

LATE

**AEN Testimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:49 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** melissa1@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Yoshimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:55 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** mmcardle19@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Aloha. I urge your full support in passing this measure. There are biodegradable alternatives for hot food containers that are already being used in many eco friendly establishments on the islands. Protect Hawaii's environment and resources. Mahalo.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:59 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** georgeyarbrough@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Yarbrough	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is George Yarbrough and I currently live in Palolo. I am in favor of banning styrofoam for take out containers in Hawaii. I grew up in Hawaii as a kid then moved abroad and lived in Europe, South East Asia and Africa, only to return to Hawaii because of its beauty and specifically for its clean oceans. I am a small business owner and I feel like I do my part in stimulating the economy and help pushing Hawaii to be innovative and on the cutting edge. I also want to see this happen for Hawaii's biggest tourist draw, its oceans. We as a community should not be afraid of being an example of strict and sometimes 'edgy' legislation when we know that in the long run it will be better for all of us. I see styrofoam in the water all the time when I surf. No matter what side of the island. It saddens me and I want all of us to stop being short sided and take a stand for our beautiful islands. Thank you.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:10 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** seaspraydesigns@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Sims	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha chairs Gabbard and Nishihara, members of the joint committee on AE and PSM, My name is Julie Sims and I am a resident at 77-6435 Pualani Street, Kailua Kona, HI 96740. I am writing in support of SB 1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. If you have ever participated in beach clean ups, you have seen how the health of our ocean is being impacted by this(and other) forms of litter. Mahalo, Julie Sims

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:20 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** sbathaei@ymail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I support this bill for many reasons. Mainly that it's toxic to humans and the environment, and harmful to many animals that unintentionally ingest it.

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Feb. 7, 2017

**Strong Support for SB 1109: Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers**

**Committee: Agriculture & Environment (AEN) and Public Safety, Intergov. & Military Affairs (PSM).**

**Hearing: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:15pm, Rm. 224**

Dear Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, and Members of the AEN & PSM Committees,

As the Hawaii Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I am writing in strong support of SB 1109, the bill to regulate and reduce the use of polystyrene food containers. With five chapters and thousands of Surfrider members in Hawaii, we are committed to reducing the litter and environmental hazards of single-use plastics like styrofoam as part of our popular Rise Above Plastics campaign.

Along with being toxic, polystyrene food products are some of the most littered items in our Islands and the least recycled form of plastic. They are costly too. The recent Hawaii Department of Transportation (DOT) Trash Reduction Plan shows that styrofoam and plastic bags are the top two contributors to our waste stream, and it costs the state millions of dollars to clean them up.

Some opponents will say polystyrene foam containers are recyclable, but less than 1% is ever recycled. They will also say that it's a "litter problem," but the plastics industry has been using this tactic and blaming the public for decades without producing products that are not recyclable. An EPS foam ban was implemented in San Francisco, and there was a 30% decrease in EPS litter within one year (San Francisco Street Litter Re-Audit, 2008). Over 100 cities and counties across the country have enacted EPS foam bans. For an extensive list see: <http://www.surfrider.org/pages/polystyrene-ordinances>.

They will also say that banning polystyrene food containers will hurt small businesses, but there are many restaurants that have dropped these products and are doing just fine. In fact, the new Ocean Friendly Restaurants Hawaii program has certified more than 115 restaurants that are foam-free since Earth Day 2016!

During our monthly beach cleanups around the state, EPS foam products are among the top items we find every time. In fact, as part of International Coastal Cleanup Day last year, 17,383 cups, plates and pieces of EPS foam were removed from Hawaii's beaches in a single day on Sat., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015! That's why we need this bill, which would help reduce these litter problems and environmental issues by requiring restaurants and food service vendors to stop using toxic EPS foam containers.

We embrace a policy of "1, 2, C," meaning products should be recyclable #1 & #2 plastics or compostable, which would help with the state's waste reduction goals. There are many compostable or non-toxic plastic alternatives that can be recycled. This bill provides vendors and restaurants enough time to use their remaining inventory and transition to safer products, which hundreds of restaurants have already done without any problems. Although foam products may be cheaper to buy, they have a hidden cost that counties and citizens have to pay to clean them up.

Although the FDA approved EPS foam products in 1958, the science since then has shown that these are toxic products. Here are some top reasons why EPS foam food service products are dangerous and wasteful:





1. EPS foam is a toxic form of plastic made from non-renewable fossil fuels and synthetic chemicals like styrene that leach out over time, especially in contact with hot, greasy or acidic food.
2. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), styrene is a dangerous carcinogen and neurotoxin that can lead to cancer, lymphoma and leukemia. The EPA says 100% of humans have styrene in their fat tissues.
3. Because EPS foam food service products are more than 90% air, they break apart easily and are often blown into our coastal areas and out to sea, where they are listed as one of the top 10 items collected at beach cleanups.
4. EPS foam never biodegrades but only breaks into smaller micro-plastics. These pieces act like sponges for toxic chemicals in the ocean and are consumed by marine creatures who mistake them for food. More than 180 marine species are known to eat plastics, including endangered species like sea turtles and albatross.
5. Hawaii has one of the highest per capita rates of take-out food in the country, and many food containers are made of EPS foam products whose toxic chemicals threaten the health of humans and the environment.
6. Most of these products are hauled to our overflowing landfills where they never degrade but begin to leach toxic chemicals like styrene, a known carcinogen.

Along with the facts above, there have been many scientific studies showing the harmful effects of polystyrene foam. That is why we don't want to delay taking action to reduce foam use and litter. In 2008, the Hawaii Senate passed SR78 SD1 to create a voluntary compliance program to switch from foam products to healthier alternatives, but nothing was ever done to move this forward. And in 2014, the Honolulu City Council passed Resolution 14-175, to study the effects of foam and other single-use products, but the study was never done.

The amount of testimony in both resolutions was overwhelmingly in favor of bills to reduce polystyrene food containers. But those legislative bodies seemed to have been swayed by the exaggerated claims of lobbyists for local foam producers and distributors. The irony is that these same companies already carry and distribute more eco-friendly, recyclable and compostable products because they see the writing on the wall. Scientific research and public sentiment have created a compelling case against these foam products, and more than 100 cities and counties have already enacted successful foam bans.

Hawaii has been an environmental leader in moving forward policies to ban plastic bags and create smoke-free parks & beaches. Now, we ask you to assert that same leadership on this issue. Because Polystyrene food service products are toxic to the environment and human health, their use should be banned. There are many available and affordable alternatives that are non-toxic, biodegradable and pose no threats to the environment or human health and will cost the state and the counties less to clean up.

Protecting our land and people should be our top priority, not allowing a few companies to profit from outmoded products that harm the environment and our wildlife. Mahalo for your time and leadership on this issue and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stuart Coleman

Stuart H. Coleman, Hawaii Manager

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:29 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** bellodgiabellodgia@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bellodgia Yamamoto	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please pass this very necessary bill to help protect many of the important marine ecosystems that are negatively impacted by styrofoam waste spilling into our waterways and oceans. There are many biodegradable disposable plant based alternatives that vendors can embrace that do not disturb their daily practices of serving items in disposable containers. That being said styrofoam should no longer be a part of detroying our marine life thereby destroying our livelihood and sustainability just because vendors don't like change. Our future depends on embracing common sense environmental change and this styrofoam bill represents the kind of change that our islands desperately need. Please pass this important styrofoam bill!!

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:32 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** notifytay@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:33 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** larasirnosir@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lara Nosseir	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: PLEASE BE THE EXAMPLE AND BAN THIS HORRIBLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY DEGRADING MATERIAL!!! Hawaii is such a precious place with so much biodiversity that is directly effected by this. Please do what's right!!!

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:36 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** syd.grimm@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:43 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** cdawnk@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:44 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** crystalkpaul@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:45 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** samatye@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sarah Matye	Jack's Diving Locker	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, As a SCUBA Instructor and dive professional in Kona, Hawai'i, I am in FULL Support of a total ban on styrofoam products, especially in food service. These products do not decompose, they float, and they are often carried into the ocean via our winds. This is a huge hazard, and one of the most commonly sighted types of debris we find offshore. Please help us keep the reefs safe and our landfills less full, by supporting a styrofoam ban. Compostable and Biodegradable or recycled food containers are not cost inhibiting, better for our landfills and cleaner for our oceans. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS STYROFOAM BAN.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:46 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** judie@aloha.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: This is an important bill for the environment. For the sake of our beautiful state, please pass this bill into law.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:53 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** megan.pittsley@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Megan Fox and I am a resident of Kauai`i. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. Working on food systems and sustainability issues on our island, I see this as a major threat to our waste management, environmental and personal health, and statewide economics. We need to get rid of these products for good, like other states have.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:59 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** christopher.peters@tnc.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Peters	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a resident of Kona, I support the bill to ban polystyrene because I believe it will be an effective measure to reduce waste that clutters our landscape, oceans, beaches and our landfills. Hawaii County can set an example for the rest of the world that there are better alternatives to this non-compostable material. We can and should modify our culture and support alternative products that foster a more sustainable lifestyle.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:20 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** alohacindy@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Please protect our marine life and vote yes on this bill!

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:27 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** dixonfrancois@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dixon	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB1109.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:31 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** jessicastrahan@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: There are so many options of food containers. Styrofoam is the cheapest up front for the food vendors. But will cost the most for our environment in the long run. Please please ban styrofoam not just for all the amazing animals that live in Hawaii that will be harmed but for the people.

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**Senate Bill 1109: Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers  
In Strong Support**

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017

Hearing Time: 1:15 PM

Place: Conference Room 224

Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is **Ashley Nowak** and I am a resident of Honolulu, HI. I am writing in **full support** of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors.

Working in health care I am absolutely disgusted by the amount of styrofoam waste that accumulates within only hours! A day's worth of cafeteria trash is enough to make me sick. While I understand the convenience and hygienic qualities of single use cups and plates, the magnitude of waste is appalling.

This is secondary only to the fact that nearly all of this waste comes from a material that is not biodegradable, not renewable, harmful to animals, harmful to the environment and toxic to create. Yet this material is so widely available, so inexpensive and so convenient that it is often the number one choice for businesses.

I see these containers everywhere, blowing out of trash cans, floating in the ocean, along fence lines, in streams, all over the beaches, along road sides, in parking lots, along trails, ect, ect, ect. According to cleanup hours recorded across Hawaii's beach cleaning organizations and volunteer hour base rates, we spent \$750,000 - \$1 million on beach cleanups in 2016 alone.

This material should not be the first choice for use as carry-out containers and dinner ware, yet it is, and will continue to be due to it's availability and cost. Styrene is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen and a confirmed animal carcinogen as reported by the National Institute of Health in their Report on Carcinogens (2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014)<sup>1</sup> The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii. I personally make every attempt to avoid styrofoam when possible and unfortunately that is not good enough due to its pervasive appearance in a majority of businesses. I firmly believe that banning this awful product is the only solution to the 'single-use plastic' problem that is quite literally taking over the world.

**Themes:**

Cleanup Costs & Economic Benefits

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/styrene/index.cfm>

- Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our storm water management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups.
- Hawaii State Department of Transportation has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream.<sup>2</sup>
- The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California:<sup>3</sup>
  - CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and cleanups.
  - San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million alone on plastic cleanup
- United Nations Environmental Program Global Estimates are in the billions for the global cost to cleanup plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastic alone.<sup>4</sup>
  - This cost is closer to \$78 billion annually if all costs are considered, including the cost lost in fossil fuel production and loss of resources.
  -

### Environmental Impact

- It is argued that styrofoam is acceptable because we can incinerate it for energy. However, this approach is not without significant impacts. According to the Hawaii DOH Clean Air Branch the Covanta H-POWER plant emits 0.15 million metric tons of carbon dioxide<sup>5</sup> (a potent greenhouse gas) annually. Although touted as a “clean energy solution” for Hawaii, H-POWER only generates about 3% of Oahu’s energy needs<sup>6</sup> while still emitting greenhouse gases through burning plastic.
- Further, for each ton of polystyrene not produced, 2.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions are avoided. This directly supports Hawaii’s greenhouse gas reduction goals as stated in the Aloha + Challenge and as mandated by the US EPA.<sup>7</sup>
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Waste Reduction Model (WARM) report shows that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp\\_wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan\\_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf](http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp_wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/ca-pollution-in-waterways-IB.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/](http://www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/)

<sup>5</sup> <http://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/ghg-inventory-20081.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> [www.islandpulse.org](http://www.islandpulse.org)

<sup>7</sup> <https://www3.epa.gov/epawaste/conservation/tools/warm/pdfs/Plastics.pdf>

plastics. For each ton of polystyrene incinerated, 1.64 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent are emitted.

- If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process.
- Fiber clamshells are also less than half the volume of EPS, so a restaurant could fit about twice as many clamshells on the same amount of shelf space or have more space for other things.
- The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii.
- EPS is designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally.
- EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air, so even when properly disposed of, foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters, and they enter into the natural environment, eventually polluting our ocean and negatively impacting ocean health and threatening marine wildlife.
- EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily and quicker than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up than other plastics and easier for animals to mistake as food and ingest
- According to the EPA Waste Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Of our total plastic recovery, polystyrene makes up 0.7% of recycled plastic

#### Human Health

- Air pollution from polystyrene
  - 
  - When combusted, styrene produces benzaldehyde (US EPA classifies this as a hazardous substance), acetophenone (Group D carcinogen by US EPA, causes chromosomal damage on hamsters, but hasn't been tested in humans), styrene oxide (main metabolite of styrene, which is known as carcinogenic).



## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** ghantoat@live.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vanessa Ghantous	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Vanessa Ghantous and I am writing from Makawao, Maui. I am writing in SUPPORT of banning polystyrene in the State of Hawaii. I own a food truck here and after extensive research I chose compostable/biodegradable products that were reasonably priced. There are many, MANY alternatives to polystyrene, and truly not a single benefit to using it. None at all. BAN POLYSTYRENE.

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** Coleroberts@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cole Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I've been visiting Hawaii for 15 years. I love your state. You are a beautiful people with a rich history. Sadly, I see you destroying your beauty and exhausting your economy through waste. I won't shop in stores that give out styrofoam anymore. You could be a model for the world and your children. I believe you will be. Please pass this bill. I and my family love Hawaii.

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** doant82@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I SUPPORT SB1109!

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** blackbird4aloha@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** energysavant@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Susan Wiener	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017 Hearing Time: 1:15 PM Place: Conference Room 224 Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, As a resident of Kaua'i County, I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. As we all know, polystyrene is seriously detrimental to the environment, humans and marine animals. There are very reasonable alternatives to polystyrene food containers, and it appears it requires a law to encourage many food vendors to make the switch. Thank you for your attention and commitment to Hawai'i.

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Re: Bill SB1109

I am writing in support of the polystyrene ban to be voted on February 8, 2017.

I am a barista at a local coffee shop on Waialae Ave. in the Kaimuki district and I see firsthand just how many hundreds of polystyrene cups go into use, and then go into the trash, every day in just one business. I can only imagine the literally thousands of polystyrene products that are thrown away every single day throughout all of Hawaii. When it comes to ordering to-go container inventory, business owners usually go for the cheapest option, no matter how detrimental it can be to our islands. I firmly believe that the local citizens want better for our environment, but they are stuck with whatever option the business provides.

Changing procedure here in Hawaii could have a really positive trickle-up effect too. Imagine when companies that produce these harmful items realize that an entire state no longer wants their products! They may decide that it's in their best interest to start looking into making compostable products less costly, and then millions of polystyrene products nationwide could be prevented from existence.

I strongly believe that the only way to enact real change for this incredibly damaging product to be kept out of our environment is to back legislation that puts our beautiful islands, gorgeous ocean waters, and entire planet before the bottom dollar. I am sure that local businesses will not have too difficult of a time adjusting to more eco-friendly practices, and will be proud in the long run to have a hand in taking care of our beautiful aina.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today,

Caleigh Goold

96816

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 8:46 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** nanueiki@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** mmaitino@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Maitino	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Maria Maitino and I am a resident of Kilauea. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. I have owned 2 food trucks, so I have studied this issue and have personal experience. Regarding health, Styrene is a confirmed animal carcinogen and a suspected human carcinogen (The National Institute of Health, 2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014) When combusted, styrene produces many harmful and possibly carcinogenic byproducts. When hot foods are placed in a styrofoam container, the food consumed now becomes carcinogenic. Most people are not aware of this fact, both vendors and consumers. This is a health hazard. There are alternatives available, like containers made from plant material like corn, as well as biocompostable materials, so there is no excuse for the continued use of styrofoam in food delivery. Yes, it may be a bit more expensive, but that cost can be rolled into the cost of doing business. In terms of the Environmental impact, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a report showing that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. The material for fiber containers can be grown and made in Hawaii, and that would create more sustainable jobs and not expose workers to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS Foam is designed to be used once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally. EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air. So foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters and enter into the natural environment. They pollute our coastal waters and negatively impact ocean health and threaten marine wildlife. EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up and easier for animals to mistake it as food and ingest. According to the EPA Waste Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Please help stop the use of styrofoam and vote to support the ban. Thank you, Maria Maitino Kilauea, Kauai

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:00 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** adrianaquijano@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adriana Quijano	ANO SWIMWEAR	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 1109 & know that banning styrofoam will be beneficial to our environment long term. Far too often animals suffer from ingesting styrofoam when it ends up in our ocean & elsewhere.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:02 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** kneuba2858@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Bauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I visit Hawaii often for it's astounding beauty. I'm always SHOCKED by the astounding quantity of styrofoam used EVERYWHERE. I'm horrified and afraid for your islands and the ocean wildlife. It litters the streets of Waikiki- it is on every beach, every restaurant uses it. It is shocking. I've never been to any state that uses it to the degree hawaii does and you are islands! Surrounded by precious beauty- how can that level of disconnect exist? Pass this nana nd right this wrong.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:24 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** noheam23@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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**Senate Bill 1109: Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers  
In Strong Support**

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017

Hearing Time: 1:15 PM

Place: Conference Room 224

Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is Rachel Rounds and I am a resident of Honolulu. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors.

I have participated in many beach clean-ups in Hawaii to remove tons and tons of plastic debris, including polystyrene, from our beautiful beaches. I have observed polystyrene trash floating in the ocean while swimming or paddling. I have seen garbage cans overflowing with polystyrene foam and other plastic trash and beach parks and other recreation areas. The Hawaii State Department of Transportation has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream. Reducing polystyrene foam use will directly support Hawaii's greenhouse gas reduction goals as stated in the Aloha + Challenge and as mandated by the US EPA. Further, material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. For these reasons, and many others, I strongly support the Statewide Foam Ban. Thank you.

I can be contacted at [rachelrounds@hotmail.com](mailto:rachelrounds@hotmail.com).



## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:32 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** littlelongon@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miles Greenberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments: We cannot malama the Aina with this scourge of styrofoam. It is completely unnecessary especially when there are many fools that litter styrofoam and don't care. at least if there are biodegradable containers we won't have to be subjected to xenoestrogens that offgas from styrofoam or their ugly, environmentally unsound composition. Hawaii is long overdue for this styrofoam Ban. Please SUPPORT this. thank you

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:32 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** edelight22@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I support sb1109

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:32 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tiffany\_shannon@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Due to the oceans being severely polluted with plastics we need to take measures to ban all single use plastics and come up with alternative bio degradable products. This is as small step towards reducing non degradable waste that is necessary for the health of all animals.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:33 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** pamysaunders@live.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Saunders	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017 Hearing Time: 1:15 PM Place: Conference Room 224 Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Pamela Saunders and I am a resident of Hanapepe, Kauai. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. Thank you for your time.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:42 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** Milisenj@gmail.com  
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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Milisen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Jeff Milisen and I worked on NOAA's marine debris team for 2 seasons. We live in the middle of an ocean and in addition to littering our islands, our plastic waste spreads all around the Pacific basin. Polystyrene containers are one of the most common forms of plastic trash and one that can be easily and cheaply substituted for more biodegradable products. We need to care for our natural world better. I support this bill banning single-use polystyrene food containers.

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**Senate Bill 1109:**  
Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers  
**In Strong Support**

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017  
Hearing Time: 1:15 PM  
Place: Conference Room 224  
Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental,  
& Military Affairs

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is **Natalie Wohner** and I am a resident of Manoa. I am writing in full **support** of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors.

Expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam containers are the least recycled form of plastic and the most littering items found at beach cleanups. EPS foam is also the most toxic food container according to numerous studies, especially when served with hot liquids.

I am very confident in saying that such food containers are simply still in usage because of the lower cost compared to compostable food containers. The main argument in keeping EPS foams around is usually that small businesses could not afford alternatives. But this is wrong. In the state of Hawai'i the number of EPS foam free restaurants is steadily increasing. These restaurants are consciously not using EPS foams because of the above listed reasons. The Surfrider Foundation initiated a movement called Ocean Friendly Restaurants where such restaurants are certified as being EPS foam free. In the past few month 113 restaurants on the Hawaiian islands have been certified, mostly small businesses. It is not acceptable to risk the health of the consumer and the health of the environment by using EPS foam simply because of saving money.

The Aina and our health should be our highest priority and it is our role to protect it. I am very optimistic that Hawai'i can play a leader role in protecting our environment from such health and environmental hazards by banning EPS foam food containers.

Thank you very much for considering my testimony and thank you for your time.

Aloha nui loa,

Natalie Wohner

Contact: [natalie.wohner@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.wohner@gmail.com)

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:46 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** jasminebento@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tylermcmurtry@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyler McMurtry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident of the Gold Coast on south shore of Oahu. I found some styrofoam in the ocean today. I risked my life to retrieve it!! Big waves! Strong current! Shallow reef! Save it.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:51 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** klahaela@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Kimiko LaHaela Walter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am strongly in support of the bill to ban styrofoam by vendors in the state of Hawai'i. As an ecologist and ocean lover, there is no question that harm that I've seen with my own eyes from plastic and styrofoam pollution, especially in our water systems. It is long past due that we seek an alternative to this damaging material. Thank you for reading my testimony! Aloha!

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** pumpkinheadso@hotmail.com  
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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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Samantha Steenhuis  
Steensam000@gmail.com  
Bill SB1109 Testimony

My name is Samantha Steenhuis and I am a junior at Kaiser High School. I support this bill because I believe protecting the environment should be our number one priority. We can't keep thinking that we can take so many resources from the earth and not feel any consequences. Everything we do and use has a direct link to the environment.

I moved to the island a little over a year and a half ago from Washington state, and I instantly fell in love with the beaches and friendly atmosphere. I now live in Hawaii Kai and often visit the surrounding parks and beaches. However, every time I go to the beach I am disappointed to see so much trash on the shore, a lot of which is styrofoam and other plastics.

Since we live on an island, a lot of our waste ends up in the ocean! According to a study done by the World Economic Forum, they estimate that there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050 if we continue down this unsustainable path. We already have more than 150 million tons of trash floating in the ocean in forms of "garbage patches." There are multiple areas around the world that collect trash and become extremely hard to clean up because it is often in the form of small pieces, or micro plastics. Styrofoam is extremely harmful to our marine life because it breaks apart into small chunks, which then birds and fish think are food. Dianna Parker from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Debris Program says, "We know that some species of birds and fish eat microplastics. They even eat some larger plastics. For example, the Laysan Albatross in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. We know that just about every dead albatross found on Midway Atoll has some form of plastic in its stomach. We don't know if that's what killed it, but we know that this is becoming a big problem. So we know that there are microplastics in the ocean. We know that birds and fish and even some larger marine mammals eat these plastics. We know there are chemicals in the plastics and we know that the chemicals can absorb other toxic chemicals that are floating around in the ocean."

The largest known area is known as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" and the majority of trash collected in it isn't biodegradable and doesn't wear down. According to the National Ocean Service, "about 80% of the debris in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch comes from land-based activities in North America and Asia." We are in an area where a lot of trash is constantly floating around us, and we will continue to contribute to the destruction unless we do something about it!

I have participated in many environmentally based activities, including beach cleanups and service projects. I am a member of LEAP club at my school, which stands for Leave Earth At Peace. Our club's main goal is to bring awareness of environmental problems to other students and people. We have done gardening events in the community and are also trying to make composting available at Kaiser. Passing this bill would allow for us to make a much bigger positive impact on minimizing our waste, because the styrofoam lunch trays our school currently uses would be replaced with biodegradable or compostable products. This bill would be a huge step forward in creating an eco-friendly future for schools across the islands and keeping our environment safe.

Thank you for taking the time to review my testimony.



## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** p.lahaela.walter@posteo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Philipp LaHaela Walter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee members, In a time when plastics are creating an environmental catastrophe particularly visible in the oceans and its wildlife surrounding Hawaii, the ban of styrofoam is a indispensable step to more sustainable communities on the islands. I strongly urge you to support this bill. Thank you.

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** aholmesy1844@verizon.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Holmes	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please ban Styrofoam it is killing the animals that are living in our oceans.

