

Dear Senators,

I strongly support SB 2511 for many various reasons. The most basic reason is that it is logical.

Plastic bags are illogical. Using something once and then throwing it away, leaving it to float in our oceans or clog our landfills for centuries, is illogical. It makes no sense.

SB 2511 still gives consumers the opportunity to purchase plastic bags if they really need them at a low rate while preserving the environment and contributing to healthy oceans, landfills, and watersheds.

Thank you for supporting such an important bill for Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Charles Taylor

LATE

Testimony for ENE/EDT/WLH 2/9/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2511

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michele Nihipali
Organization: Individual
E-mail: nihipalim001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:
Dear Senators:

I live across the street from the beach on Kamehameha Hwy. Every day I pick up at least 3 plastic bags that have blown in my yard. If there are 3 in my yard I can just imagine how many have blown into the ocean from the beach!

I personally bring my own bags to the grocery store. It will take some time for people to adjust to this but it is not impossible. I recently visited San Francisco where plastic bags are banned and none of the stores had problems using biodegradable paper bags.

We must start the phase out of plastic bags. The time to start is now. I urge you to support SB2511.
Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

LAI

Testimony in support of SB2511

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2511

February 9, 2012

Patricia A. Gozemba 3873 Nikolo St., Honolulu, HI 96815 & 17 Sutton Ave., Salem, MA 01970; (978)744-9141; pgozemba@gmail.com

As a part-time resident of Oahu for the past 31 years and a tourist to other islands of Hawai'i, I want to lodge my firm support for SB2511. It is time that the state government takes a leadership role in preserving the environment of all the islands. Plastic bags are a plague upon the landscape of so many parts of the world and seem especially out of place in the gorgeous landscape of Hawai'i and especially in the marine ecosystem of the beautiful oceans surrounding us here.

On a visit to Maui this year I was pleasantly surprised as I drove up to Kula to find so few plastic bags blowing along the highway. I soon learned why, when I made my first stop at Longs. No longer were my purchased items efficiently whipped into plastic bags before I could say, "No thanks, I've got my own bag."

On six accesses to Kaho'olawe over the past fifteen years, I learned how far-reaching the pollution of plastic bags is. Walking the shores of that remote island, helping on clean ups, I found how far plastic bags travel and how omnipresent they are.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is growing towards these islands and we are growing out towards it plastic bag by plastic bag. We can slow this pollution and we can teach lessons about truly caring for the earth to the many visitors who come to these islands. Visitors are overwhelmed by the beauty here. Paying for plastic and paper bags to preserve the beauty would not be a hardship. Rather it would offer visitors a chance to participate in preserving the beauty rather than polluting it.

Like most tourists, I am enchanted with the natural beauty of Hawai'i and have learned from Native Hawaiian activists how important it is for all of us to learn that preserving the *aina* is the *kuleana* of all of us. SB2511 is a step in the right direction.

LAE



Feb. 8, 2012



Committee Chairs & Members of ENE, EDT & WLH

RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 2511 – Relating to Environmental Protection

Hearing on Thur., Feb. 9, State Capitol, Conf. Rm. 225, 2:45pm

Dear Chairs Gabbard, Fukunaga, Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs and Committee Members,

My name is Stuart Coleman, and I am the Hawaii Coordinator of the Surfrider Foundation. With more than 5000 supporters, activists and members across the state, the Surfrider Foundation ("Surfrider") strongly supports passage of SB2511, 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 in conjunction with the existing bans on Maui, Kauai and now on the Big Island.

According to the EPA, over a million sea birds, marine mammals and sea turtles die each year due to ingestion and entanglement in plastics. This bill would help people make the switch to reusable tote bags and help protect these sea creatures. Just this week on Feb. 6, the Reserve Advisory Council (RAC) of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries passed a resolution stating, "The Council believes a fee on single-use plastic and paper bags would reduce marine plastic pollution and litter throughout the islands and encourage the use of reusable bags." Approximately, 500 million single-use bags are used in Hawaii each year, and far too many end up polluting our streets, streams, coastlines and oceans. This bill will not only protect marine life and improve Hawaii's natural environment, but it will also help enhance the beauty of Hawaii for locals and visitors alike.

Governments across the world have successfully reduced plastic bag use, either through plastic bag bans, or through fees or taxes. Washington, DC passed a similar Bag Fee Bill in 2010, and consumption of plastic bags decreased 80% in the first year and raised funds for a program to clean up the Anacostia River in our nation's capitol. Similarly, SB2511 has provisions that will dramatically reduce the proliferation of plastic and paper bags, while also helping fund an important DLNR program to protect Hawaii's watersheds and sources of water. This offset fee is not a tax because it can be avoided when consumers bring reusable bags instead of wasting single-use plastic and paper bags, which is the whole purpose of the bill.

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 many cities and counties have followed their lead. 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 by reducing our waste stream.

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

The Surfrider Foundation is supporting SB2511 because our 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 look like jellyfish and 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. In the ocean, these micro-plastics attract toxic chemicals and persistent organic pollutants like PCB's, which accumulate and magnify 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.

Single-use plastic bags are also a threat to our wallets, and everyone bears the cost of these so-called "free" bags. One California study showed that 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 have to pay for each 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.

Over the last four years, I have spoken to many citizen groups and thousands of students across Hawaii about marine plastic pollution, the North Pacific Garbage Patch and the other four Gyres just like it in the South Pacific, North Atlantic, South Atlantic and Indian Oceans. When I tell them about our legislative efforts to reduce single-use bags, the support for this kind of bag bill has been overwhelming. We have been working with a diverse and growing coalition of educational institutions, environmental groups, local businesses and grocery stores, and most recently, with government agencies like DLNR and DOH. All of us are committed to passing this bill because we believe it's a win-win-win situation for the environment, the economy and the health of our people and marine life.

Just as many countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and around the world have introduced legislation to reduce the proliferation of single-use grocer bags, I hope you all help us become one of the leaders in the country on this issue. Just as Hawaii led the way in many health care and environmental reforms in the past, we are now poised again to be one of the first states in the country to pass statewide legislation to reduce the pollution and waste from plastic and paper bags. The people of Hawaii have been waiting for this kind of popular, common sense bill, and the eyes of the world are watching to see what we will do. 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

Melissa K. Valdez
748 Isenberg St. Apt. G
Honolulu, HI 96826
Telephone: 808-227-5704

LAF

To: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair,
and the Members of the Senate Committee on Energy & Environment

The Honorable Carl Fukunaga, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, & Housing

Date: Thursday, February 9, 2012

Time: 2:45 P.M.

Place: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

RE: S.B. 2511, Relating to Environmental Protection

Chairs and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. My name is Melissa Valdez, a student enrolled in the Environmental Studies Program at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa. I support the purpose and intent of the "Bag Bill" S.B. 2511. Passing the "Bag bill" will help to reduce the use of both paper and plastic single use bags, therefore encouraging consumers to protect Hawai'i's natural resources and environment.

Without the "Bag bill", there is no limit to the amount of paper and plastic use bags produced as well as used for daily use. Many of these bags commonly end up in landfills, on roads, in streams and the ocean often becoming hazards to some of Hawai'i's marine life. By having no bag usage limitation, the amount of bags that end up in the environment will continue to persist.

Please help to protect and preserve the environment by supporting S.B. 2511. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Melissa Valdez
Environmental Studies student,
University of Hawai'i Mānoa

Dear ENE/EDT/WLH Committee,

I am a 30 year old graduate student at the University of Hawaii, in the department of Oceanography. I don't have any scientific analysis or comment to offer, but only a personal sentiment. The decision to do whatever I can to minimize my own negative impact on the environment around me is an extremely meaningful one, even if it is not necessarily based on rationality.

After watching the "Bag It" documentary last night, I realized that I have begun to lose hope about the world being a place I would want to bring children into. Just the night before I had spent many hours doing research on new sterilization procedures for women and was seriously considering making a doctor's appointment to pursue the possibility further. I discussed this with my partner the next day and explained to him that part of my reasoning has to do with the relatively high risks for birth defects, especially as we are getting older. More than that though, is just the feeling that our environment, and our civilization's treatment of it, and of each other, is not a place I trust for children. This holds for any children, but especially not ones I am responsible for bringing into existence.

The documentary informed me of new evidence that our environment, and the use of plastics in our homes, is having an impact on unborn babies and children in their most important developmental stages. Some of this I knew before, but what I didn't know about were the significant steps that many governments have taken to change the direction of our behaviour. I was especially inspired to hear that even in Kenya, a place I had lived and worked as a humanitarian volunteer, single use plastic bags had been banned. Less than a decade ago this reality had seemed quite impossible, especially in the context of overwhelming poverty and lack of education. How do we justify not taking on a challenge which are being tackled by others who have so much less material wealth and security than us?

