department for expenses related to the administration and enforcement of this part and related programs; and
- (2) Any remaining funds collected shall be deposited into the general fund.

3) **Limit Preemption.** If the intent of this measure is to benefit the environment, then no preemption language should be included whatsoever. Instead, we should encourage the strongest combination of policies possible.

At the very least, we suggest sunseting the preemption language. This gives the counties an opportunity to evaluate the success of this bill and determine whether stronger measures are necessary.

§342H-E Preemption. Except for any county ordinance regulating single-use checkout bags in effect prior to the effective date of this part and any amendments thereto, this part shall preempt the powers of any county to regulate the use of single-use checkout bags; provided that in counties where an ordinance regulating single-use checkout bags is in effect, the fee established under section 342H-B shall be applicable only to single-use checkout bags made of

paper. This section shall be repealed on June 30, 2015.

- 4) **Injunctive Relief.** To ensure the Department has the capacity to enforce this measure, it should have the ability, when necessary, to go to court.

§342H-G Injunctive and other relief. The director may institute a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction for injunctive and other relief to correct or abate violation of this part or any rule adopted pursuant to this part, to collect administrative penalties, or to obtain other relief.

We hope you will move this measure forward with the proposed amendments. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

April 6, 2011

To: House Committee on Finance
The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
The Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

From: Susan Houghton, Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations

Re: Safeway Support for SB 1363 SD2 HD1: Relating to Environmental Protection

I am writing to lend Safeway support for SB 1363 SD2 HD1. Our company operates 19 stores in Hawaii – of which 13 are on the island of Oahu.

We applaud your desire to tackle this important issue. We believe it is extremely important to encourage all consumers to reduce the use of both paper and plastic bags. Both have significant effects on the environment.

We are aware that Maui and Kauai have both already adopted strict plastic bag bans, however, we believe a fee-based system on both plastic and paper is the preferred route. The city of San Francisco completely banned plastic bags several years ago – but did not address the issue of paper bag use. As a retailer with 15 stores in that city, we saw our costs for paper bags increase substantially – by more than \$1 million a year. This figure is in addition to the costs we were already absorbing to provide paper bags to our customers.

We believe consumers need a strong disincentive to truly change their behavior. By placing a fee on both plastic and paper, you are encouraging all consumers to think "reusable." Safeway provides a number of low-cost reusable bag options and we would be happy to participate in an initial reusable bag-giveaway program to promote this important concept. We would also be happy to provide free paper or plastic bags to any customer on such federally approved low-income programs as WIC or Food Stamps. We are concerned that under the current version of the bill, the amount (1 cent) allocated to retailers to address costs of the program is inadequate and would substantially negatively affect our ability to administer it.

The key to SB 1363 SD2 HD1 is also retailer uniformity. In order to ensure there is no competitive advantage, the legislation must apply to all retailers - regardless of size or origin. While we would prefer a preemption clause that creates geographic uniformity as well, we also understand the need for local control and county-specific ordinances.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this important legislation. Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (925) 467-2212 or George Glukfeld, our Hawaii district manager at (808) 524-4554.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Houghton
Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations



HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

1050 Bishop St. Box 235
Honolulu, HI 96813
Fax : 808-791-0702
Telephone : 808-533-1292

DATE: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 TIME: 4:00 P.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 308

TO: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Food Industry Association - Lauren Zirbel, Government Relations

RE: SB 1363, SD 2 HD 1 RELATING TO ENVIROMNENTAL PROTECTION

Chairs & Committee Members:

HFIA **supports SB 1363**, as a means of encouraging consumers to reduce the use of both paper and plastic single use bags.

Our stores on track to spend \$30K more per store annually on bag costs in stores where plastic is banned. In order to cover these costs retailers need at least 3 cents out of the 5 to go back to the retailer. This is the Washington DC template. If we can't get enough of a fee, retailers will still be eating the cost of paper and ultimately be forced to pass that cost on to the price of food.

Implementing this bill will cost retailers money in increased checkout time due to challenges associated with counting each bag at the point of sale.

Without a fee on paper, our current plastic bag ban bills will result in a shift to paper bags. Paper bags can cost as much as 10 times more than plastic bags.

It would be very helpful if the legislature would apply single use bag laws uniformly to all counties. Stores use bags as branding tools and lose money when they have to manufacture a different bag for each county because of inconsistent rules and regulations.

If we want to encourage reusable bag use, a fee is a good way to do so. A plastic bag ban does not accomplish this goal.

Please amend the remittance date to the end of the month to reduce administrative burdens.

§342H-C Remittance of fees. (a) Not later than the final day of each month, each business subject to the requirements of this part shall remit to the department the fees collected pursuant to section 342H-B during the immediately previous month.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Feb. 7, 2011

Hawaii Senate Committee on Energy and Environment (ENE)

RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 1363 – Regulating Single-Use Plastic Bags

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair English and Members of the Committee,

My name is Stuart Coleman, and I am the Hawaii Coordinator of the Surfrider Foundation. With more than 4000 members across the state, the Hawai'i Chapters of the Surfrider Foundation ("Surfrider") strongly support passage of SB1363, a bill designed to address the harms of single-use plastic and paper check out bags that are degrading the environment, harming marine life and overflowing our landfills. We support this statewide fee bill on all single-use plastic and paper bags as well as the existing bans on Maui and Kauai.

According to the EPA, millions of sea birds, marine mammals, sea turtles and fish die each year due to ingestion and entanglement in plastics. There is no reason why people can't switch to reusable tote bags and help protect these sea creatures. This bill will not only improve Hawaii's natural environment but also help counties save money by extending the life of our landfills. After the disastrous spill from our landfill recently onto the Leeward Coast, it is imperative that we reduce our waste stream dramatically, and this bill is a good start.

Governments across the world have successfully reduced plastic bag use, either through plastic bag bans, or through fees or taxes. Maui and Kaua'i County passed their own bans, and the Big Island and Oahu are working on their own. The following countries have all taken measures to reduce their plastic bag usage in an effort to protect their precious natural resources and valuable coastlines: Ireland, China, Tanzania, Taiwan, Australia, Italy, and South Africa. And these cities have followed their lead: San Francisco, Manhattan Beach, Malibu, Los Angeles, Edmunds (WA), Outer Banks (NC), District of Columbia, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro and Mumbai. Eventually, all governments and people will realize how economically wasteful and environmentally damaging single-use plastic and paper bags are. Will our state be a leader or a latecomer in this movement? Hawai'i will only benefit if it reduces our waste stream.

The Hawaii Chapters are supporting SB1363 because Surfrider's mission is to preserve the health of our oceans and the quality of our beaches. Plastic bags that end up in the ocean or on our coastlines not only endanger sea turtles, seabirds, and marine mammals, but they also adversely affect the entire marine food web. Because plastic does not biodegrade, plastic waste never truly disappears, it only breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces called "micro-plastics," which are often consumed by fish and filter feeders that mistake them for food. Because plastics cannot be digested, they concentrate organic chemicals and environmental pollutants, and bioaccumulate as they make their way up the food chain and into our seafood. So this is a human health issue as well as an environmental hazard.

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION • HAWAII CHAPTERS
2121 ALGAROBIA ST., #1107 • HONOLU, HI 96826
(808) 942-3841 • www.surfrider.org/oahu • scoleman@surfrider.org

Single-use plastic bags are also a threat to our wallets, and everyone bears the cost of these so-called "free" bags. Taxpayers spend as much as \$0.17 on each "free" plastic bag because they subsidize the recycling, collection, and disposal of these toxic tumbleweeds. Retailers spend as much as \$0.05 per bag (a price which is incorporated into the price of food and goods, then passed on to consumers) when they provide a consumer with a so-called "free" plastic bag. By reducing the amount of disposable plastic and paper bags in the environment and our landfills, the counties will save money from having to clean them up.

Personally, I respectfully suggest that an amendment be made to SB1363 so that the \$.25 fee is lowered to a more manageable amount like \$.15 per bag. Mahalo for your time and consideration and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Stuart H. Coleman
Hawaii Coordinator
Surfrider Foundation
808-942-3841



April 6, 2011

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: SB1363 SD2 HD1: Relating to Environmental Protection

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

We appreciate the opportunity to submit our testimony and express our support for SB 1363 SD2 HD1. As you may know Times Supermarket is based on Oahu and operates 20 stores with locations in Maui, Kauai and Oahu.

As an island base company, we understand the constraints of limited space and the preservation of the unique landscape of Hawaii. It is for this reason that we support your efforts in mitigating challenging issues such as single use bags, and the disposal of bags in landfills.

Currently two island counties have implemented bag policy where we operate stores, and while we support the attempt to change consumer behavior, we believe that the best method for doing so is by implementing a fee. There are various models throughout the United States that address the use of single use bags, and while some are similar throughout states such as California, they lack a uniformed approach. Hawaii would be the first state in the union to implement a statewide policy that holds all jurisdictions to the same standard.

In Maui and Kauai we don't have the ability to charge a fee to help consumers adapt to the ordinances currently in place. Tourists have shifted to paper which is considerably more expensive and environmentally damaging to produce than plastic. The statewide adoption of SB 1363 SD2 HD1 would provide the ability for Times Supermarket to better manage a bag policy and continue to promote higher environmental consciences to our consumers.

Having a fee for both plastic and paper given the model that is before us in SB 1363 SD2 HD1, with a few additions should provide a more affective policy that creates a win for the state, consumers and retailers. Such additions would include providing a wavier of the fee to consumers that participate in low income programs such as WIC, EBT and other federal programs as well as the ability to create a uniformed approach for all retailers, large and small, throughout the state.

By providing a preemption of all currently implemented policies, the state of Hawaii will be able to ensure better enforcement of the law and create additional revenue in jurisdictions that currently would be exempt from SB 1363 SD2 HD1. The idea is to maximize the revenues generated by the law to better educate consumers on conservation and re-useable product practices.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding this matter at (209) 957-2555, ext 153 or Bob Stout, President of Time Supermarket at (808) 831-0811. We thank you in advance for your consideration and we look forward to continuing the dialogue.

Respectfully,

Bob Gutierrez
Director of Government Affairs, Times Supermarket

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

State Capitol, Honolulu, HI 96813

HEARING Wednesday, April 6, 2011
4:00 pm
Conference Room 308
Agenda #3



RE: SB1363, SD2, HD1, Relating to Environmental Protection

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a not-for-profit trade organization representing 200 members and over 2,000 storefronts, and is committed to support the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii.

RMH supports the intent of SB1363, SD2, HD1, which requires businesses in the State to collect a 5-cent fee for each single-use checkout bag provided to a customer; allows for exemptions; provides for fees to be deposited in the general fund; requires fees to be collected on paper bags in counties that currently have ordinances banning plastic bags; effective July 1, 2011.

Undeniably, this proposal is a practical and manageable option to an outright ban on plastic bags and places the responsibility for the careless discard and misuse, or the wise re-use and management, of these items on the consumer. Hawaii's retailers unquestionably support the broadest use of reusable tote bags as the ultimate solution for the environment. However, we do know that consumers' acceptance and use of reusable bags will not be universal, affordable or practical at all times. This measure allows us to provide options as demanded by our customers.

We respectfully offer the **following comments**:

1. **Preemption:** With the Big Island contemplating a plastic bag ban, and the Counties of Maui and Kauai already enforcing a likewise ban, this measure will add a fourth and different set of regulations with which business must comply. Multiple regulations undoubtedly increase administrative and product costs, all of which are passed on to the consumer.
2. **Business records:** Retail is a highly competitive industry. Since internal operations such as purchases are propriety information, we request language that would assure absolute confidentiality: "Payments and fees shall be reported on forms prescribed by the director, provided that any proprietary information obtained by the department shall be kept confidential and shall not be disclosed to any other person."
3. **Exclusions** to "single-use checkout bag" (List starting on Page 2): Requested amendments: Insert in (G): "Laundry, dry cleaning or garment bags, including bags provided by hotels to guests to contain wet or dirty clothing."
4. **Remittance of Records:** Changing from the fifteenth to the end of the month will align this requirement with other return/remitting government regulations.
5. **Effective Date: July 1, 2013:** This will allow businesses sufficient time to adjust inventories / bag re-orders, and to reprogram IT and POS systems; and the Department of Health time to promulgate rules and develop reporting and collection forms.

We respectfully request your consideration of our comments and look forward to continuing the dialogue, the result of which will be meaningful legislation that will provide positive impact on the environment. Thank you for your attention and for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Carol Pregill, President

RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
1240 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 215
Honolulu, HI 96814
ph: 808-592-4200 / fax: 808-592-4202



April 5, 2011

To: The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

From: Tim Shestek
Senior Director, State Affairs

Re: **SB 1363 SD 2 HD 1- OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose SB 1363 SD 2, HD 1, legislation that proposes to impose a \$0.05 per bag charge on each recyclable plastic and paper bag provided to customers at certain retail establishments. Though we support the intent of reducing bag litter and waste, we believe the imposition of a consumer bag charge is an unnecessary financial burden on consumers. Encouraging consumers to use reusable bags and recycle their plastic and paper bags can certainly be done without the added cost burden of a bag charge or creating a new government bureaucracy.

A growing number of states and cities around the United States – including California, New York, Delaware, Rhode Island, Chicago, New York City and Tucson – have passed legislation to promote at-store programs to collect plastic bags and product wraps for recycling as a practical and effective means to reduce waste.

In 2009, 850 million pounds of plastic bags and wraps were recycled in the U.S., and the rate has gone up 31% since 2005. There are more than 12,000 recycling bins throughout the United States including at major grocery stores and national retailers. Not only can consumers recycle plastic grocery bags through these programs but consumers can also include bags from newspapers, dry cleaning, bread and produce together with the wraps around cases of soda, paper towels or diapers. Collected bags and film type plastics can be used as feedstock in the production of other products, such as new bags, pallets, containers, crates, and pipe

Furthermore, more than 90% of consumers reuse their plastic bags for various household and other functions such as trash can liners, picking up after their pets, as a storage bags when traveling, for holding wet clothes or kitchen messes after preparing food. One unintended consequence of this law could force consumers to purchase new plastic bags to replace the retail bags they previously reused. Such an unintended consequence does not make environmental sense.

ACC encourages your committee to instead support legislation from 2008 (HB 2434) that would have established a statewide recycling program for plastic bags. ACC was supportive of this approach to reducing bag waste and disposal and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this concept further. In our view, the state of Hawaii can encourage the use of reusable bags, while also encouraging consumers to recycle paper and plastic bags without the imposition of a consumer charge that will raise grocery prices for families.

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to provide these comments. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 916-448-2581 or via email at tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com. You may also contact ACC's Hawai'i based representatives Red Morris or John Radcliffe at 808-531-4551.



Mariya Kai Gold
Acupuncture and Oriental Medical Student, ICAOM
Office Manager, Kailua Wellness Center & Acupuncture Clinic
2419 Ferdinand Ave
Honolulu, HI 96822
808-220-9297
mariyakai@gmail.com

To: The House Finance Committee

Re: Testimony supporting Senate Bill 1363
Relating to Single-Use Plastic Bag/Paper Bag Fee Bill

Aloha-

I am in strong support of SB1363. Plastic pollution and pollution in general is at an all-time high right now and the more we can do to raise awareness and reduce unnecessary single-use bags the better.

Some facts pertaining specifically to plastics from www.plasticoceans.net:

- An estimated 4.7 million tons of plastic spills into our ocean each year, an average of 120,000 tons each day.
- Hundreds of billions of plastic particles are contaminating our oceans and entering the food chain.
- Plastic is now found in virtually all the oceans and rivers of the world, even the most remote and once pristine locations.
- UNEP estimates 100,000 marine mammals and a million seabirds are killed by marine debris every year.

Reducing the use of single-use bags is one step towards a more sustainable and healthy environment for All. Please help in supporting the health and sustainability of our environment by supporting SB1363 with me.

Mahalo for your kokua.

With much aloha,

Mariya Kai Gold

Hawai'i House Committee on Finance
April 6, 2011
Room 308, 4pm

RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 1363 – Significant Reduction of Non-reusable Checkout Bag Usage

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice-chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mele Coleman and I am a part-time 2L at William S. Richardson School of Law and a law-intern at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I strongly support the forward movement of SB1363 because it has the potential to significantly reduce the State's excessive use of non-reusable checkout bags in a manner that balances the concerns of the State, environmentalists, businesses, and citizens of Hawai'i in general. The Finance Committee should also support SB1363 because it will: (1) pay for itself; and (2) produce revenue for the State and affected businesses.

If the Committee doubts whether such a bill will be successful at reducing non-reusable bag usage and producing revenue for the State, please note the success of a similar bill enacted in Washington D.C.: the imposition of a five-cent fee on non-reusable plastic checkout bags decreased the city's usage by over 80% in the first month of implementation.ⁱ If SB1363 imposes a five-cent fee and causes an 80% reduction in the use of non-reusable bags, the State will earn approximately \$5 million per year.ⁱⁱ Although a five-cent fee would help reduce the State's budget deficit, I urge the Committee to allow SB1363 to further help our State's dire economic situation while also enhancing environmental protection by increasing SB1363's off-set fee to twenty-five cents. If SB1363 is amended to impose a twenty-five cent fee and such a fee results in a 90% reduction in the use of non-reusable bags, the State will earn approximately \$ 9.5 million per year.ⁱⁱⁱ

I respectfully ask the Committee to amend HD1 so that HD2 resembles SD2. SD2 is a more comprehensive version of the bill that will likely pose no problems or confusion upon implementation. Unlike HD1, SD2: (1) has a purpose section; (2) directs a percentage of the fees collected to be placed in a special account within the general fund that is designated for the implementation and enforcement of the bill by the Department of Health; (3) has an "injunctive and other relief" section; (4) has exemptions; (5) imposes the fee on all types non-reusable bags throughout the State (HD1 does not apply to biodegradable plastic bags in Maui County and

Kaua'i County); (6) allows counties to enact more stringent ordinances to regulate the use of non-reusable bags if desired (e.g. a ban or a higher fee); and (7) includes a future-assessment section which ensures the bill will serve its purpose. Both HD1 and SD2 allow Maui County and Kaua'i County to keep their bans on non-biodegradable plastic bags. The counties worked very hard to enact their bans and it is unnecessary to take that accomplishment away from them; the fee and the bans can exist in harmony.

Please amend SB1363 to resemble SD2 and move SB1363 forward with a fee of twenty-five cents. Also, please ensure businesses continue to receive a percentage of the fee that ensures the law will not unnecessarily burden them. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mele Coleman

i Lauren Markoe. How D.C. Beat the Plastic Bag Lobby. OnEarth. Nov. 11, 2010. Available at: <http://www.onearth.org/article/how-dc-beat-the-plastic-bag-lobby>.

ii See attached document: Potential Revenue Gain With Passage of a Single-Use Bag Fee. Supplied by The Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter.

iii See attached document: Potential Revenue Gain With Passage of a Single-Use Bag Fee. Supplied by The Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter.

Potential Revenue Gain With Passage of a Single-Use Bag Fee

Assumed Facts:

De facto population total as of 2009: 1,391,017¹ (low number; 2010 census data indicates a total population of 1,360,211)
 Number of bags used per person: 354²

5 Cent Fee (HB 998, HD1)

(Total bags x fee x percentage bags sold)

De facto Population	Bags Consumed, per Person, per Year	Annual Single-Use Bag Consumption	At 50% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 60% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 70% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 80% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 90% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue
1391017	354	492420018	\$12,310,500	\$9,848,400	\$7,386,300	\$4,924,200	\$2,462,100

10 Cent Fee (HB 998)

De facto Population	Bags Consumed, per Person, per Year	Annual Single-Use Bag Consumption	At 50% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 60% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 70% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 80% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 90% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue
1391017	354	492420018	\$24,621,001	\$19,696,801	\$14,772,601	\$9,848,400	\$4,924,200

25 Cent Fee (SB 1363) (25% given to retailer)

De facto Population	Bags Consumed, per Person, per Year	Annual Single-Use Bag Consumption	At 50% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 60% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 70% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 80% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue	At 90% Bag Reduction, Annual Tax Revenue
1391017	354	492420018	\$46,164,377	\$36,931,501	\$27,698,626	\$18,465,751	\$9,232,875

¹ De facto population is defined as the number of persons physically present in an area, regardless of military status or usual place of residence. It includes visitors present but excludes residents temporarily absent, both calculated as an average daily census. Available at <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/economic/databook/db2009/>

² The Wall Street Journal, based on UN reports, estimated 10 billion paper and 100 billion plastic shopping bags are consumed annually in the US. Using population statistics, that results in 354 plastic bags per person. Most estimates are higher -- roughly 400 to 500 plastic bags per person.

Joy Leilei Shih, M.A.S.
3267 Mokihana Street
Honolulu, HI 96816
(650) 380-5482
joyshih@hawaii.edu

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
APRIL 6, 2011, 4:00 pm
(Testimony is 3 pages long)

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1363, SD2, HD1

Aloha Chair Oshiro, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Joy Leilei Shih and I am a marine biogeochemist graduate student researcher in Oceanography at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. I received my Master of Advanced Studies in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, CA in 2008. I have had the privilege of being trained by, working with, and discussing anthropogenic pressure on the oceans with top marine scientists and conservation experts.

That plastic pollution is harmful to the marine environment is not up for debate. Large accumulations of plastic debris have been identified in all five major oceanic gyres, carried by the major ocean currents. Inefficient and improper disposal of trash supplies these hundreds of millions of square miles affected by this phenomenon. In Hawai'i, each resident produces on average at least 6.2 lbs of opala each day. It is estimated that only a few percent of plastic shopping bags are ever recycled. The recent overflow from landfill only serves to illustrate that much of our refuse is not successfully sequestered. Plastics do not degrade but only break down and remain in the environment for a minimum of years to a more likely thousands of years. In reality, plastic does not ever truly degrade but only breaks down into small enough particles to enter the food chain, including the human seafood diet.

Plastics affect every size of marine life, from its incorporation into microscopic phytoplankton, to its ingestion by the largest marine mammals. Sea birds and sea turtles are sadly common victims of being entangled in or ingesting plastic. However, even large marine mammals are not immune, as evidenced by events such as the seven sperm whales that washed up in Fiogga, Italy in 2009, having died from ingesting large amounts of plastic, as did a gray whale in Seattle in April of last year. These are only examples of many more.

Estimates range from 100 million to one billion marine animals, including fish and invertebrates, are killed each year due to plastic debris in the ocean. Included in this are 1 million seabird deathsⁱ and 100,000 marine mammals such as seals and whalesⁱⁱ. In 2007, University of Queensland researchers found that plastic bags are the biggest killer of sea turtles.ⁱⁱⁱ Currently, it is estimated that there are 100 million

tons of plastic in oceans around the world. It is expected that another 60 billion pounds will be produced this year alone.

12 million barrels of oil are required to produce the 100 billion plastic bags that Americans use each year, including the 300 million plastic bags used in Oahu alone. Reducing the amount of plastic bags produced would help reduce the growing pressure of our reliance on fossil fuels. As of November 2010, the decrease in plastic bag usage due to China's plastic bag ban has kept 100 billion plastic bags out of the trash, and it is estimated that it will save China 37 million barrels of oil every year.

Plastic debris also acts as hosts for invasive species, carrying them to other regions of the ocean. Extensive scientific studies have described and confirmed these "hitchhikers".

In 2002 Ireland placed a twenty-two cent fee on all plastic bags. Known as the PlasTax, the fee was explicitly designed to change consumers' behavior and accomplished amazing results. The use of plastic bags in Ireland dropped by more than 90 percent. The fee also raised approximately 3.5 million Euros in extra revenue that was earmarked for environmental projects.

In Washington D.C., simple 5 cent tax--with revenues going towards an environmental cause voters rallied around--resulted in consumer behavior changing for the better, with a 85% decrease in plastic bags used.

Maui and Kauai counties have taken the lead in plastic bag policy in Hawai'i with plastic bag bans already in place. Hawai'i would be the first state in the nation with a statewide policy for addressing plastic bags, an opportunity to telegraph to the world that Hawai'i is serious about reigning in plastic debris and its detrimental impacts. In anticipation of the APEC meeting to be hosted in Honolulu in November of this year, the state can be proud of passing such a significant piece of environmental policy, just like the much-lauded Bottle Law of 2002. This is pro-environmental policy that would add no pressure onto the state budget.

SB 1363 states that beginning on July 1, 2012, any business having a gross annual income of above a certain amount shall charge and collect an offset fee of 5 cents for each non-reusable checkout bag provided to a customer. The fee would apply to paper bags in Maui and Kauai Counties. The fee does not apply to plastic bags used for the transport of raw meat, poultry, flowers and other damp items, bulk foods without packaging, fresh produce, live animals, newspapers, dry-cleaning and the like.

For HD2, I respectfully suggest that the fee be set at 10 cents, and that the business be allowed to retain 1 cent (10%) as an incentive and for administrative costs. I also respectfully suggest that 5 cents of the offset fee go to the Department of Health, and the remaining 4 cents go into the general fund. The higher fee would be a more effective deterrent, and generate more revenue for the state, yet still be manageable

for Hawaii residents. One would need to take 10 bags before paying \$1.00. For example, the purchase of a single 6-pack of soda already incurs a 30-cent total deposit, a cost managed by most consumers. The bag fee is easily and entirely avoidable by bringing a reusable bag, or by purchasing one for about \$1, which can be used over and over again. We anticipate retailers and organizations to give out large amounts of reusable bags with the passage of this bill, thereby avoiding any cost on the consumer whatsoever.

I respectfully request that the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui are kept intact to respect those counties' decision and not cause disturbance or confusion since the bans are already in place. This would also allow comparison of the response to bag bans versus fees. Please also allow counties to pass future bans -- we want tougher, not looser regulations protecting our environment.

SB 1363 has widespread support, and sees the rare and impressive coming together of industry and environmental groups for this important and significant piece of environmental legislation.

I am available to help refine such a policy that would be most beneficial to the State of Hawai'i. Please do not hesitate to draw upon my time and effort, and fellow researchers and expert resources at my disposal in this opportunity to move forward.

I respectfully ask that this committee advance this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Joy Leilei Shih



ⁱ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2005. Marine Litter, an analytical overview.

ⁱⁱ Wallace, N. 1985. Debris entanglement in the marine environment: A review. Pp. 259-277. In: R.S. Shomura, H.O. Yoshida (eds.) Proceedings of the Workshop on the Fate and Impact of Marine Debris 27-29 November 1984, Honolulu, Hawaii, July 1985. NOAA-TM-NMFS-SWFC-54.

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20081403-17043-2.html>

March 4, 2011

Alicia Yang
2419 Ferdinand Ave
Honolulu, HI 96822
alicialily808@gmail.com

To: Finance Committee

Re: Testimony supporting Senate Bill 1363

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support of legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii, for the following reasons:

- Americans consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. This March, at the 5th International Marine Debris Conference held here in Honolulu, one of many disturbing cases was reported –

“The turtle was rescued in 2009 after marine biologists in Melbourne Beach, Fla., noticed that it seemed to be having problems digesting food. After dislodging a large piece of plastic from the animal's gastrointestinal tract, the turtle proceeded to defecate 74 foreign objects over the next month. Some of those objects included four types of latex balloons, five different types of string, nine different types of soft plastic, four different types of hard plastic, a piece of carpet-like material, and two large tar balls.” (cited from: <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/stories/turtle-found-that-pooped-plastic-for-a-month-0>)

- Plastic bags take over 1000 years to decompose. After being ingested by an animal, the plastic bag remains even after the animal has died.
- As plastic bags slowly decompose, they release tiny toxic particles into our streams, rivers, and oceans – which are harmful to the health of humans.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

Mahalo & aloha,

Alicia Yang

Rachel Harvey
316 Keaniani St.
Kailua, HI 96734,
racheharvey@gmail.com

Committee: FIN
Hearing Date: 4/6/2011 4:00PM
Testimony of Rachel Harvey in Support of Senate Bill 1363

Aloha,

I am writing to comment in support of Bill SB 1363. Regulating single-use plastic bags will help make Hawaii a model state for sustainable change. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's environment from the millions of bags wasted each year.

- I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of paper and plastic bags.
- Over 12,000 plastic bags are used in the United States every second.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- These bags clog our streets, foul our open space, pollute our fragile marine environment and kill thousands of animals every year.

Hawaii, especially Oahu, is at a crucial moment for waste management. Despite the efforts of the H-Power waste-to-energy program, our facilities and landfills are overwhelmed. According to an article in the Honolulu Advertiser (March 8, 2010), people on Oahu use an estimated "300 million bags or more annually." Legislating source reduction and behavior changing regulation is the targeted solution.

The harmful cost of single-use plastics stretches from the oil it takes to produce it, to the health of the consumer, to the cost of disposal, and finally to the marine ecosystems it wrecks. Plastic is a material that the Earth cannot digest. Once discarded in the environment, plastic breaks down into smaller and smaller particles. Patches of plastic pollution cover millions of square miles of ocean near Hawaii. Tragically, this plastic also ends up in the stomachs of marine birds and animals. Moreover, the creation and distribution of plastic products increases our polluting carbon emissions and dependence on fossil fuels.

Reusable bags allow new avenues for marketing and save the retailer and consumer money. Consumers actually pay hidden costs for so-called free plastic bags. Further, reducing the consumption of single-use plastic bags will bring in money for our state and save money in clean-up costs. The taxpayer cost to subsidize the recycling, collection, and disposal of plastic bags is more than double the cost of the bag.

Our taxpayer dollars are being used to subsidize the cost of waste. Much of this money could be redirected to benefit our state. Similar laws have been passed worldwide and have proven to be successful. For example, when Washington D.C. instituted its recent five-cent fee, bag use declined from an average of 22.5 million per month to 3 million in the very first month, and fees generated about \$150,000 for use by the city's environmental programs.

This bill effectively addresses the issue of plastic pollution by positively changing consumer behavior, decreasing external costs, and decreasing the amount of waste Hawaii produces. This

simple fee would help make shoppers aware of the economic and environmental costs of single-use bags in Hawaii. Single-use bags are simply not in Hawaii's sustainable future and strong efforts should be made to discourage their continued use.

I strongly recommend that the plastic bag bans in Maui and Kauai Counties remain intact and are not overridden by the fee.

I am a community coordinator for Plastic Free Hawaii (Kailua Chapter), a coalition of community members and businesses that endeavor to educate the stores, restaurants, residents, and visitors of Kailua on the environmental and health benefits of going plastic free.

<http://plasticfreekailua.blogspot.com/>

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Sincerely,
Rachel Harvey

April 5, 2011

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Public Hearing: April 6, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

Re: SB 1363 SD2 HD1

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the committee,

I offer this testimony in support of SB 1363 SD2 HD1.

Please pass this bill, which will impose a 5¢ fee on all single-use checkout bags and significantly reduce the use of these bags and encourage customers to bring reusable bags.

You've heard about the damage that these bags cause to the environment—creating tons of waste and unsightly litter, killing marine life, polluting the ocean and contributing to climate issues with the fossil fuels used to produce and transport the bags—but these important points are not what I want to draw attention to in this testimony.

My point is this: it is a myth that imposing this fee will burden consumers or harm business. Once people get used to it, remembering to bring bags to the grocery store is as easy as remembering to bring a wallet. It may take a little time for new habits to form, but measures like those proposed in this bill will help to facilitate the change. Yes, some people may complain about it at first, but experiences in other locations, such as San Francisco and Ireland, have proven that this kind of legislation becomes very popular and widely accepted in a short period of time. Legislation mandating that drivers wear seat belts was similarly controversial, but is now widely accepted. This is not a partisan issue; it is not about environmentalists versus business, it is simply common sense.

The time for behaving as if the waste we produce can disappear to an unseen location and not affect our health and the health of our environment is over. The State Legislature has an opportunity to be leaders in the nation in acknowledging this change by passing this bill. This is the low hanging fruit that legislators are always looking for—something that can be done now, that can make a difference immediately, that costs nothing, and that will be popular among constituents. Easy choices are few and far between, but this is one of them.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Nicole Lowen

Nicole Lowen
MA Candidate
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

University of Hawaii at Manoa
nlowen@gmail.com
Honolulu, HI 96816

Letter of Support for SB1363

Submitted by Carol Lee-Arnold

RELATING TO THE PROPOSED FEE ON SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS

When: April 6, 2011, 4:00 pm., Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308

Dear Finance Committee,

This letter is in strong support of SB1363. It is of great importance that we address the grave problem of plastics in our environment by reducing the use of single use plastics and paper bags. Plastics are forever and create toxic pollution in our fragile environment. Our oceans and marine life are especially vulnerable. My family and I enjoy our beautiful mountains as well as our incredible ocean on a daily basis. This island playground is very precious to us. We are the keepers of this aina, it is our duty to preserve and protect it for generations to come.

For these reasons, I am in strong support of SB1363! Your vote is a very important step towards reducing the use of plastics which will keep our beloved island home a safe clean environment for everyone including our innocent marine life.

Mahalo for taking my testimony under consideration and for voting in favor of this bill.

Aloha,

Carol Lee-Arnold

2468 Lamaku Place Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Sir or Madam

I believe we have to deal with the issue of plastics in our oceans.

With the Pacific Gyre just 750 miles away from our pristine shores, we can hardly put our heads in the sand.

People would only have to pay out of pocket a short while, before they got the hang of taking their own bag with them when shopping.

I have 10 cloth bags in my truck. And still I forget to take them in with me. If there was a slight penalty I would always remember to take them with me instead of most of the time.

I have adopted Shark's Cove as my beach area to clean up since I go there so often at the end of the day. I am always shocked at what litter people leave behind and it is most often made of plastic.

I am shocked that cruise ships which are basically floating cities, think nothing of emptying their trash in to the sea. It's illegal to dump litter out of your car but not out of your boat?

Please pass this legislation, and do not listen to the nay sayers. It's such a painless solution, I can't believe it has taken this long.

Respectfully
Robert B. Smith

April 5, 2011

RE: SUPPORT FOR SB1363

Dear Finance Committee Members,

I am a strong supporter of SB1363, legislation that will reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. Last week I was snorkeling off the Waianae coast and saw a plastic bag stuck on the coral reef with four regal Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles swimming within feet of it. The bag was too deep for me to dive down to retrieve and I watched, horrified and worried that a beautiful turtle would get caught in it.

I gave up plastic bags for Lent this year. It was tough at first, a hard habit to break. But well worth it considering the fragile marine environment that suffers from the pollution of plastic bags. And now that the habit is broken, I don't even have to think about it anymore, I just carry my reusable bags everywhere. I believe this bill will be a strong step towards others breaking the needless and destructive plastic bag habit.

Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

Mahalo,

Joni Kroll

Kailua, Oahu

April 5, 2011

Re: Testimony in support of SB1363

Dear Legislators:

I urge you to pass SB1363, the legislative effort to reduce the use of disposable plastic and paper bags in the state of Hawai`i. While I generally dislike measures that pass corporate responsibility on to the consumer, I believe this bill is an important interim step towards an outright ban on plastic bags and will provide financial incentives for shoppers to use their own bags. For those who don't, the bag fee will provide funds to help rehabilitate and recover from significant ecological damage caused by single use plastic bags.

As an educator, I know that my students strongly support any measure to reduce or eliminate disposable plastic and paper bags. When I tell them that plastic grocery bags didn't even exist when I was a kid and we did just fine without them, they are shocked but convinced that we can all easily live without them.

Plastic and disposable paper bags litter our streets, burden our landfills, ruin the aesthetics of our open spaces, enter and pollute our oceans and marine food-chain, are resistant to decomposition over very long time periods, and kill numerous marine animals each year.

For the sake of our island environment and our children's future, it is critical that you, as our elected representatives, have the moral and political courage to pass and fortify all measures on behalf of a healthy ecosystem.

Thank you for your support of SB1363.

C. Kieko Matteson

3030 Lowrey Avenue, #106
Honolulu, HI 96822
Kieko.matteson@gmail.com

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

Justine Espiritu

As consumers we don't ask for our goods to be put in plastic bags. However, there are some consumers who try to be environmentally friendly by stating that we don't want plastic bags.

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents

- Casey HayaKawa
SB1363

As consumers we don't ask for our goods to be put in plastic bags. However, there are some consumers who try to be environmentally friendly by stating that we don't want plastic bags.

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents

-ERIC HERMOSURA
SB # 1363

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Chris Rehrer and I would like to thank you for your time in reading this testimony. I would like to state my firm support of SB 1363. As a humanitarian worker, I have been traveling the world for the past 6 years with Surfing The Nations a non-profit humanitarian organization based in Wahiawa. In every nation where we travel there is a lack of concern for the environment and in the majority of nations we travel there are single-use plastic bags everywhere. One nation, which has cleaned up its beaches significantly in the last 6 years, is Bangladesh. I have been traveling there for the past 6 years annually and have noticed a significant difference in the environment. In 2002 Bangladesh passed a nation-wide law to stop the use of certain single-use plastic bags and here we are 9 years later witnessing the dramatic effects of that decision.

I believe that Hawaii wants to be on the forefront of environmental awareness and protection because the ocean and our environment here in the islands is the basis for its appeal to its inhabitants. I put myself in this category along with all the tourism industry and, well, everyone else, of needing to care for our environment. Please approve this bill and help save what is left of our islands.

Aloha,

Chris Rehrer

- I strongly support the bill SB1363. Single-use plastic bags are an incredibly wasteful and unnecessary use of oil. They add to our already overburdened landfills and are often blown into the surrounding environment and waterways. In Hawaii, this is particularly important as sea turtles mistake them for jellyfish and end up choking on the bags. The incineration of plastic bags at H-power also does not reduce our state's dependence on fossil fuels as the bags are made from oil and do not burn "clean".
- I believe we should pursue the most aggressive action reducing the use of plastic bags, which would include keeping the current bans on Kauai and Maui. Eliminating these bans at this stage would undo a lot of training and effort put into the current law and would allow more, not less use of plastic bags on those islands.
- The Department of Health should receive enough funding to fully implement, support, and enforce this act.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's fragile environment from the millions of bags wasted each year.

Ruey Hwu
2833 Leialoha Ave. Apt.4
Honolulu, HI 96816

Colleen Kudo

SB 1363

Will the legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags immediately, profoundly and positively affect our island ecology, economy, and international status, the health of the reef, the oceans, your family and all generations to come?

The answer is profoundly simple and straightforward, yes on all counts.

You were elected because we trust your educated discernment; you have been presented with the indisputable findings on the deadly collision of plastic and the planet, it is time to make the change.

You have the responsibility and must step up to be the voice and the steward for all of us in Hawaii who will gladly sacrifice convenience for clean oceans.

I realize for many years that it has been an automatic reflex for the store employee to place items into a plastic bag – and, likewise, it has been our reflex to accept them. Most of never thought about it much.

However, we have seen and experienced the all-encompassing negative consequences of this commonplace exchange. Oceans choking, reefs smothering, birds full of plastic, whales dying from plastic bags clogging their intestines, honu mistaking plastic bags for food source, and our over dependence on foreign oil used to make more bags,

In essence, we are literally extracting and devastating the global environment as a whole to use a plastic bag for 10 minutes.

I founded a program in Hawaii called Ocean Girl Project Sustainable Surf Camps. We raise money during the year so we can take girls with limited funds. The first day of camp, they all get a reusable bag. We are proud to be a single use plastic free camp and the kids totally get it. Ocean Girl Project and our parent group Because We Surf support your efforts on behalf of the planet!

Let our opponents focus their irritation at we who can handle the frustration, then pass the bill anyway. Despite their disagreement, they will have to deal with a cleaner planet, healthier children, thriving oceans and richer lives on many levels.

I was sent a wonderful quote tonight, 'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia, "No task is too big when done together by all." It comes from a state sustainable site.

Let us do it and join the humanistic wave of people who are making a difference!

Bottom line, we strongly support your legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags!

I strongly support the ban of plastic bags in Hawaii. We should not allow this type of waste to pollute our oceans and our lands. So many people are not aware of the devastation that this waste is causing to our precious Aina. It is so easy to make the right decision and reuse bags instead of filling landfills and oceans. Please pass Bill SB 1363 and help the environmental future of Hawaii.

Mahalo,
Sheradan Pate, Chris Pate, and family

April 6, 2011

Representative Marcus Oshiro
Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Marcus Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee:

I strongly support SB 1363 which will reduce the needless consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil. In Hawaii in particular, plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.

Please also keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

We have the opportunity to serve as a model for the rest of the country. It's easy for us as consumers to take the simple step of using our own shopping bag. It's just a matter of getting into the habit!

I urge you to take an important step by passing SB1363 to protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Sincerely,

Therese Argoud
3314 Woodlawn Dr.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

April 6, 2011

Representative Marcus Oshiro
Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Marcus Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee:

I strongly support SB 1363 which will reduce the needless consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil. In Hawaii in particular, plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.

Please also keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

We have the opportunity to serve as a model for the rest of the country. It's easy for us as consumers to take the simple step of using our own shopping bag. It's just a matter of getting into the habit!

I urge you to take an important step by passing SB1363 to protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Sincerely,

Ralph Wheelock
3314 Woodlawn Dr.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sheilasarhangi@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sheila Sarhangi
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sheilasarhangi@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB 1363. I encourage you to do the same.

This bill does not place a fee on the usage of plastic or paper bags. Rather, it's a fee to change behavior. SB 1363 can dramatically reduce the number of disposable bags given away for no cost checkout counters.

According to the Wall Street Journal, only 1% to 3% of plastic bags are being recycled. What happens to the rest? Some may be reused once or twice, but countless others end up in the ocean, leaving marine animals to mistake the bags for food, which clogs their intestines.

If you need proof that animals are eating plastic, then consider this: In 2002, a minke whale washed up on the Normandy coast, and inside its stomach contained two pounds of plastic bags. (See the photo of the plastic bags taken from its body, and the article here: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-519832/Banish-bags-The-amazing-picture-2lb-plastic-poison-whales-stomach.html>)

In 2009, MSNBC.com reported on a new study from marine biologists that looked at necropsy reports of more than 400 leatherbacks that have died since 1885. They found plastic in the digestive systems of more than a third of the animals, which includes plastic bags. (As no coincidence, leatherbacks eat jellyfish, and are mistaking plastic bags for food.)

The industries that have a monetary interest in this issue will tell you that education and recycling are the solution. They are not. I look to you, the policy-makers, to reduce single-use plastics in our society. Legislation is the tool that will literally dig us out of this toxic mess.

Lastly, in Hawaii, where we are surrounded by the ocean, we depend on the sea for food, for recreation, and even as a visitor attraction for tourists. I urge you to remember: "A healthy environment equals a healthy economy."

Note: I also support the plastic bag bans on Maui and Kauai, and encourage you to keep them in tact.

With Aloha,
Sheila Sarhangi

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mrs.paulcoleman@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kristine Coleman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mrs.paulcoleman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

If you want face-time with our elected representatives, come to the hearing this Wed., April 6 at 4pm. The hearing is in room 308 at the Hawaii State Capitol. Submit your testimony by the process above, and then testify in-person to state why YOU want to see a reduction in plastic/papers bags. Many of us will be there to support you.

We also have our monthly Oahu Chapter meeting the same night, Wednesday from 7-9pm if you can make that. Come join our potluck-style meeting at 2419 Ferdinand St in Manoa and talk about plastic, development, and other issues plaguing our oceans and beaches.

Mahalo from all of us at Surfrider Oahu.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mrs.paulcoleman@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kristine Coleman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mrs.paulcoleman@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

If you want face-time with our elected representatives, come to the hearing this Wed., April 6 at 4pm. The hearing is in room 308 at the Hawaii State Capitol. Submit your testimony by the process above, and then testify in-person to state why YOU want to see a reduction in plastic/papers bags. Many of us will be there to support you.

We also have our monthly Oahu Chapter meeting the same night, Wednesday from 7-9pm if you can make that. Come join our potluck-style meeting at 2419 Ferdinand St in Manoa and talk about plastic, development, and other issues plaguing our oceans and beaches.

Mahalo from all of us at Surfrider Oahu.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: johanna_wren@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Johanna Wren
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: johanna_wren@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gkier@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Georgina Kier
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gkier@sbcglobal.net
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hinessight@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shannon Hines
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hinessight@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 11:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jsebsc@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John Sadowski
Organization: Save Our Surf and Seals
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jsebsc@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:
I support legislation to keep plastics out of our environment.

February 24, 2011

Aloha,

I'm at writing to show my support for Hawaii SB 1363; requiring businesses to collect a 25 cent offset fee for distribution of every non-reusable checkout bag. I support this state bill because it still gives people the freedom to choose to use a plastic bag but at their own expense, and it encourages people to use reusable bags.

Many other similar bills in other states and countries have already succeeded in reducing non-reusable checkout bag consumption and therefore changing wasteful habits. I support this bill in hopes that people will begin using reusable bags and begin to understand there is a cost associated with single-use plastics. The fee should be at the least 25 cents per bag if not as much as \$1.00 in order to have a strong impact. Making the fee any less will weaken the purpose of the bill.

Plastic bags are a nuisance to landfill capacity, our welfare, and the marine environment. Our nation is running short on landfill space. Every month more and more landfills close. We need to make sustainable choices about our limited landfill space and reducing single-use plastic bags is a excellent first step. We have become accustom to using non-renewable resources at our dispose, thinking little about the impact is has on our welfare and our children's and grandchildren's welfare. Petroleum is a toxic and finite resource and we need to use it responsibly by moving away from disposable single use plastics.

We need to consider the impact on marine resources, especially on an island state like Hawaii. Everyday non-reusable checkout bags are carelessly littered into our ocean, compromising the life that depends on it, including humans. If plastic marine debris are not consumed by larger marine life, they may end up in the great North American garbage patch, where plastics will photodegrade into minute pieces that resemble plankton, then communed by the fish (that we eat), in effect poisoning our fish and ourselves.

I support SB 1363 because it is a step in the right direction to becoming more responsible and sustainable community. Not only will the bill benefit the DOH, but it will also benefit the welfare of our community and our precious finite resources.

