

DAVID Y. IGE  
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**LATE**

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**Testimony COMMENTING on HCR 111**

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A REGIONAL  
CESSPOOL MODERIZATION TASK FORCE WITHIN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR

Hearing Date: March 20, 2018  
Time: 9:00 a.m.

Room Number: 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (Department) would need resources to support the
- 2 cesspool task forces that are covered under this measure and defers to the Governor's Supplemental
- 3 Budget Request for appropriation priorities.
  
- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports the concept of this measure, but we do not
- 5 have the personnel and financial resources needed to convene the task forces within each county of
- 6 the State. However, the Department prefers the approach taken in HB2626, which requires the
- 7 Department to hire a third-party consultant to conduct a study on issues relating to the upgrade or
- 8 conversion of cesspools. HB2626 also establishes a cesspool conversion working group to assist
- 9 the third-party consultant on the study.
  
- 10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 7:15:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura	Maui County Council	Support	No

Comments:

I support this regional cesspool modernization task force! I represent Upcountry Maui and our 7400 residents are deemed potential threats to drinking water which will require replacement of septic tanks or hook up to a sewer system by 2050.

By attending two meetings held Upcountry in January and in February the residents are not satisfied with the reports from the Dept of Health and the AG.

Thank you.

I support this as the next step to explore alternatives and solutions.

Yuki Lei Sugimura

Councilmember, Upcountry, Maui



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March 20, 2018

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**TESTIMONY ON HCR 111**  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A REGIONAL CESSPOOL  
MODERNIZATION TASK FORCE WITHIN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE.

Room 325  
9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice-Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

HFB strongly supports HCR 111, which request the Department of Health to convene regional cesspool modernization task forces in each County.

Cesspools are common in rural areas across the State. While cesspool impacts at shoreline areas are clear, the impacts in areas far from the ocean and at high elevations are less evident. Recent groundwater contamination findings in Upcountry Maui have raised concern about sites far from the ocean. It is clear that other sources of contamination than residential cesspools exist. For example, the land over one of the wells was irrigated with wastewater from the surrounding subdivision. Given the significant costs associated with retrofits, a better understanding of contamination sources and solutions is needed. It is not a one size fits all situation. This warrants the regional task forces as proposed in this measure.

The 2050 deadline and requirements as home renovations occur should also be addressed by the task force. Clarification of federal requirements is needed.

For these reasons HFB respectfully request your strong support of this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our opinion on this important matter.



**LATE**



**Kula Community Association  
P.O. Box 417, Kula, Hawaii 96790**

*The vision of the Kula Community Association is to preserve open space, support agriculture, maintain a rural residential atmosphere, and to work together as a community. The specific purpose of this association is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Kula, to promote civic welfare, and generally to benefit the community of Kula.*

March 19, 2018

To: Representative Chris Lee, Chair  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice-Chair  
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Re: Hearing: 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol

Bill: **HCR111** REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A REGIONAL  
CESSPOOL MODERIZATION TASK FORCE WITHIN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE.  
**Testimony in SUPPORT**

Dear Representatives Lee, Lowen, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for hearing this important item. **The Kula Community Association Board of Directors strongly supports this request for a task force.** The Department of Health recently released a draft study showing problems with cesspools leaking into groundwater and has designated Upcountry Maui as a Priority 1 location. Our Association recently invited the Department of Health to explain their findings to our community. It was the largest Association Community meeting we have ever had. While it was clear from the Department's presentation that a problem exists, there were no obvious solutions. A regional task force will allow experts to meet and discuss solutions. Each island is different and it is smart to have a regional approach as there may be different solutions for different locations. We ask that you help communities across Hawaii and help our environment by supporting this measure.

Mahalo nui loa,  
Gina Flammer, President

**LATE**

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 7:04:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez	Go Maui, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 2:28:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 3:36:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:



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**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 6:05:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support this bill to provide a way for Maui County residents to participate in and have their voices heard on this important issue.

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 7:27:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Theresa M Thompson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

The State of Hawaii should stop giving permits for developers to drill their own wells. If a developer drills a well because they do not want to wait for a County meter, they should be responsible for purifying that well water themselves, not the residents of the whole county. Our Maui County water is perfect. Cesspools at a high elevation are not the problem. Septic tanks are not the solution to cesspools, they are the same.

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**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 7:52:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Caldwell, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 6:11:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

This is a contentious problem created by the process HDoH. A task force is necessary. The Task Force needs to be populated with residents from areas that will be effected.

**LATE**

**HCR-111**

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 8:02:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments: