

SB 710



**TESTIMONY OF JAN K. YAMANE, ACTING STATE AUDITOR,
ON SENATE BILL NO. 710, RELATING TO THE STATE INTEGRATED WASTE
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

February 5, 2015

Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

I am Jan Yamane, Acting State Auditor. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the intent of Senate Bill No. 710. The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support the revision of the state integrated solid waste management plan, thus furthering the State's waste management goals and ensuring progress toward managing the State's waste.

In December 2014, we released Report No. 14-16, *Audit of the Department of Health's Glass Advance Disposal Fee Program*, wherein we recommended, in part, that the department continue with intended plans to request from the 2015 Legislature funds to update the State's integrated waste management plan. We also recommended that the department work with the Legislature to update the State's waste disposal goals to ensure the goals are measurable and revised when necessary. We defer to the Department of Health on the type and amount of resources it needs to carry out our recommendations.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of the intent of Senate Bill 710. I am available to answer any questions you may have.



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Testimony COMMENTING on S.B. 710
RELATING TO THE STATE INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: February 5, 2015

Room Number: 225

Time: 2:45 p.m.

1 **Fiscal Implications:** \$350,000 general fund appropriation

2 **Department Testimony:** This measure proposes to appropriate funds to the Department of Health to
3 support the revision of the State Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

4 We appreciate the intent of this measure but defer to the Governor's Executive Budget request for the
5 Department of Health's appropriation and personnel priorities.

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

7 **Offered Amendments:** None

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**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of SB710 Relating to the State Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan
Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
5 February 2015, 2:45pm, Room 225**

**Audrey Newman
Hawai'i Green Growth**

Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 70 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Green, and Members of the Committee,

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) provides it's strongest support for SB710 to appropriate funds to the Department of Health to revise the State Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWM Plan) is a highly cost-effective investment in working statewide to reduce solid waste and meet the *Aloha+ Challenge* targets. In our HGG statewide Sustainability Measures meetings, it was identified as the most critical need/gap by County, State and non-profit professionals working on solid waste and discarded resource recovery.

The last ISWM Plan was done in 2000. A revision would bring together County ISWM Plans, reflect current priorities from multi-stakeholder planning processes, and provide a place to prioritize statewide waste management needs and compare solutions to meet the challenges of waste reduction in Hawai'i.

SB710 will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'oiia*, a joint leadership commitment to achieve six sustainability targets by 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food production, natural resource management, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, green jobs and education. The *Aloha+ Challenge* was unanimously endorsed by the 2014 Legislature (SCR 69) and signed by Hawai'i's Governor, Mayors and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. It was also internationally recognized as a model of integrated sustainability at the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa.

HGG and the State Sustainability Coordinator are working in partnership with the counties, Office of Information Management and Technology, and a statewide team of government agencies (federal, state, county), academia, philanthropies, businesses and non-profit organizations to develop shared indicators and an online dashboard. This dashboard will provide a tool for decision makers and the public to track progress on the *Aloha+ Challenge* targets starting with waste reduction and clean energy. The ISWM Plan can help fill critical data gaps for waste reduction indicators that were identified during this statewide indicator selection process.

As a partnership representing Hawai'i's leaders in environment, food and energy, HGG asks for your support of **SB710**, which is an important investment towards reducing solid waste reduction in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light grey rectangular box.

Audrey Newman

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy

<http://www.hawaiigreengrowth.org>

From: [Pat Gegen](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: SB710 Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:22:36 PM

Please note - this testimony was also submitted on line but less than 24 hours in advance.

Zero Waste Kauai STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB710. Materials management practices which include reduction of waste, reuse opportunities of useful but discarded materials, recycling of high value discarded materials continue to be improved allowing us to recover and preserve the value of materials that previously were thoughtlessly discarded.

The Aloha + Challenge has set a goal of "Reducing the Solid Waste Stream prior to disposal by 70% through Source Reduction Recycling, Bioconversion and landfill diversion methods". Hawai'i will need to take an aggressive set of actions to meet this reduction target. Initiating and developing a current Integrated Solid Waste Plan for the State of Hawai'i which incorporates best practices of diversion and materials management will allow the state to reach the Aloha + Challenge goals and has the potential to create additional green jobs in each county.

An element that would assist in this thorough plan revision would be a Waste Composition Study so the DOH would be able to better understand our discard habits and where the most efficient and revenue producing opportunities lie with the materials we could better recover. It is beneficial to understand what our current practices are to better chart our future plans.

We would like to see the name of the plan changed to better reflect the goals we are trying to achieve....."The State Material Management Plan"...Hawai'is' Resource Recovery and Waste Minimization Plan".... Currently WE ARE wasting resources... let us focus on recovering those resources that have value and creating less opala.

Aloha Energy and Environment Committee,

SB 710 is an imperative step toward reaching the Statewide Aloha + Challenge goal of 70% waste stream reduction by 2030. If we do not put resources towards supporting the State Department of Health to update our Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, we cannot expect to move forward on our goal.

As an isolated land mass, we have to carefully consider our approach to waste management. It's important, that where possible, we consider waste a "discarded resource" fit for repurposing as well as recycling. It's important, also, that our state plan reflects this.

It's no secret that Hawaii's waste management system is in need of reform and is in many ways archaic. Compounding traditional waste stream concerns, Hawaii has the extra added stress of dealing with waste from the prominent tourism and import sectors. Our situation is not straightforward, and proper thought and planning are needed to properly resolve our waste problems. Furthermore, in light of our failing state and country recycling efforts, the need for an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan update is even more poignant.

I just spent three weeks in Columbia, a nation that has undergone decades of corruption, violence and war. Columbia's "discarded resource management" system was sophisticated and thorough. My lodging accommodations had bins to separate food waste, plastic, and paper. Both the Cartagena and Medellin airports had the same. I was blown away to discover that Hawaii is leagues behind a country that has just barely regained its peace and composure. What is our excuse?

We are entering the international stage in 2016 as we are hosting the IUCN World Conservation Congress. Hawaii has made big claims about our dedication to conservation and sustainability. We need to put our money where our mouth is and show that we are as dedicated as we've claimed. The world is expecting is from us.

Approve SB 710.

With Aloha,

Nicole Chatterson
Community Member and sustainability professional