As a physical scientist, I am trained to be open about unexpected outcomes. It is sometimes challenging to bring this openness to social problems, but the "Bag It" documentary gave me some new data to consider. I might still never want to use my own DNA to "create" a new life, but I don't want to give up already. I don't want to give up my personal fight, and I don't want to give up my faith that our civilization as a whole will not give up either, because there are going to be future generations, whether we directly contribute to them or not.

Our challenges are immense, but when we have the opportunity to make some change for the positive, not only in terms of our physical environment but our "inner environment", I hope that we will seize these opportunities. I believe that in our quietest moments, these choices will be our closest companions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sherry Chou



Ph. D. candidate, Physical Oceanography, University of Hawaii Manoa
Ed. M. International Education Policy, Harvard 2005
B. A. Physics and mathematics, Berkeley 2003

Marguerite Harden
3061 Pualei Circle #301
Honolulu, HI 96815

February 9, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of SB 2511, which would collect a charge on single use bags (both paper and plastic), which depositing money into our general fund and a natural area reserves fund. It time that consumers understand and pay the true cost of these disposable products, and be incentivized to use reusable bags.

The hopeful passage of this bill would create much needed funding at a critical time in Hawaii's history—when we are both strapped for government funds and the for a need to move toward a more sustainable future is increasingly important. In addition to the funding support, passage of this bill is necessary for conservation of resources, environmental protection, and sustainable growth. As an archipelago, our State is in the greatest need of protecting our oceans from plastic pollution. With the finding of the “great plastic patch” in the Pacific Ocean, we can no longer continue to ignorantly consume plastic in the ways that we have in the past.

I truly believe that Hawaii's residents want to make the right decisions for our environment and future. Passing this bill will bring much needed awareness for residents to understand the unsustainable practice of utilizing plastic and paper bags on a single-use basis. The bill will aid in reminding our residents of the positive impact they have when brining a reusable bag to the store that they shop at.

I also believe the bill is designed will, in allowing some of the funding to go toward the management of enforcing the fees—shops will have a high income (20% of profit) to set up the fee programs, which will drop off after the first year to 10% of profits.

Mahalo for your time,
Marguerite Harden

The logo consists of the word "LAFE" in a bold, blocky, sans-serif font. The letters are white with a black outline, giving it a high-contrast, stencil-like appearance. The letters are slightly irregular, suggesting a hand-drawn or stamped style.

Testimony for ENE/EDT/WLH 2/9/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2511

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea Buckman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: andrea@lhwrp.org
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

LATE

Comments:

Aloha,
Please pass the bill to eliminate or assess a fee for use of plastic bags, paper bags and to encourage the use of reusable bags to prevent further environmental degradation from occurring. Our islands have unique and sensitive ecosystems that are worth protecting, and this is an easy, effective, relatively painless way to do it.

mahalo,
Andrea

Andrea Buckman
P.O. Box 1643, Makawao, HI 96768

Testimony for ENE/EDT/WLH 2/9/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2511

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Givonn Osterneck
Organization: Individual
E-mail: grownative@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

LATE

Comments:

Aloha,
I support the bill to assess a fee for use of plastic bags, paper bags and to encourage the use of reusable bags to protect our terrestrial and marine ecosystems and to reduce the amount of waste and litter we create in our islands.

mahalo,
Givonn Osterneck

1335 Naalae Rd., Kula HI 967690



LATE

Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc.

February 6, 2012

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Solomon and Members of the Senate Committee on Water,
Land, and Housing:
Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English and Members of the Senate Committee on
Energy and Environment:

RE: S.B. 2782 & S. B. 2511 —Relating to Environmental Protection

✓ [Maui Land and Pineapple Company, Inc. (MLP) supports S.B. 2782 and S.B. 2511 to appropriate funding to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for the immediate protection of priority watersheds.

The Pu'u Kukui Watershed Preserve, which was established in 1988, is the largest private nature preserve in Hawaii and one of MLP's outstanding initiatives. Located on Mauna Kahalawai -- commonly referred to as the West Maui Mountains -- the 8,304-acre preserve is one of the wettest spots on earth, averaging over 400 inches of rain annually. It is also home to plant and animal species that exist nowhere else in Hawai'i, let alone the rest of the world. This fragile and complex watershed of native flora and fauna, that took hundreds of thousands of years to be created, has been actively managed by MLP since 1988 to ensure its pristine state for future generations.

These proposed bills will assist in providing resources to the DLNR to support its "Hahai nō ka ua i ka ulula'au, Rain follows the Rainforest" initiative for protection of watersheds. We not only support the initiative, but also recognize the need to protect all of the priority watersheds similar to Pu'u Kukui. To ensure that fresh water resources and native habitats that collect such water will remain intact against aggressive invasive species and degradation for future generations, all available resources and efforts must be put towards this initiative now, before the window of opportunity vanishes. The Pu'u Kukui Watershed Preserve is part of the Natural Area Partnership Program (NAPP) that receives 2:1 match funding from DLNR, which is crucial for the sustainability of active stewardship of the preserve.

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Housing
Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
February 6, 2012
Page 2 of 2

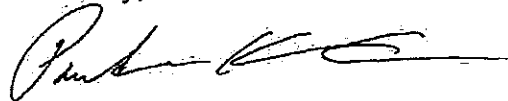
L&P

An old Hawaiian saying often spoken by kūpuna, "Uē ka lani, ola ka honua" translates "when the heavens weep, the earth lives," reminds us of this esteemed blessing that must be cherished.

Protection of our water and priority watersheds, such as Pu'u Kukui, ensures that we will cherish this blessing of the cleanest fresh water in the world and its abundance to be able to sustain life here in Hawaii for all future generations.

We hope that you will join ML&P and support the State's DLNR watershed initiative by supporting these bills for its implementation.

Sincerely,



Pōmaika'i Kaniaupio-Crozier
Conservation Manager,
Pu'u Kukui Watershed Preserve
Maui Land & Pineapple Company, Inc.

February 7, 2013

Dear Legislatures,

My name is Ashlyn.

I am in fourth grade and a student at Pearl City Hilands Elementary School, also known as PCHES. I feel that there should be a law about using plastic and paper bags. I think that we should have to pay a ten cents fee for every time we use a paper or plastic bag at the store. I want this to happen because then we are saving the environment and the ocean sea creatures.

How you ask? Well, people might think that it's crazy that they have to pay a ten cents fee. So they will want to use their own reusable bags instead. I know I would.

Another reason why we should have a ten cents fee is because people will be using reusable bags and that would lead us to

Dear Legislatures

February 7, 2012

My name is Koamana, I am in 4 grade at Pearl City Highlands Elementary school and the way I feel of the new idea is that it should be a law to ban plastic bags because we use over 1,000,000 bags a year and it just goes in the ocean and in the air killing turtles, fish, and birds. We should use regular bags and not too waste plastic bags and fishermen eat the dead fish with a plastic bag in its mouth with lots of toxins and fishermen might die.

From

Koamana

Dear Legislatures

My name is Gabriel James and I am supporting Kāiwoa in the plastic and paper bag fee. I think we should put the plastic and paper bags 10 cents because they are almost died out. Honiō's are eating the plastic bags thing it is jellyfish. And birds get it stuck on their necks and suffocate. If we use reusable bags we can be the first state to be plastic bag free and that will bring back the Hawaiin spirit because the Hawaiins cared about the land. Just because it is not the Hawaiin days anymore dose not mean we don't take care about the land. We have to clean up the land and ocean so the next generations won't have to suffer.

Aloha
Gabriel James

Dear Legislatures

My name is celina I am a 4th grader at Pearl City Highlands Elementary school

Peoples plastic bag end up in the ocean, trees, lakes, and rivers because people just let them fly around. It hurts our environment by killing turtles, fishes, and trees because the turtles think that they are jellyfish, fishes like that there food, and trees are all covered in plastic bags.

I will support using reusable bags because paper bags are bad for the environment and it kills animals that we eat.

Sincerely

celina

Dear legislatures,

February 6, 2012

My name is Thor. I am in 4 grade and the school I go to is pearl city highlands elementary. In the world the average person use alot of plastic bags per year and less than 10% is recycled. The unrecycled percent end up killing marine life, birds, and also getting stuck on trees. I like it if yous the legislatures could help by passing a law that would put a tax on plastic bag so people would try to use less plastic bags because of the tax. I think the tax should be 10¢. Plus from tax people will use more reusable paper bags than plastic bags.

From,

Thor

Ariana
Gr. 4
PEACHES

February 6 2012

Dear Legislators,

Hi my name is Ariana. I feel that if we use plastic ^{and paper} bags we should pay 10¢. I'm supporting Kainoa's idea because if we don't use plastic and paper bags we'll keep our island clean, we will have all the species they won't be sick or harmed. Look out your window you might see a plastic bag flying around. If you look in the ocean you might find plastic bags. If a turtle sees the plastic bag it will think that it is a jelly fish or tasty snack for a turtle then it will choke and die. So, people please don't use plastic and paper bags! 😊

Sincerely,
Ariana

2/7/12

Gr. 4
Pearl City
Highlands
Elementary
School

Dear Legislators,

My name is Gavin.

I am supporting to put a fee on paper and plastic bags.

We should not use plastic and paper bags because plastic bags can kill turtles and monk seals.

Plastic bags end up in the ocean. Paper bags destroy forest, animals' homes. If we not use paper and plastic bags then there will be more turtles, monk seals and trees. The fee will be 10¢, so we will use reusable bags.

From,
Gavin

Dear Legislatures,

February 6, 2012

My name is Amy. I am in fourth grade and I would like to support to put the fee of plastic bags and paper bags because you have to pay 10¢ and the paper bags and plastic bags goes to the ocean water and the plastic bags kills the ocean so you should bring reusable bags.

From
Amy

Dear Legislatures,

February 6, 2012

My name is Kylie.

I think that people should put a fee on paper and plastic bags because when people use plastic bags for trash then the rubbish can gets full and people throw it away in the trash can.

They sometimes miss and don't bother to pick it up. It then flies to the ocean and a sea creature might eat it and get sick and die and the animal will get endangered and then extinct.

People might like that animal.

People should pay 10¢ for paper and a plastic bag. Hopefully this would be a law. I think Kainoa's idea is good. We should also put a fee on paper bags too. When we use paper bags we could easily recycle it but still animals could eat the paper bags. I support using reusable bags because using reusable bags don't harm the environment as much as plastic bags. I like the idea!

From,
Kylie

Dear Legislatures,

My name is Reily
I'm in fourth grade.
I go to Pearl City
Highlands Elementary
school. Plastic bags
ends up in the ocean
trees and mostly
everywhere. Plastic
bags hurt the
environment by turtles
eat them and die.
Including fish and
even birds. I am
supporting using
reusable bags because
using reusable bags,
you could use it
everyday and with
not reusable bags
its going to get
thrown away.

sincerely,
Reily

February 6 2012

Dear Legislatures,

Gr. 4, PEACHES

My name is Joshua. I support Kainoa's idea because I think our island should be beautiful. In social studies and our hawaiian studies, the hawaiians had clean beaches and never wasted. There is a big difference between the looks of the islands. We should also do this so the tourists who come to the beaches would like to visit us again. I think people should be satisfied enough to pay 10¢. We should use reusable bags because the plastic bags end up in the ocean. The plastic bags endanger some of our species. That is why I support Kainoa's idea.

Sincerely,
Joshua

Dear Legislatures,

My name is Dane. I am a student at Pearl City Highlands Elementary School and I am in Grade 4. Remember when Hawaii had no ocean pollution? That is how it should stay. Now days, all of the plastic bags from stores are flying away into the ocean. All of these plastic bags go into the ocean and end up killing our environment and sea water species as well. The state of Hawaii should prevent this problem by using reusable bags. The state needs your help and only you can change this problem.

Aloha,
Dane

February 7th
2012

Dear Legislatures,

Hi my name is Kahia I am in 4th grade. I go to Pearl City high land elementary school. Plastic bags end up in the land fill or stuck in trees and animals will eat it. It hurts the environment because they are toxic. I support because if we put a fee we could stop using plastic bags.

sincerely,
Kahia

Pearl City

My name is Evora. I am in 4th grade. I go to Pearl City elementary school. I know plastic bags end up in oceans and land which mostly covers the earth after use. After that it hurts the environment and people by well lets start first the fish eat it then fishermen catch the fish and after we eat the fish. Another reason is turtles think its jellyfish and eat it then die. This is what I do to stop this from happening I use reusable bags why because it saves the environment and animals.

Sincerely,
Evora

Dear Legislatures

February 7, 2011

Hi my name is Randerz I am in fourth grade in Pearl City Highlands elementary school. I am supporting Kainoa with the paper and plastic bag problem because they they end up in streams, rivers, and oceans. Also it hurts the environment by flying in trees and getting stuck in turtles. That's why I want to use reusable bags.

from

Randerz

Sheadon
Gr. 4
Peaches

Dear Legislators,

February 6, 2012

My name is Sheadon. I feel that if we use plastic bag we should pay 10¢. I'm supporting Kainoa's idea because if we don't use plastic bags we'll keep our island clean, there would be more fishes and turtles, and our land fill won't overflow with bags. If you look out your car window you might see a bag flying around. If you look in the ocean you find bags. If the turtle sees it will mistake it as a jellyfish, a tasty snack for a turtle. So STOP!! using plastic and paper bags

sincerely,

Sheadon

Dear Legislators, February 6, 2012

I am Rustin and I am helping Kaimoa in making of the new law-charge an extra 10¢ for people who use plastic bag. Maybe you should ban plastic bags because look at how beautiful Hawaii is, and you know all for the Honu and if there isn't any Honu no visitor would come. So please rethink your decision.

Aloha from,
Rustin

4-gr.

Pearl City
Highlands
Elementary
School

Dear Legislatures,

My name is Krista I am in 4th grade I go to Pearl City Highlands Elementary School and do you know where plastic bags end up? Plastic bags end up in the ocean, because when plastic bags fly away the plastic bags end up in the ocean. How it hurts the environment is that when plastic bags fly into the ocean turtles and birds eat the plastic bags and die. I support using reusable bags, because plastic bags were not meant eaten by turtles or birds.

Sincerely,
Krista

Dear, Lawmaker

Hello my name is Gavin I am in the 4th grade I go to Pearl City Elementary school. Plastic bags end up at sea or flying around in the sky until it lands in a tree or the ocean. It hurts the environment because turtles might think the plastic bag is a jelly fish and it might eat it and die. If this keeps happening then the turtles may extinct. I support using reusable bags because it won't hurt the environment as much as plastic bags and paper bags.

Sincerely, Gavin

(Dear Legislatures, February 7, 2012

My name is Sage and I am in fourth grade in Pearl City Highlands Elementary school.

I have seen plastic bags and paper bags in the Oceans, trees, and forests. It hurts the environment because turtles might think it is jelly fish, fish might eat it and die, and sharks might think it is fish. I support this bill because I don't want animal dying.

Sincerely,
Sage

Dear Legislatures

My name is Chance I go to Pearl Highlands elementary school in fourth grade. I think fee plastic bags is a good idea because 80% of ocean trash is plastic. I've been researching on box jelly fish. One of it's predators is turtles. The turtle eats it and chokes on it. When you throw away plastic bags it goes to the land fill, when there is wind it blows to the ocean.

Sincerely
Chance

LATE



LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HAWAII

February 8, 2012

TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL N.O. 2511

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii strongly supports the intent of Senate bill 2511, which requires businesses in the State to collect a fee for single-use checkout bags provided to a customer to fund native habitat protection and restoration.

The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii has led the state on recent landscape sustainability initiatives: Invasive Species Initiative (the most aggressive in the nation, 2008), Irrigation Water Conservation Initiative (saving over 50% of outdoor water use, 2010) and Native Plant Initiative (only initiative for reintroducing native species in a built environment, 2010).

Key Points to improve Senate Bill 2511

- Plastic bags are purchased in the built environment, disposed of in our landfills, pollute the built environment and greater impact the built environment's ecosystems and watersheds.
- Plastic bags are one of the most prevalent types of litter in urban areas. Plastic bags pollute our cities, endanger urban wildlife & native flora, litter our streams, clog drainage systems and contribute to flooding.
- The Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) protects the best remaining representatives of Hawai'i's native ecosystems, geological sites, and habitats. NARS does not include the built environment.
- The built environment is the vector for all invasive species impacting Hawaii's native ecosystem.
- Better inspection at Hawaii's ports is the only way to prevent invasive species.
- There should be a robust effort to plant native species in the built environment so the built environment provides a buffer against invasive species and so that the built environment is a vector for the spread of native species.
- A mere 5% of the land below 1000-foot elevation is inhabited by native species¹ and the amount in the built environment is approximately 1-2%.
- Currently only 10 native plants are 'bulletproof' low maintenance and widely used plants in the built environment. Native plant horticultural knowledge is in its

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infancy. A minimum of 30 native plants providing viable alternatives to non-native plants is required to increase the use of native plants in the built environment.

