

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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Written Testimony  
Only

**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 1800 HD1  
RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE TIRES**

REPRESENTATIVE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE  
Hearing Date: February 12, 2018                      Room Number: 329  
Time: 2:00 PM

1    **Fiscal Implications:** There are no fiscal impacts on state resources. Tire retailers and the  
2    counties that choose to implement the program would experience increased administrative  
3    responsibilities that may be offset by the revenue generated by the fee.

4    **Department Testimony:** This bill proposes to create a refundable fee on motor vehicle tires in  
5    order to address the issue of illegally dumped used tires. The Department of Health supports this  
6    bill.

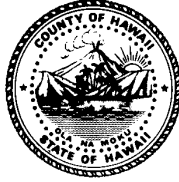
7            The department recognizes that some consumers choose to hold on to their used motor  
8    vehicle tires despite the charging of a non-refundable disposal fee when purchasing new tires.  
9    This bill is an attempt to create further incentive for consumers to turn in their used tires when  
10   purchasing new ones.

11           It is fitting that the bill gives counties the option of implementing the program as they are  
12   responsible for disposing of illegally dumped tires.

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

Harry Kim  
Mayor

Wilfred M. Okabe  
Managing Director



William A. Kucharski  
Director

Diane A. Noda  
Deputy Director

## County of Hawai'i

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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February 9, 2018

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair  
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
State of Hawai'i House of Representatives  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: **Comment on HB1800 HD1**  
**(Relating to Motor Vehicle Tires)**

Date: February 12, 2018 (Monday)

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Dear Chairperson Lee and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

Abandoned or illegally dumped tires are a health hazard and costly to process. HB1800 allows a County to add an additional "deposit fee" if new tires are purchased but old tires have not been provided to the tire dealer. The intent is to encourage the return of old tires and to reduce illegal tire disposal. The County of Hawaii (COH) supported HB1800 which had an effective date upon adoption. However, HB1800 HD1, which grants a delay in implementation to 2045, will do nothing to address the illegal disposal of tires, the intent of the original HB1800, for twenty-seven (27) years. COH supports the original Bill before it was amended by HD1.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. A. Kucharski".

William A. Kucharski  
Director, Department of Environmental Management, COH



Brian Kitagawa, President  
Dave Rolf, Executive Director

HADA TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION  
TO HB1800

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE TIRES

Presented to the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
At the Public Hearing, 2 p.m. Monday, February 12, 2018  
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the committee:

New car dealers have participated in scrap tire clean up programs and studies over the years, and have always encouraged proponents of any new legislation regarding such scrap tire clean-up or prevention policies to show the scope and size of the problem that needs to be addressed and to be aware of problems that may occur as unintended consequences of any proposed policy.

We addressed several of these unintended consequences in our earlier testimony, and **remain opposed** to this bill.

We would note that the reference we heard during testimony about “containers” of scrap tires that are being shipped from the island of Hawaii on a regular basis turns out **not** to be a reference to illegally dumped tires, as was first thought, but rather to the county’s program that accepts the tires awaiting proper disposal.

Our previous testimony provided comments on the necessity to use the programs that are in place and the funding that is already collected from consumers in tire disposal fees assessed at purchase, and the \$1 fee per tire that is assessed the wholesalers who import tires and remitted to the State.

Additionally, we point to Hawaii’s establishment, several years ago, of a Class C felony for the illegal disposal of scrap tires that should provide a significant deterrent when **aggressively enforced**.

Our discussions with officials on the island of Hawaii, revealed a significant “education of the public campaign” they are conducting, with regard to scrap tire disposal, that county officials hope will help with any improper disposal.

Finally, It is counterproductive to create unproven programs which have administrative burdens.

For the above reasons, while we always remain opening to working on this, we oppose HB1800 and ask that the measure be held.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Rolf

For the Members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association





SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I  
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

Monday, February 12, 2018 2:00PM Conference Room 329

**In SUPPORT of HB 1800 HD1** Relating to motor vehicle tires

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Aloha Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ichiyama and members of the Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, a member of the Common Good Coalition, **supports HB 1800 HD1**, which seeks to authorize counties to establish a requirement for customers to exchange the equal number of used tires to the tire retailer as they are purchasing, or pay a fee to compensate for the missing tires. The bill also creates a fund for authorities to clean up improperly disposed of used tires.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, dedicated to exploring, enjoying, and protecting these unique and beautiful islands we call home, have engaged in decades-long efforts to keep valuable public areas free of pollution from plastics and other waste. This measure will effectively reduce tire waste, a huge problem in many areas around Hawai'i, which can have negative effects on human health and safety, as well as the environment. This measure would increase tire recycling, which would decrease negative impacts such as the spread of mosquito borne illness, unsightly litter when improperly disposed of, and reduce fire hazards.

We are committed to supporting efforts seeking to reduce waste, litter, and pollution across the islands. HB 1800 HD1 contributes to these efforts. This is a common sense measure, which the Sierra Club of Hawai'i supports in full.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 11:40:48 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Scott Garris	Self	Oppose	No

Comments:

**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 9:56:51 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
laura Ramirez		Support	No

Comments:

**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 7:37:06 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ryan christopher		Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii desperately needs a tire recycling program. I see too many tires on the side of the roads. They are an eye sore, an environmental issue, and a health issue.

Mahalo.



**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 3:53:02 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carlton York		Support	No

Comments:

Strong support , Tires do not breakdown in the wild a recycle program is essential !

**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/11/2018 12:54:31 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephany Cecil		Support	No

Comments:

I support tire recycling programs in Hawaii.

**HB-1800-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 9:21:42 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/12/2018 2:00:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Angela Huntmer		Support	No

Comments:

The problem of abandon tires (and vehicles in general) has reachd a critical level. Please do something to alleviate the problem of abandoned tires. We cannot have them all over the place. Thank you.