



William P. Kenoi  
Mayor

William T. Takaba  
Managing Director

Dora Beck, P.E.  
Acting Director

Hunter Bishop  
Deputy Director

**County of Hawai'i**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

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March 27, 2012

The Honorable Denny Coffman, Chair  
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

HEARING DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012  
HEARING TIME: 9:40 a.m.  
HEARING LOCATION: House Conference Room 312

**Re: Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution (HRC) 202 and House Resolution (HR) 156, Urging the Department of Health to Refrain from Imposing any Increase to the Non-Refundable Deposit Beverage Container Fee Until the Auditor has Completed an Updated Management and Financial Audit of the Deposit Beverage Container Program**

Dear Representatives Coffman, McKelvey and Committee Members,

The County of Hawai'i (County) Department of Environmental Management does not support of House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 202 and House Resolution (HR) 156.

The County is extremely concerned about the impacts to its community and its overall recycling and diversion if the Deposit Beverage Container Program (DBC) does not have sufficient funds.

This fund takes in over \$50 million dollars annually state-wide and our County has been granted a small portion of the funds which has been paying for two (2) Recycling Specialists and 10 Certified Redemption Centers at County-run transfer stations.

The DBC or HI-5 program has been the State's most successful diversion program and has been a catalyst to recycling state-wide. The program has been extremely popular with Hawai'i County residents and has resulted in increasing our overall recycling and landfill diversion programs. The Recycling Specialists work closely with our community, our schools and keiki on recycling education. The DBC

program is extremely important to meeting the State's diversion goal of 50%, based on Hawaii Revised Statutes HRS §342G-3(a)(2).

When the initial legislation was passed for the DBC program, it was clear that the fund would not be sustainable if the redemption rates increased because there would be fewer nickels to help fund the administration and recycling of the bottles and cans. The threshold was 70% redemption for the container fee to increase from 1 cent to 1.5 cents.

The more successful the program, the more funding is needed. It is crucial that the DOH have sufficient funding to continue to support our County's successful model and our recycling education. Increasing the container fees as intended by legislation is the key to continued funding for the County.

Best Regards,



Dora Beck, P.E.  
ACTING DIRECTOR

cc: Mayor William Kenoi



## HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (HFIA)

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

DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012

TIME: 9:40 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 312

### COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Rep. Isaac W. Choy, Vice Chair

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Denny Coffman, Chair

Rep. Derek S.K. Kawakami, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Food Industry Association: Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

**RE: HCR 202 / HR 156 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REFRAIN FROM IMPOSING ANY INCREASE TO THE NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER FEE UNTIL THE AUDITOR HAS COMPLETED AN UPDATED MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL AUDIT OF THE DEPOSIT BEVERAGE CONTAINER PROGRAM.**

Chairs & Committee Members:

The Hawaii Food Industry Association strongly supports this bill.

The Hawaii Food Industry Association agrees with the legislature that there must be a thorough understanding of how the non-refundable deposit beverage container fee monies are being utilized before the Department of Health is permitted to increase these fees.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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**From:** ERBtestimony  
**Subject:** Audit of Beverage Fund

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**From:** Dexter Yamada [mailto:dy@kyd-inc.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2012 12:23 PM  
**To:** ERBtestimony  
**Subject:** Audit of Beverage Fund

Subject: HCR 202/HR 156

Committee on Economic Revitalization Protection

We from KYD Inc, a packaging company, would like to support this resolution that would ensure the DOH undergo an audit of the deposit beverage container special fund before increasing fees.

Sincerely,  
KYD INC.  
D. Yamada  
President/CEO

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**From:** Roy Ishihara [Rishihara@marukaihawaii.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2012 9:46 AM  
**To:** ERBtestimony  
**Subject:** HCR 202 / HR 156

Dear Chairs & Committee Members:

Marukai Corporation strongly supports this resolution. We agree with the legislature that there must be a thorough understanding of how the non-refundable deposit beverage container fee monies are being utilized before the Department of Health is permitted to increase these fees.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Roy Ishihara  
Vice President of Operations  
Marukai Corporation  
Ph: 808-845-5053  
Fx: 808-848-7653  
Cell: 808-341-6442  
[marukaihawaii.com](http://marukaihawaii.com)  
*Where East Meets West For Less!*

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2012 12:22 PM  
**To:** ERBtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Testimony for HCR202 on 3/29/2012 9:40:00 AM

Testimony for ERB/EEP 3/29/2012 9:40:00 AM HCR202

Conference room: 312

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Javier Mendez-Alvarez

Organization: Individual

E-mail: [mendezj@hawaii.edu](mailto:mendezj@hawaii.edu)

Submitted on: 3/27/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2012 11:50 AM  
**To:** ERBtestimony  
**Cc:** page@princessradhafarm.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HR156 on 3/29/2012 9:40:00 AM

Testimony for ERB/EEP 3/29/2012 9:40:00 AM HR156

Conference room: 312  
Testifier position:  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Page Trygstad  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [page@princessradhafarm.com](mailto:page@princessradhafarm.com)  
Submitted on: 3/27/2012

**Comments:**

I oppose this bill. It is just another tax. The recycling centers are not open as frequently as they used to be. So I am paying more for less!!! Do not pass this bill, I will remember who voted for it!!!