

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2015

RE: H.B. No. 621
H.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 621, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit, progressively over a two-year time period, the manufacture and sale of personal care products that contain synthetic plastic microbeads; and
- (2) Require violators to pay a fine.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, The Story of Stuff Project, Rise Above Plastics Coalition, Surfrider Foundation Hawaii Chapters, Consumer Healthcare Products Association, Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawaii, American Chemistry Council, and six individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

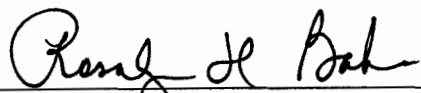
Your Committees find that microbeads are gentle scrubbers that are added to numerous personal care products, including shampoos, soaps, and toothpastes. Research has indicated that wastewater treatment plants are unable to filter out microbeads, and as a result microbeads pass through sewage systems and eventually enter into waterways. Once microbeads enter the marine



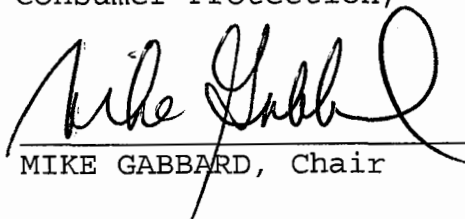
environment, they are impossible to remove and are a significant source of environmental degradation. Implementation of this measure will reduce the State's production of waste and its negative impact on the environment.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 621, H.D. 1, and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy and
Environment and Commerce and
Consumer Protection,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair

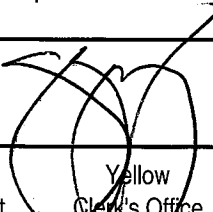


MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 621 HDI	ENE/CPN, WAM	3/24/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)				✓
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.				✓
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes