

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

Testimony in SUPPORT of BILL S.B. 976

**RELATING TO TIER II FILING FEES FOR REPORTING OF HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: March 30, 2017
Time: 3:00 P.M.

Room Number: 308

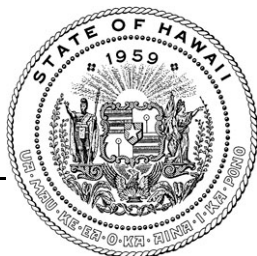
1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure proposes to increase the annual TIER II Chemical Inventory
2 Reporting Filing Fee from \$100 to \$200.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department strongly supports this measure to increase the Hawaii
4 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (HEPCRA) Act Tier II annual filing fee
5 from \$100 to \$200 in order to provide adequate emergency preparedness funding to Local Area
6 Planning Committees (LEPCs) in the face of rising operational and equipment costs. The LEPCs
7 rely on these fees as their primary source of funding to do their part to keep their counties safe.

8 In FY 2014, 889 total facilities (civilian and military) paid a total of \$68,300 in filing fees, which
9 were deposited into the environmental response revolving fund. DOH transferred funds to the
10 LEPCs in FY 2016 in proportion to the number of facilities per county, pursuant to section
11 128E-9, HRS.

12 The Tier II filings fees are used by the county LEPCs to conduct joint emergency planning
13 response training, purchase specialized equipment, and for hazardous materials emergency
14 preparedness activities. The \$100 flat filing fee has not changed since the program began
15 collecting fees in 1993. With inflation rising 70% over the past 27 years, the funding to LEPCs is
16 no longer adequate to cover present day costs of specialized equipment, training and travel
17 required to maintain the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of the county first
18 responders that respond to hazardous materials incidents statewide.

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



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thursday, March 30, 2017
3:00 pm.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
SB 976 HD1
**RELATING TO RELATING TO TIER II FILING FEES FOR REPORTING OF
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** SB 976, an Administration measure which changes the Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (HEPCRA) Tier II filing fee from \$100 to \$200, to provide needed preparedness resources to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs).

The Tier II filings fees are used by the county LEPCs to conduct joint emergency planning response training, purchase specialized equipment, and for hazardous materials emergency preparedness activities. The \$100 flat filing fee has not changed since the program began collecting fees in 1993.

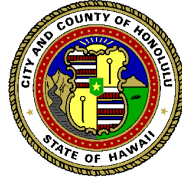
As a member of the Hawaii State Emergency Response Commission which is responsible for implementing HEPCRA provisions within the State, DBEDT appreciates that the LEPCs rely on these fees as their primary source of funding to do their part to keep their counties safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer **support** on SB 976 HD1.

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU
DIRECTOR

PETER J.S. HIRAI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 29, 2017

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance
State House of Representatives
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF S.B. 976 RELATING TO TIER II FILING FEES FOR
REPORTING OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES**

I am Robert Harter, Emergency Management Staff Officer (Hazardous Materials), Department of Emergency Management, City and County of Honolulu (City) and Coordinator for the Honolulu Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

The City strongly supports S.B. 976, which increases the annual Tier II filing fee to \$200.00. As part of the emergency management community who collaboratively plans for, responds to, and recovers from hazardous materials (HAZMAT) incidents, I understand and concur that the Tier II filing fee should be increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00 to provide more funding to each county LEPC, due to increased operational costs. Each LEPC would use the added funding to secure HAZMAT specific training and specialized equipment for first responders who would utilize this specialized training and equipment for any hazardous material incident (e.g. spill or release). Additional funding would also be used to expand community safety preparedness outreach efforts. The proposed fee increase is reasonable and will enhance community safety preparedness and emergency response capability should a HAZMAT spill or release ever occur.

The City urges your committee to pass S.B. 976. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Robert H-H Harter
Emergency Management Staff Officer
Coordinator, Honolulu LEPC

cc: Roy K. Amemiya, Managing Director

House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Hawaii Fire Department
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, HI 96720
Contact phone: 808-443-4150

Thursday, March 30, 2017

I am a Battalion Chief in the Hawaii Fire Department on the island of Hawaii and I am submitting testimony in support of SB 976 relating to Tier II filing Fees for Reporting of Hazardous Substances. As part of my duties, I oversee the Hazardous Materials emergency response for our county. I am also the Chair of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on the island of Hawaii and a member of the Hawaii State Emergency Response Commission (HSERC).

I strongly support this measure to increase the Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (HEPCRA) Act Tier II annual filing fee from \$100 to \$200 in order to provide adequate emergency preparedness funding to Local Area Planning Committees (LEPCs) in the face of rising operational and equipment costs. Our LEPC relies on these fees as the primary source of funding to do our part to keep the county safe.

The Tier II filings fees are paid primarily by companies who store a specified amount of hazardous chemicals and are used by the county LEPC to conduct joint emergency planning response training, purchase specialized equipment, and for hazardous materials emergency preparedness activities. Therefore, this fee increase will not affect our budget in any way or have any effect on our tax base. The funds generated by these Tier II fees is very important for the safety of our first responders and for the protection of our community and environment.

Sincerely,



Gerald Kosaki, Battalion Chief
Hawaii Fire Department

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jstubbart@pulamalanai.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB976 on Mar 30, 2017 15:00PM

SB976

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Stubbart	Lanai Water Company	Support	No

Comments: I am John Stubbart, Director of Utilities on the island of Lanai. We manage the water, wastewater, and solar facilities on the island. I am in support of SB976. This measure to increase the annual Tier II filing fee from \$100 to \$200 will benefit the regulated communities. We understand and agree that the Tier II filing fee should be increased from \$100 to \$200 to provide more funding to the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCsThank you for the opportunity to testify in this measure". Sincerely, John Stubbart Dir. of Utilities Lanai, Hawaii 96763

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lho@hawaiiublicpolicy.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB976 on Mar 30, 2017 15:00PM*

SB976

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 30, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Albert Chee	Island Energy Services	Support	No

Comments:

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Meadow Gold Dairies



SB976hd1, Relating to Tier II Filing Fees for Reporting of Hazardous
House FIN Committee

March 30, 2017 – Agenda 2

3:00 pm Room 308

Written Testimony By: Glenn Muranaka

Position: Support

Chair Luke and Members of the House FIN Committee:

My name is Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies. Our company has been in Hawaii since 1897—120 years, providing Hawaii consumers with a variety of milk products and juices. Meadow Gold's long history has not come without effort. We continually adapt to our customers' and consumers' ever-changing needs, and we constantly evolve along with our industry, our community and our market. Over the years, this has required that we struggle, tighten our belts, innovate and work extremely hard, making us a better company in the process. The foundation of this work rests with the 330 employees that are committed to providing superior quality products.

We understand that the annual Tier II filing fee of \$100 paid by covered companies was enacted in 1993. Since then operational expenses for Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) have increased. The increase from \$100 to \$200 would enable LEPCs to secure training, provide community outreach and procure specialized equipment for emergency first responders in the event of hazardous materials incident.

Your support of this measure is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.