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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.maui-county.gov/council

March 12, 2014

TO: The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Gladys C. Baisa
Council Chair *Gladys C. Baisa*

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 13, 2014; TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 2749,
SD1, RELATING TO WASTEWATER**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **opposition to** this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require a county to authorize the installation and use of composting toilets in areas that are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems. The measure also defines composting toilets.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I oppose this measure for the following reasons:

1. Section 27-21.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, assigns to the counties the regulation of individual wastewater systems and private wastewater treatment works.
2. By limiting the counties' authority to prohibit certain on-site means of wastewater disposal, this bill would infringe upon the counties' ability to perform effective regulation.
3. The counties must continue to be allowed to ensure that wastewater is treated and disposed of in a manner that protects the environment and maintains the viability of county treatment systems.

For the foregoing reasons, I **oppose** this measure.

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Website: www.gcahawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

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March 13, 2014

TO: HONORABLE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR, HONORABLE CYNTHIA THIELEN, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2749, SD1 Relating to the Wastewater.** Requires a county to authorize the installation and use of composting toilets in areas that are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems. Defines composting toilet. (SD1)

HEARING

DATE: Thursday, February 13, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over approximately hundred (600) general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

S.B. 2749, SD1 would require a county to authorize the use and installation of composting toilets where such are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems. GCA supports the intent of this measure.

GCA is an active participant on the State Building Code Council which is continuously reviewing new and innovative technology related to building and design. GCA appreciates this measure's consideration of the impact of the state's infrastructure and access to adequate waste disposal systems. This bill would allow the use of composting toilets where access to existing municipal wastewater systems is unavailable.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
WAS 14-37

LATE

March 12, 2014

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
and Members of the Committee on
Energy & Environmental Protection
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 2749, SD1, Relating to Wastewater

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services (ENV), opposes Senate Bill (SB) 2749, SD1, Relating to Wastewater, which would require a county to authorize the installation and use of composting toilets in areas that are inaccessible to municipal wastewater systems.

We object to the inclusion of Section 27-2.16(5)(b) which would transfer the responsibility of permitting such toilets from the State of Hawaii, Department of Health, to the individual counties. This is an unfunded mandate. In addition, a composting toilet is another form of an individual wastewater treatment system and should be permitted and overseen by the Department of Health like all other forms of individual wastewater treatment systems.

The Department of Environmental Services respectfully recommends that SB 2749, SD1 not be moved forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori M.K. Kahikina".

Lori M.K. Kahikina, P.E.
Director

LATE

SB2749

Submitted on: 3/13/2014

Testimony for EEP on Mar 13, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Councilmember Stacy Helm Crivello	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Maui Council Chair Gladys Baisa submitted testimony in opposition of the measure. I support her opposition for the reasons she stated. Thank you!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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