

**TESTIMONY OF JAN K. YAMANE, ACTING STATE AUDITOR,
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2251, HD1,
RELATING TO RECYCLING**

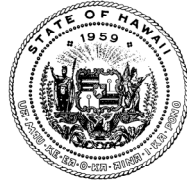
House Committee on Finance

March 2, 2016

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support Section 1(c) of this bill. HB 2251, HD1, requests the Department of Health submit a report to the Legislature on the department's progress in adopting recommendations contained in Auditor's Report No. 14-17, [*A Study to Identify Local Alternatives to Shipping Non-Deposit Glass Out of the State of Hawai'i*](#), no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2017 Regular Session.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of Section 1(c) of HB 2251, HD1. I am available to answer any questions you may have.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on H.B. 2251 H.D. 1
RELATING TO RECYCLING**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: 3/2/2016
Time: 11:00 A.M.

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department respectfully requests an appropriation of \$100,000 from
2 the general fund to conduct the assessment of the glass advance disposal fee (ADF) program.

3 **Department Testimony:** This measure requires the Department to assess the viability of the
4 ADF program and to report on the Department's progress in adopting the recommendations
5 contained in Auditor's Report 14-17. The Department is requesting an appropriation from the
6 general fund, to cover the costs of conducting the assessment.

7 The Department also respectfully requests an additional year to submit its report to the
8 legislature. The additional time is needed for the Department to obtain the Governor's approval
9 to contract for this assessment, go through the state's procurement process to hire a contractor,
10 and finally for the contractor to conduct the assessment. This assessment will require many
11 visits to Oahu and neighbor island recyclers that collect and process ADF material in order to
12 determine the average size and weight of containers covered under the ADF program.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and we appreciate the legislature
14 support of the state's recycling programs.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 ULUOHIA STREET, SUITE 308, KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3486 • FAX: (808) 768-3487 • WEBSITE: <http://envhonolulu.org>

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



LORI M.K. KAHIKINA, P.E.
DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY A. HOUGHTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
WAS 16-55

March 1, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill 2251, H.D.1 Relating to Recycling

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services (ENV) supports House Bill 2251, H.D.1. It is important to continue to support recycling for glass, since glass remains one of the least bio-degradable substances that is widely used. While the proposed study is useful, increased financial support for the program through increased fees currently appears necessary for program continuation. We urge appropriate financial support be provided to ensure that the program continues efforts to keep the glass out of our landfill.

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

**Testimony of
Gary M. Slovin / Mihoko E. Ito
on behalf of
Wine Institute**

DATE: March 1, 2016

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair, Committee on Finance
Submitted Via FINTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: **H.B. 2251, H.D. 1 – Relating to Recycling**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 308

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Wine Institute is a public policy association representing 835 California wineries of all sizes. The Wine Institute supports H.B. 2251, H.D. 1, which will call for the Department of Health to assess the viability of the glass advance disposal fee program and report to the Legislature. The Wine Institute is happy to cooperate with the Department in its assessment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Gary M. Slovin
Mihoko E. Ito
C. Mike Kido
Tiffany N. Yajima

999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 539-0840

HAWAII LIQUOR WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION

222 South Vineyard Street, Suite 401
Honolulu, HI 96813-2453
(808) 531-4551

March 1, 2016

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: H.B. No. 2251, HD1 relating to recycling

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association ("HLWA"), we respectfully submit the following written testimony in **support** of H.B. No. 2251, HD1 relating to recycling, which is to be heard by your Committee on Finance on March 2, 2016.

H.B. No. 2251, HD1 requires the Department of Health to assess the viability of the advanced disposal fee program and report to the Legislature. It also requires the Department of Health to report progress on adopting the recommendations of the State Auditor's Report No. 14-17, A Study to Identify Local Alternatives to Shipping Non-Deposit Glass Out of the State of Hawaii.

HLWA believes that H.B. No. 2251, HD1 is appropriate for the following reasons.

First, there is no basis that any changes in fee structure and container sizes originally covered under HRS Chapter 342G Part VII, is properly correlated to actual or necessary program costs.

Secondly, we note the State Auditor's Report No.14-17, A Study to Identify Local Alternatives to Shipping Non-Deposit Glass Out of the State of Hawaii noted inefficiencies between the advanced disposal fee (ADF) and deposit beverage container (DBC) programs with regard to glass. The

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Finance
March 1, 2016
Page 2 of 2

study also noted the need to provide clarity to stakeholders regarding both DBC and ADF glass, and suggests the Department of Health update and finalize its 2008 policy on glass recycling.

Without clarity of the current inefficiencies of the glass programs, viable alternatives to shipping glass and an updated policy on glass recycling, it would be impossible to determine the appropriateness and efficacy of any proposed measures involving glass in the future. Shipping cannot remain the only method for addressing glass in the state.

It is for those reasons that we respectfully support H.B. No. 2251, HD1. Thank you for consideration of the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

Warren Shon
President



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday March 2, 2016 11AM Room 306

COMMENTS HB2251, HD1 Relating to Recycling

LATE

Aloha Chairwoman Luke and member of the Finance Committee,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers comments on HB2251 relating to recycling.

What HB2251 does

This bill requires a study and report to the Legislature about our current recycling program in an attempt to address criticism raised in the Auditor's Report entitled "A Study to Identify Local Alternatives to Shipping Non-Deposit Glass Out of the State of Hawai'i."

The Bottle Bill: Most Significant Improvement to Hawai'i's Waste Problem

Before the Bottle Bill (Deposit Beverage Container Act) was adopted in 2005, Hawai'i residents recycled about 20% of their glass and plastic bottles. Within one year of adopting the bill, Hawai'i's recycling rate skyrocketed to 68%. That is an undeniably quick and significant improvement in recycling habits. And it has stuck; annual recycling rates for glass and plastic bottles are consistently over 75%. That amounts to over 4.7 billion containers since 2005. Recycling those containers provides 3,000 full-time jobs statewide, produces 49,000 MWh of electricity, and reduces global greenhouse gas emissions.

Given these facts, it is crucial to keep in mind that Hawai'i has an extremely successful recycling program. The success of the Bottle Bill should be considered when developing strategies to improve recycling of Advance Disposal Fee glass. Seeking to improve Hawai'i's recycling programs, however, should never be grounds for curtailing or reducing these programs.

Always looking to Improve

That said, we are always looking to improve our capacity to recycle material considered to be waste.

Options for making much needed improvements in our recycling program include:

- requiring retailers to take back recyclable waste, like plastic and glass containers,
- expand the redemption program to include all containers, especially wines and spirits,
- increase the deposit/redemption fee to 10-cents, instead of 5-cents,
- merge the Advance Deposit Fee program with the HI-5 redemption fee program.

The Sierra Club is committed to defending the overwhelmingly successful HI-5 and ADF programs. We are always open to consider improvements and appreciate this Committee considering our testimony on this important measure.

Maintaining high rates of recycling is essential to Hawai'i's survival

Even with our high rates of glass and plastic bottle recycling, Hawai'i is over-run with recyclable waste. Overstuffed landfills and illegal dump sites pose significant risks to human health. Research by the World Economic Forum and Ellen MacArthur Foundation found that 165 million tons of plastic currently pollute our ocean. If this trend continues, then they estimate that by 2050 there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish.¹

Mahalo,



Martha Townsend
Director

¹ <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2016/01/24/oceans-more-plastic-than-fish/79267192/>