Mahalo,


Aydee Camunas-Zielke

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: zielke@berkeley.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Eric Zielke
Organization: surfrider
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: zielke@berkeley.edu
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:20 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kenny@cedlongview.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: kenny knutson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kenny@cedlongview.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB1363 in its proposed format and language. I do not want this ban to interfere with current or future bans in counties of Hawaii. We need to actively and aggressively peruse all avenues to reduce our impact on our environment and I believe that banning plastic bags as well as paper bags is only the first step. Reducing/eliminating our use of plastic in all forms including plastic bags will help protect our world, reduce the amount of waste entering our landfills. Maintaining the current efforts on Kauai and Maui and spreading this ban to all Hawaiian islands as well as all of the United States is crucial in our fight to save our planet.

So much effort and promotion has been done here on Maui to make consumers aware of their dependency on plastic and the ways they can reduce their use of plastic bags by putting in just a bit of extra effort and bringing their own bags. People feel a sense of pride when they do this because they know they are actively contributing to a cause that will help preserve the beauty and integrity of the islands.

Lets put a fee on shopping bags and start recovering from the damage we've done to our islands so far.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@waa-hawaii.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Shannon Wood
Organization: Windward Ahupua`a Alliance
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: info@waa-hawaii.org
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

The Windward Ahupua`a Alliance strongly supports charging for single-use plastic or paper bags.

However, we recommend that SB 1363 SD2 HD1 be amended to allow either the collected fee reports to be submitted on a quarterly basis OR, if report deadlines are kept in place, that one cent per bag be deducted from the amount owed to the state to be kept by the retail merchant in order to offset the record-keeping costs.

As an organization, WAA holds community service projects to remove a wide variety of illegally-dumped solid waste including litter & trash along roadways. On average, we will pick up a plastic sack about every 30 seconds which had been tossed out by people driving by. During a three-hour service project, that's well over 350 plastic bags.

Please pass SB 1363 SD2 HD1 with the proposed amendment to help alleviate the burden on retailers.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: peabodysplace@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: April Harris
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: peabodysplace@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB1363 in its proposed format and language. I do not want this ban to interfere with current or future bans in counties of Hawaii. We need to actively and aggressively peruse all avenues to reduce our impact on our environment and I believe that banning plastic bags as well as paper bags is only the first step. Reducing/eliminating our use of plastic in all forms including plastic bags will help protect our world, reduce the amount of waste entering our landfills. Maintaining the current efforts on Kauai and Maui and spreading this ban to all Hawaiian islands as well as all of the United States is crucial in our fight to save our planet.

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Lets put a fee on shopping bags and start recovering from the damage we've done to our islands so far.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: peabody86@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chelsea Hindley
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: peabody86@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB1363 in its proposed format and language. I do not want this ban to interfere with current or future bans in counties of Hawaii. We need to actively and aggressively peruse all avenues to reduce our impact on our environment and I believe that banning plastic bags as well as paper bags is only the first step. Reducing/eliminating our use of plastic in all forms including plastic bags will help protect our world, reduce the amount of waste entering our landfills. Maintaining the current efforts on Kauai and Maui and spreading this ban to all Hawaiian islands as well as all of the United States is crucial in our fight to save our planet.

So much effort and promotion has been done here on Maui to make consumers aware of their dependency on plastic and the ways they can reduce their use of plastic bags by putting in just a bit of extra effort and bringing their own bags. People feel a sense of pride when they do this because they know they are actively contributing to a cause that will help preserve the beauty and integrity of the islands. Lets put a fee on shopping bags and start recovering from the damage we've done to our islands so far.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 9:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: serenadivina@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Serena Kaldi
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: serenadivina@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.

Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags, and please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

Please listen to the peoples voices in support of this bill. Every day I see plastic bags blowing in the wind on the side our highways and roads. This is a problem, lets fix it!!
Mahalo

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 8:30 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: oahurandy@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Randy Ching
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: oahurandy@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

Aloha Chair Oshiro and members of the Finance Committee. I support SB 1363 which places a small fee on the use of plastic and paper bags. We should not use one-time bags, as it is wasteful of resources and a source of litter and marine debris. This bill would encourage shoppers to use bags that last many years, such as canvas bags. Please pass SB 1463. Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 7:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jenlucien@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer Lucien
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jenlucien@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

With increasing amounts of plastic found in our natural environment, we need to reduce use and a good way to do that is to encourage people to ask themselves, "Do I really need this?" A small fee is a proven incentive, just look to the success story of the bottle bill.

As the Finance Committee considers the fate of the important piece of legislation, I humbly ask that you pass this bill because it has no negative fiscal impacts on the State and the fee is easily avoided when the consumer brings their own bag.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Jennifer Lucien

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 8:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: vallohfoto@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Valerie Loh
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: vallohfoto@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Your vote has the power to help reduce the amount of plastic that pollutes our oceans and overall environment.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: y24tani@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Yuriko Nishitani
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: y24tani@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

Many people have already realized that we should not use the plastic and paper bags, but we keep using them for our convenience without efficient recycling systems. As a result, countless animals we love have been killed, the precious oil is consumed, and we spend enormous amount of money for producing, recycling, and cleaning them.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 5:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mindypennybacker@prodigy.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mindy Pennybacker
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mindypennybacker@prodigy.net
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Please pass this bill! Charging a small fee for single-use plastic and paper bags makes a big difference. It makes consumers think twice, and learn. Everyone is so cognizant of pennies at checkout. Please keep the status of the bill, preserving the plastic bag ban on the outer islands who've done so. Mahalo!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: valeremcfarland@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Valere McFarland
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: valeremcfarland@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gunderson17@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: MICHELE GUNDERSON
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gunderson17@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please help the state further its goals of sustainability and reduce unwanted trash that clogs our oceans and landfills.

Mahalo,
Michele Gunderson
Hilo, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:36 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nahele@secretbonus.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Forest Frizzell
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: nahele@secretbonus.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
What a great opportunity to help save our environment from unneeded plastic bags.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cledingham@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cameron Ledingham
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cledingham@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Please do this to benefit the wellness of all of Earthkind.s

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 4:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lottj001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jonathan W. Lott
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lottj001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I am a science teacher who has a condo unit overlooking the Ala Wai, and I surf frequently in Waikiki. There is a ridiculous amount of plastic (bags especially) going into the ocean. Not only do these items damage marine life, but they end up in OUR food chain with effects that appear to be frighteningly harmful to humans. More immediately, the impression left on visitors when they see the plastic bags flying around and have them wrap around their bodies while swimming is devastating to tourism. We are killing the goose here, so to speak. We should have been the first place on earth to reduce the "escape" of plastics into the environment. Please don't let short term economics (industry lobbyists' money) win again! The people are ready, willing, and able to suck it up a little to reduce plastic pollution. Let's get started, at least. It's only pono.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ericcole76@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Eric
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ericcole76@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I support

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Katsukazaki@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: KIM TSUKAZAKI
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Katsukazaki@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please help the state further its goals of sustainability and reduce unwanted trash that clogs our oceans and landfills.

Mahalo,
Kim Tsukazaki
Hilo, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jajuka99@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: P.J. Keegan Marrs
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jajuka99@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I recently learned that Pelagic Sun Fish eat Jelly fish, we still don't know much about this species activity or how it is being affected by the drastic changes in our contemporary environment...closer to home, sea turtles eat jelly fish; the same ones that are always greeting us, popping their heads out of the water while you are out for a swim, or they are feeding along the reefs, you see them maybe while out for a walk, flippers flailing as they're washed with waves, shells bobbing just under the surface.

What does this have to do with Plastic Bags? Plastic Bags look like Jelly Fish in the water. The Pelagic SunFish and the Sea Turtles, eat the plastic bags and are killed; from the irresponsibility of our actions, or ignorance to take action and make the corrective adjustments to our lifestyle, economy, and education...all of which we are more than technologically capable.

It seems we have options, and by making intelligent decisions today, we have the opportunity to become an archetype in the world for government, commerce, and individual participation working together to make subtle shifts in legislative policies now, which could have the greatest impact in sustaining our future as a whole. (the environment, local economy, government, education, health)

Imagine for a moment the Pacific Gyre...what is described as a density of plastic particulate and trash, in some places thick enough it appears as an island. The Pacific Gyre in effect exists, and only a few hundred miles North of our location. Imagine the trade winds shifting, and that gyre encompassing our Hawaiian Islands; this is the gravity with which we must contemplate, and the foundation from which we must base our decisions. What wrong can really be done in making honest, healthy choices for ourselves, our children, and the environment in which we must all exist. We can no longer afford to speculate, on foreign trade, spikes and drops in the market, the future as a theory...we need action and that action must be one which is able to effect all parts which make up our government, communities, and environment, to change and grow, meeting the needs of new and rising factors. We cannot outsource these factors, in a relatively contained environment like an island we must live with them, and pave inspire ourselves towards a more sustainable and stronger ecology.

The suggestion for a 5cent fee on plastic bags with any purchase is minimal, but a good first step in changing peoples awareness to the present situation. Such actions could be taken to even greater measures, with a bill to mandate that 5cent fee as a Disposable Plastics tax, for state and federal funds, supporting the state parks, education awareness programs, research and university programs to further legitimize our disposal/recycling

method, and clean up crews facilitated by local penatenturies, ect. ect. ect. the possablities are many, and we are the powers to employ them.

So come to Hawaii, visit some of the cleanest beaches on earth, learn of there ancestry, enjoy our abundant marine life, swim in our clean waters... learn why we have chosen to fight for whats good and learn from our histories. Because Bruddahs and Sistas, if you aint doing something good, what are you doing?

Thanks you, PJKM

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hazelb808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: HAZEL BALMACEDA
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: hazelb808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please help the state further its goals of sustainability and reduce unwanted trash that clogs our oceans and landfills.

Mahalo,
Hazel Balmaceda
Kaimuki, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fawnjade712@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Fawn Jade Koopman
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: fawnjade712@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I fully support the plastic bag tax while keeping the bans on Maui and Kauai intact.
Mahalo.
-Fawn

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kuladogz@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Pete Arnold
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kuladogz@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I've lived, worked and raised my family in Hawaii for 40years. And I'll probably die here. I love this land and this ocean and those that have found their way here. Whether it be from generations ago or more recently, we all share a love for that which are weighed by our hearts. My desire has always been to leave a place better off then as I found it. By helping to ban plastic bags we can do this for ourselves and those that we borrow the aina from; our children.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 5:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Marjorie Erway
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: merway@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Once again, I ask that you fully support this bill and protect our fragile environment. Also, please keep the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui intact, and allow counties to pass future bans. Hawaii Island is on the verge of passing such an bill.

Tougher, NOT looser regulations protecting our environment are needed. Please vote YES on this bill.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 7:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: suiteiness@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Annie Suite
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: suiteiness@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- These bags clog our streets, foul our open space, pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill thousands of animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's fragile environment from the millions of bags wasted each year.
- Please keep the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui intact to respect those counties' decision and not cause confusion.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 7:16 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: carolphilips1@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Carol Philips
Organization:
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: carolphilips1@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Legislatures,

I see plastic bags everyday in our oceans and on our beaches. They kill untold numbers of marine animals every year and are toxic to all life. Please take this opportunity for Hawaii to set a standard of sustainability that the world can follow and pass this legislation into law.

With Respect,
Carol Philips

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 8:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sinex@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM
Attachments: SB1363-r.doc

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ralph Wheelock
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sinex@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 11:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kenzen808@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Ken Sentner
Organization:
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kenzen808@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Please pass SB1363 to help clean our oceans and beaches, and send a message to world that Hawaii cares about our environment!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 7:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: alejot001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nancy Alejo
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: alejot001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 7:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nwthingfish@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cara Troy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: nwthingfish@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:
Please pass bill sb1363

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tim_lara2@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: tim lara
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: tim_lara2@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags. I don't want this ban to interfere with current or future bans set forth by county's in Hawaii. Please vote in favor of making Hawaii the first state in the nation to have a statewide policy on disposable bags... as the only state surrounded by water, let us be a shining example to rest of nation, showing that we are not in favor of plastics bags which kill marine life. nor do we want everyone to simply switch to plastics....

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 12:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: maui@surfrider.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Surfrider Foundation -Maui Chapter
Organization: Surfrider Foundation Maui Chapter
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: maui@surfrider.org
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

We strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags. We don't want this ban to interfere with current or future bans set forth by county's in Hawaii. Please vote in favor of making Hawaii the first state in the nation to have a statewide policy on disposable bags... as the only state surrounded by water, let us be a shining example to rest of nation, showing that we are not in favor of plastics bags which kill marine life. nor do we want everyone to simply switch to plastics...

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 7:26 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jenna.ishii@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jenna
Organization: Kai Makana
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jenna.ishii@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mmottale@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mahchid Mottale
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mmottale@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Is time to make an effort to keep our waters clean !!!!!!!!!!!

I support a ban on plastic bags .
Who needs them ??????
Mahchid

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:13 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: miyan@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Miya Tsukazaki
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: miyan@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

My name is Miya Tsukazaki and I am a law student at the William S. Richardson School of Law.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363. I also support the keeping the bans in Maui and Kauai in tact. I would also like to see the tax raised to at least ten cents.

Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: chuckt5@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Charles Taylor
Organization: Environmental Law Society
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: chuckt5@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

The Environmental Law Society of the William S. Richardson School of Law strongly supports SB 1363. Plastic pollution is one of the greatest threats to our fragile marine environment, and a fee on single-use disposable bags is an integral step in raising awareness about this extremely important issue. Please pass SB 1363 out of the Finance Committee. Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: great2be@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brent Paul
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: great2be@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363. I support the keeping the bans in Maui and Kauai in tact. I would also like to see the tax raised to at least ten cents.

Please help our state significantly reduce this unwanted pollution.

Thank you,

Brent K. Paul

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: elecmailnet@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Douglas Morton
Organization:
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: elecmailnet@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Please, please, please show the public, your fellow citizens of this planet that we care about the wellness of the Earth and that we will live and act responsibly and accordingly.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sagertherager@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: SAGE U`ILANI TAKEHIRO
Organization: Mana Maoli Kakoo Kuaana Curriculum Developer
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sagertherager@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363. I support keeping the bans in tact on Maui and Kauai and I support increasing the tax to 10 cents.

Please help the state further its goals of sustainability and reduce unwanted trash that logs our oceans and landfills.

Mahalo,
Sage U. Takehiro
Mana Maoli Kakoo Kuaana Curriculum Developer 1110 University Ave #310 96826

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pez1164@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Adam Pezen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: pez1164@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I HIGHLY SUPPORT SB1363. Plastic Bags are highly dangerous, non-compostable- an overall WASTE of resources and a CRUTCH to the public.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: amandaleinaala@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: AMANDA HEGERFELDT
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: amandaleinaala@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please help the state further its goals of sustainability and reduce unwanted trash that clogs our oceans and landfills.

Mahalo,
Amanda Hegerfeldt
Hilo, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:11 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sinclairpsf@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: SINCLAIR SALAS-FERGUSON
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sinclairpsf@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

I don't like plastic bags floating around at my surf spots.

Thank you for your time.

Sinclair Salas-Ferguson
Kaimuki, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: unamestiza@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: CHRISTINE BELK
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: unamestiza@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please keep the bans in tact on Maui and Kauai and increase the tax to ten cents.

Thank you for your time.

Christine Belk
Honolulu, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 3:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kumukoa@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: KUMU BELCHER
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kumukoa@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I am a law student at William S. Richardson School of Law and I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363.

Please keep the bans in tact on Maui and Kauai and increase the tax to ten cents.

Thank you for your time.

Kumu Belcher
Hilo, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: skinandink@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Anna Close
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: skinandink@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I support SB 1363 to put a 5 cent fee on the use of plastic bags.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Karen@redwoodgames.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Karen Chun
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Karen@redwoodgames.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Although I think either an outright ban on bags is best, this is a good way to encourage people to bring re-usable bags and stop overloading our shrinking landfill space.

In the end it will SAVE everyone money...stores as more and more people bring their own bags...customers as stores are able to eliminate most of their bag purchases and lower prices.

Please pass this bill. (Although a higher fee would be even better).

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: evan_manning@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: evan Manning
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: evan_manning@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I support SB 1363 because this should help make people aware of the amount of bags that people are using and not re-using, and hopefully reduce the amount of waste people create.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kent@triland.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kent Fonoimoana
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kent@triland.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: toxtli@blumail.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: ali toxtli
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: toxtli@blumail.org
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I fully support SB 1363. ITS ABOUT TIME!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dsungarian@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David Sungarian
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: dsungarian@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Aloha,
I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 2:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jlaloha0105@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jane Lau
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jlaloha0105@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
Rep. Oshiro and Members of the Finance Committee,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 1363. I support the keeping the bans in Maui and Kauai in tact. I would also like to see the tax raised to at least ten cents.

Please help our state significantly reduce this unwanted pollution.

Thank you,
Jane Lau
Rountop Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 4:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rob@surfbeyond.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Robert Barreca
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: rob@surfbeyond.com
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil. On Oahu alone, it is estimated we use over 140 million plastic bags annually.

These bags are used for about 15 minutes, then end up clogging our streets, landfills, or end up in our oceans polluting our fragile marine environment and food-chain resulting in the death of thousands of animals every year.

Please pass SB1363, which will protect Hawaii's fragile environment from the millions of bags wasted each year as well as provide much needed funds for the State. I respectfully ask that we keep the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui intact to respect those counties' decision and not cause undue confusion as those islands have already implemented the bans. Additionally, I recommend the fee on plastic and paper be increased to \$0.10 so consumers are encouraged to bring their own reusable bags.

Mahalo nui loa.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 4:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: darylanne.dawson@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daryl Dawson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: darylanne.dawson@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 8:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: gbmhart@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: gina hart
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: gbmhart@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 8:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nancy Davlantes
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: ndavlantes@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to enact state-wide legislation that would effectively reduce the plague of single-use plastic bags that have become such a scourge to the environment in general and to our unique ocean environment in particular. We cannot let this opportunity slip away.

Mahalo for considering my comments.

Nancy Davlantes
47-228 Kamehameha Hwy
Kaneohe, HI

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 7:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kwager@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Kylie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kwager@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

As a J.D. candidate at the William S. Richardson School of Law, I adamantly support SB 1363 with a minimum imposed fee of \$.15 per non-reusable plastic bag.

Our duty to reduce plastic use in the Pacific rises within a context of economic disparity, floundering natural resources, and an environment in peril.

Plastic became a commodity during the mid-twentieth century, an era of vast commercialization that was predicated on false beliefs in an endless oil supply and "disposable" lifestyles without consequence.

We must transform our current paradigm of living from one of waste to one of preservation in order to maintain and enhance the character, beauty, and viability of our island community. Reducing single-use bag use will propel a movement toward achieving this goal.

For the reasons aforementioned, I respectfully request that you pass SB 1363.

Mahalo,
Kylie Wager
J.D. Candidate 2014
William S. Richardson School of Law

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 8:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: brossier@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: [teri brossier](#)
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: brossier@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 4/4/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 8:08 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: elikvodovoz@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Elik Vodovoz
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: elikvodovoz@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil. These bags clog our streets, foul our open space, pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill thousands of animals every year.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 7:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: INFO@ROBERTAOAKS.COM
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: ROBERTA POWER
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: INFO@ROBERTAOAKS.COM
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mz9995@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Zehner
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mz9995@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

This bill is just one more regressive tax on working folks.

What is more, even if I do buy reuseable bags and carry these sticky, smelly, things around everywhere I go, it WON'T help the environment.

I currently reuse the bags for trash bags. With this bill I will have to buy trash bags. So there would be the same number of bags being thrown out.

I currently reuse the bags for food storage and recycling bottles. I'll have to buy more single use bags now for this.

And even after I reuse them, they get burned at H-power to make energy.

This bill should be held in committee.

Mahalo, Michael Zehner

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:10 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: juliaportersteele@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Julia Steele
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: juliaportersteele@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

Dear Rep. Oshiro:

I am writing to urge you to pass SB 1363 out of committee and on to the House and Senate for a full vote. I am a strong supporter of legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

As you are no doubt aware, in the US individuals consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.

As we watch the crisis in Fukushima unfold, and the ocean used as a dumping ground, passing SB 1363 is something tangible we can do to support its health and wellbeing.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. Also, I ask you to please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact.

Mahalo nui loa!
Julia Steele

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: selina@reusehawaii.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Selina Tarantino
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: selina@reusehawaii.org
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I stand in strong support of SB1363. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

The people of Hawai'i are making efforts to protect our fragile island environment. My deepest hope is that the government recognize these efforts, and reflect the will of the people.

With aloha and gratitude to the service of all government officials.

Selina Tarantino

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 11:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: morlockfood@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Shapiro
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: morlockfood@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support any legislation to reduce our consumption of plastics in the Islands. Sadly, the issue requires leadership from our politicians, as businesses are unlikely to take the initiative. It's well known that plastic bags are a threat to marine life and a major pollutant in our environment. They are not necessary, and every effort should be made to eliminate them from Hawaii.

urge you to support SB1363

Thank you,
Michael Shapiro
Kailua

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:01 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: emcilroy@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Emily McIlroy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: emcilroy@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I fervently support legislation to reduce and/or eliminate the consumption of plastic bags in Hawaii. The use of ultra-thin plastics not only pollutes our island and fragile marine environment, but also kills innumerable creatures every year. Plastic bags are not only egregiously wasteful and costly, but they are also completely unnecessary. What could be more foolish than using a product that functions just for minutes or hours, only to remain for centuries in landfills and oceans?

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags, and please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents. Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 11:55 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: aacorby@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: amanda
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: aacorby@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 11:52 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: RWSURF@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rick Wilson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: RWSURF@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I own property on Kauai and I have been a regular visitor to Hawaii for about 40 years.

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.

Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:43 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: surfergirl808@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: ROXANNE RIVERO
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: surfergirl808@msn.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
long time childhood resident, support and pass this bill for our aina.. mahalo nui loa

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: muhl@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: muhl@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags.

In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.

These bags clog our streets, foul our open space, pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill thousands of animals every year.

Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's fragile environment from the millions of bags wasted each year.

Thank you!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:31 PM
to: FINTestimony
Cc: kelseybarden@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kelsey Barden
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kelseybarden@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:31 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: moonauras@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cheree Smith
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: moonauras@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
- Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: iliwai34@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael J. Duberstein
Organization: Maui Tomorrow Foundation
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: iliwai34@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I urge your support of this legislation. In the months this year since Maui Nui banned plastic bags the effect has been amazingly positive. Just seeing the landfill dump area where plastic bags festooned every fence now virtually empty is a sight for sore eyes. Now the entire state needs this system. Vote yes.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: amybrinker@mac.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Amy K. Brinker
Organization: Sustainable Richardson
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: amybrinker@mac.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

If we want to lead the nation in sustainability, we must make sustainable decisions. What a great opportunity this is!

Kauai and Maui county bans are showing us that an outright ban works, too. Counties should have the option to move towards a more restrictive policy.

We are asking everyone to do their part by either bringing a reusable bag or by paying for the bags that unnecessarily contribute to landfills, require resources to clean up, and negatively impact the very environment that our economy's breadwinner - the tourism industry - relies upon.

This is EXACTLY the kind of solution that should be the hallmark of bills this session. It creates a source of revenue for the state while providing protection for the environment.

Mahalo for supporting this solution for Hawai'i, --akb

Amy K. Brinker
amybrinker@mac.com
Sustainable Richardson, Founder-Coordinator Student Bar Association, President Richardson Law School, JD Candidate 2011

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:17 PM
to: FINTestimony
Cc: cathyindia@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cathleen R Whyte
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: cathyindia@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB1363 and hope that we can do as other far less affluent parts of the world have managed to do and ban the use of plastic bags in Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sjonbrown@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sjon Brown
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: sjonbrown@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I support the ban plastics bill for Hawaii, not only for the protection of our environment, but also protection of our wildlife both marine and land. Hawaii should be leading the world with alternative fuels, solar power, and other sustainable ideas, yet we are years behind. Please Kokua and Malama Aina

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:10 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: lalasia_murphy@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: lalasia bialicmurphy
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lalasia_murphy@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

- I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.
 - In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
 - Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
 - Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.
 - Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.
- Mahalo
lalasia bialic-murphy

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 1:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: roz_young@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rosalyn
Organization: Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: roz_young@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I am in full support of Bill SB1363 and reducing plastic pollution in Hawaii. I have not accepted a plastic bag from a single store for three months now, and it simply involved changing my behavior. I take my reusable bags to the grocery store or simply carry my items out. I believe a small fee on plastic bags will help others change their behavior as well, not to mention reduce consumption, as we have seen in places like Washington D.C. The marine debris conference that was just held here in Hawaii showed overwhelming evidence of the dangers of plastic pollution in our oceans and environment. Please pass this bill and let's be a model for the rest of the world. Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

Aloha and Mahalo for hearing my testimony,

Rosalyn Young

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: jAnice palma-glennie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: palmtree7@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
this bill would put Hawai`i on the map as being progressive on meaningful, and reasonable,
environmental protection legislation.
mahalo.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:33 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: rich@artsatmarks.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rich Richardson
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: rich@artsatmarks.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

i would be so proud to have you help make this happen.

I watch plastic bags fly from the dumpster business on Sand Island straight into the ocean.

I have not done the math scientifically but at an average of 1 per hr. that's over 8,000 bags a year!

So sad! Lets help put an end to our lazy habits!

Many Mahalos,

RR Honolulu

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jenaries23@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jennifer Milholen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jenaries23@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:
I strongly support SB1363. A fee is the best approach to reducing plastic bag pollution. It allows the most individual choice and adjustment. Please pass this bill!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jordan.fahmie@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jordan Fahmie
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jordan.fahmie@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support SB1363. As a nature enthusiast as well as a civil engineer, I understand how important our natural resources are. I support this bill because plastics are slowly destroying Hawaii. If we can reduce the amount of plastics floating around, we can minimize our negative impacts on our natural resources. Thank you for considering this bill.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jjsturm1@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: John Sturm
Organization: Surfrider Foundation
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jjsturm1@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.

- In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil.
- Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year.
- Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags.

Please keep the bill's current status, which allows the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui to remain intact, respecting the decisions of our neighbor island residents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:13 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mimikiefer@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Meredith Kiefer
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: mimikiefer@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic bags in Hawaii! Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment. Please pass SB 1363 to protect Hawaii's precious environment. This is an incredible step forward. Mahalo!

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kumaup@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kumau Pineda
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kumaup@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislative efforts to reduce the use of plastic and paper bags. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year made from some 12 million barrels of oil. These bags clog our streets, foul our open space, pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill thousands of animals every year. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's fragile environment from the millions of bags wasted each year. Please also keep the plastic bag bans on Kauai and Maui intact to respect those counties' decision and not cause confusion since the bans are already in place. It would also be more effective to increase the plastic/paper bag fee to 10 cents.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:06 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: liabettag@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lia Bettag
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: liabettag@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii. In this country we consume an astounding 100 billion throwaway plastic bags every year, made from some 12 million barrels of oil. Plastic bags pollute our fragile marine environment and food-chain, and kill countless animals every year. This is totally unacceptable. Please pass SB1363 and protect Hawaii's precious environment from needless plastic and paper bags. I will continue to do my part to educate individuals and companies on the benefits of reusable bags and the absolute detriment of single use plastic ones.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 12:06 PM
fo: FINTestimony
Cc: austin@sproutbuilder.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Austin N.
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: austin@sproutbuilder.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
ent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 10:19 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kanefu@netscape.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carlos Zuniga
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: kanefu@netscape.net
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 2:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jrestrera@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Joseph Estrera
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jrestrera@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

Please pass SB1363. Now is the time to get the ball rolling to rid the state of Hawaii from the terrible environmental effects of plastic bags.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2011 2:16 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Jaredkyuen@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1363 on 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2011 4:00:00 PM SB1363

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jared Yuen
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: Jaredkyuen@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2011

Comments:

I strongly support legislation to reduce the consumption of plastic and paper bags in Hawaii.