- Substantial multi-year native plant horticultural research effort to develop 30 viable native plants and is estimated to cost approximately \$39 million.
- Senate Bill 2511 should fund all environments impacted by single-use checkout bags including the built environment.
- Senate Bill 2511 should fund native plant research at the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and industry efforts to promote the use of native plants by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii with its Native Plant Initiative. Senate bill 2511 should fund these efforts at \$3 million per fiscal year.

The Landscape Industry strongly supports HB 2260. Senate Bill 2511 should be revised to fund all environments impacted by single-use checkout bags including the built environment. Senate bill 2511 should fund native plant horticultural research at \$3 million per fiscal year.

The Landscape Industry would like to work together to make Senate Bill 2511 a provide funds for the areas that actually impacted – the built environment, please contact me at my email address: chris.dacus@gmail.com.

Chris Dacus
President
Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i
P. O. Box 22938, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96823-2938

Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i

Hawaii's landscape industry is one of the fastest growing and largest segments of the green industry with an economic impact of over \$520 million annually and full time employment of over 11,000 landscape professionals. Since the landscape industry is mostly a service-based industry, the money stays local and has a multiplier effect on our economy.

Celebrating 26 years, LICH was formed in June 1986, the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i is a state wide alliance representing Hawaii's landscape trade associations: Aloha Arborist Association, American Society of Landscape Architects Hawaii Chapter, Hawaii Association of Nurserymen, Hawaii Island Landscape Association, Hawaii Landscape and Irrigation Contractors, Hawaii Society of Urban Forestry Professionals, Kauai Landscape Industry Council, Maui Association of Landscape Professionals, Professional Grounds Management Society, Big Island Association of Nurserymen, and the Hawaii Professional Gardeners Association.

Online at www.landscapehawaii.org

References

1. Ecosystem Status for 2008. Percentage of terrestrial ecosystems surviving as native plant communities, Hawaii Conservation Alliance, 2008.

LAF

Testimony for ENE/EDT/WLH 2/9/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2511

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Harvey Arkin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: alohaxtc@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:

Please ban the use of single use plastic bags, reusable bags work.

Mahalo

Testimony for ENE/EDT/WLH 2/9/2012 2:45:00 PM SB2511

LTE

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Moore
Organization: Individual
E-mail: northshorecanoecub@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs and committees members,

My name is Donna Moore and I am President and Head Coach for the North Shore Canoe Club here in Hawaii. I have paddled for more than 29 years, coached for over 15, and have crossed the Molokai channel in the Na Wahine O Ke Kai canoe race 20 times.

I speak in strong support of Senate Bill 2511 and encourage a full ban on plastic bags.

In the early 80's, I started paddling at a canoe club out of the north shore and it was seen as a normal occurrence to pick up garbage while paddling down the coast of the north shore. We would throw it in the canoe and dump it in the trash after practice. We just accepted it.

Over my many years of paddling I have seen a huge increase in plastic bags over the year.

We have seen ocean life with bags stuck on them to many times, feeding on them and tangled up dead in them. We have taken people out to the ocean so they could spread the ashes of their loved ones and have had to pick up plastic bags.

What has become more disturbing is that no longer is this happening near to shore, it is now happening in the deep ocean.

I would like to see a total ban on plastic bags, this bill hopefully begins the necessary steps in getting the general public to become more conscious of negative habits that affect our environment.

Paddlers will never stop picking up garbage from the ocean. All we are asking for is a little help in stopping the plastic bags from getting into the ocean and with the passage of SB2511 this will hopefully start that process.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2511.

Donna Moore
President - North Shore Canoe Club

February 9, 2019

Dear Legislatures,

My name is Ashlyn. I am in fourth grade and a student at Pearl City Highlands Elementary School, also known as PCHES. I feel that there should be a law about using plastic and paper bags. I think that we should have to pay a ten cents fee for every time we use a paper or plastic bag at the store. I want this to happen because then we are saving the environment and the ocean sea creatures. How you ask? Well, people might think that it's crazy that they have to pay a ten cents fee. So they will want to use their own reusable bags instead. I know I would. Another reason why we should have a ten cents fee is because people will be using reusable bags and that would lead us to

less pollution, less animals
dying, and less tree getting
cut down. Also, no more
turtles dying by thinking
a plastic bag is a jellyfish,
so they won't eat it, choke
and dying. So that is
why I think and feel
we should have a law to
have to pay a ten cents fee.

From,
Ashlyn