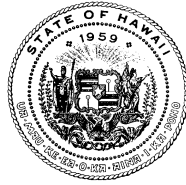


**SB 1227**



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

**Testimony in OPPOSITION to S.B. 1227**  
**RELATING TO FOOD WASTE**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: February 5, 2015  
Time: 2:45pm

Room Number: 225

1 **Fiscal Implications:** No funding is provided to enforce the prohibition.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department respectfully opposes this measure, which prohibits generators  
3 of commercial organic material from disposing any solid waste into landfills, waste-to-energy facilities,  
4 or incinerators. While we believe the intent of the measure is to restrict the disposal of large quantities  
5 of food waste, the measure actually prohibits the disposal of all waste by commercial organic material  
6 generators at the aforementioned facilities, and requires all of their waste to be taken to specific organic  
7 waste management facilities, which may or may not be appropriate. Restaurants, supermarkets, and  
8 food manufacturers are known to generate other waste streams than just food waste.

9 Assuming that the intent of the measure is to divert large quantities of food waste from landfills and H-  
10 power, the City and County of Honolulu already has a food waste recycling ordinance that requires large  
11 food establishments to recycle food waste. We believe that this existing ordinance addresses majority  
12 of the waste stream that is targeted in this measure.

13 In addition, the Department opposes this measure because we do not have the resources to enforce the  
14 proposed recycling requirements. The proposed new requirements will require oversight over a new set  
15 of regulated entities, not ones that we already regulate under HRS 342G or H. Our solid waste  
16 enforcement staff is primarily funded by the collection of the solid waste management surcharge, which  
17 its collective revenue decreased over recent years. In order to accommodate reduced solid waste  
18 surcharge revenue and increased personnel costs, we have already cut or reduced services, such as  
19 state-wide solid waste management planning, compliance monitoring of solid waste facilities,  
20 enforcement of battery and tire retailers, and municipal solid waste landfill operator training.

21 **Offered Amendments:** None

22 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

23

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org](mailto:cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1227 on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 02, 2015 4:13:38 PM

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Comments Only	No

Comments: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair Hearing: February 5, 2015 Conference Room 225 Hawai'i State Capitol Re: SB1227 We support the intent of this bill to curb waste; however, we oppose the feeding of garbage to pigs destined for slaughter in Hawai'i. The practice of feeding food waste to livestock is prohibited throughout the European Union and in 22 states in the US. Unless the garbage is boiled for a set amount of time at a prescribed temperature, the possibility of disease is a serious issue. Although allowed under federal law, enforcement in Hawai'i is deferred to the State. Records obtained by Animal Rights Hawai'i under UIPA, show that compliance is spotty and we doubt that the Dept. of Agriculture has the resources to adequately protect the health of people who consume the flesh of swill-fed pigs. We ask that "animal feed" be removed from SB1227. Cathy Goeggel  
President

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**Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director**

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**TO:**  
**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair**  
**Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair**

**FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION**  
**Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director**

**DATE: February 5, 2015**  
**TIME: 2:45pm**  
**PLACE: Conference Room 225**

**RE: SB1227**

**Position: Comments**

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA supports the intent of this measure. However, this type of mandate cannot functionally be enacted until the state creates an alternative waste distribution system for commercial organic material waste.

HFIA would be willing to participate in discussions and work with the state to explore what kind of waste distribution systems might be created and how best to implement them in order to keep commercial organic material waste out of landfills in future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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**Date:** Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:26:13 PM

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
pat gegen	Zero Waste Kauai	Support	No

Comments: Organics that go to landfills create methane. Food waste has many higher value uses like feeding others, feeding animals, and creating soil through composting. We need to be better about preserving our resources and SB1227 is an excellent step in the right direction.

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**EKO**COMPOST  
TURNS DIRT INTO SOIL

February 3, 2015

Aloha Committee Members:

Maui EKO Systems supports SB1227, which prohibits organic material waste from landfills, with amendments. EKO fully supports the concepts of zero waste and sustainability, which the intent of this bill seems to be supporting.

Our concerns with this bill as currently written stem from the inclusion of the term “or transfer any solid waste...” EKO is contracted with Maui County to compost incoming greenwaste and biosolids, with the compost facility cited within the Central Maui Landfill. As currently written, the bill may be interpreted to mean that our current operations may not be permitted. In talking with the introducer of this bill, halting operations such as ours is not the intent behind this bill. Therefore, EKO respectfully requests that the language be amended to read:

“(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any generator of commercial organic material shall not dispose of ~~or transfer~~ any ~~solid waste commercial organic material~~ to any landfill or waste-to-energy facility, or by incineration, in the State.”

EKO supports SB1227, with amendments.

Mahalo,

Brittany Smart  
Marketing & Public Affairs

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**Cc:** [ktk@biodiesel.com](mailto:ktk@biodiesel.com)  
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**Date:** Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:40:55 AM

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly King	Pacific Biodiesel Technologies	Comments Only	No

Comments: While we wholeheartedly believe in the concept of zero waste, the wording of the description of this bill is problematic. The phrase "or transfer of commercial organic waste" would seem to illegalize our operations at the Maui Landfill where we are collecting waste oils from restaurants and transferring it to tankers to be shipped to Big Island Biodiesel. Pacific Biodiesel has been in operation in the Central Maui Landfill since 1996 and has won numerous awards for our recycling of waste vegetable oil into high quality biodiesel. We respectfully request you strike the words "or transfer" from the first sentence and add the biofuel production to the list of possible alternate means of disposal. Mahalo nui loa, Kelly and Bob King

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sharon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brittany Smart	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB1227. Mahalo.

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
lauryn rego	Individual	Support	No

Comments: LOVE IT! I AM FULLY IN SUPPORT OF THIS TYPE OF LEGISLATION.

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**SB1227**

Submitted on: 2/1/2015

Testimony for ENE on Feb 5, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room CR225

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerry Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I fully support his bill. I am an organic farmer on Maui and I generate compost from green waste and over 25 tons of food waste a year. it has dramatically decreased our fertilizer bill, increased our soil health, increased the flavor and quality of our produce and reduced soil erosion rates on our farm by 95%. Hawai'i can take a big step towards sustainability by increasing our ability to capture and use organic waste rather than leaving it in a land fill where it just becomes a problem for future generations. Maui County has been fined over 3 million dollars by the EPA for excessive methane emissions from our landfill, due largely to the unnecessary accumulation of organic matter in the landfill. With our rapid rates of vegetative growth and food waste from 1.4 million permanent residents (not mentioning transients) we have the opportunity to benefit substantially from the capture of our organic waste and turning it into a resource whether it be biogas or soil regenerating compost.

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