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** ashleydelgado@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ashley	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**Cc:** ckauj\_93@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chanel L	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Let's start taking care of our Aina, our ocean & also every creature that it harms. This is a start.. Less opala

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** grayshark71@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: This ban on polystyrene containers will help keep our beautiful state clean by reducing non-biodegradable waste that is often found in our parks, oceans and at our beaches. As a frequent takeout food consumer I appreciate vendors who are already doing this and I'm more likely to shop at them if I know they do not use styrofoam. This ban is a no-brainer.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:02 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** toddyukutake@gmail.com  
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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Todd Yukutake	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose SB1109

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** emilyt923@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Emily and I am a resident of Kealahou, HI. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:03 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** davehammk@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Hammack	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I have been to the great pacific garbage patch and I have personally seen the effects of plastic pollution in our oceans. Plastic never biodegrades so it exists in the environment forever. Every single piece of plastic every created still exists somewhere earth. Once these plastics break down into smaller plastics called microplastics, they can be consumed by fish where they enter the food chain. These toxins found in plastics can leach from the plastics and into the flesh and tissue of the fish. So eating fish means eating plastics. Also, many fish, turtles, and marine mammals die everyday from the consumption or entanglement from plastic. Like all other plastics, styrofoam is made out of fossil fuels. It's time we as a race start taking responsibility for our actions and invest in more sustainable products for a future our children and grandchildren can live comfortably.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:03 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** bluegreen711@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marc McLeod	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I believe the use of EPS foam should be banned. The environment on Kauai is unique and vital. The use of commercial use styrofoam inevitably means it ends up littering the land and oceans. It is too persistent and toxic once in the natural environment to justify its use as a convenience product. Ban EPS foam. Marc McLeod, PO Boz 848, Kilauea, HI 96754 bluegreen711@gmail.com 207 615 5393 Mahalo

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## AEN Testimony

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**Cc:** rjporro@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roberto Porro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: First off, I commend the legislature for considering this bill and acknowledging the importance of waste reduction to the state's environment and well-being. I hereby submit testimony in support of this bill prohibiting the use of polystyrene foam by food vendors. Working in downtown, it is impossible not to notice the shocking amount of polystyrene foam that is introduced into the waste system (and potentially the environment) each day. Many of the food vendors serve their lunch offerings in polystyrene foam, resulting in trash bins literally overflowing with foam containers at the end of each lunch rush. Many of these containers inevitably end up on the ground surrounding the bins, only to be blown away by the tradewinds. This is no doubt a common situation throughout the state, given the tendency of vendors to use these containers. Considering the documented impacts this material has on our environment and human health, as well as the availability of comparable, less damaging alternatives, there is no reason this material should be so pervasive, or even allowed. I urge you to vote in favor of this bill for the sake of the ocean and environment this State so drastically depends on. Thank you.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Cc:** pamirie@hotmail.com  
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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I've lived in Hawaii since 1978 and I have seen the paradise I once loved slowly being choked by what seems to be indifference by so many of those in charge. I wholly support SB1109. Please do the right thing here!!! Mahalo! Pam Irie, Wahiawa

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## AEN Testimony

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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Nothing should be designed for immediate destruction / waste after a single use. Combining compostable food service materials with the food discards we can build the soils and begin the story of our food production all over.

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## AEN Testimony

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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aleksandr Konons	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB1109

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**Bill# SB1109**

Hearing Date: 02/08/2017

Hearing Time: 1:15pm

Place: 224

Committee: AEN/PSN

I hereby would like to testify in support of this bill. My name is Paula Moehlenkamp, I am from Senator Stanley Chang's district, and I have been living in Hawaii for 2 years now. I am a graduate student in the Department of Oceanography at UH Manoa.

I decided to become foam free, because I feel this is, where I can start contributing a little to a more sustainable world. Plastic waste is something that can successfully be regulated on a local level and make a great difference. In my opinion, it is largely unnecessary to eat from styrofoam containers as there is more sustainable alternatives available.

First of all, the environmental impact of EPS is large: EPS is being designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally. EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air, so even when properly disposed of, foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters, and they enter into the natural environment. Snorkeling or diving in the waters around Hawaii, I have frequently encountered styrofoam containers or parts of them.

EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily and quicker than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up and easier for animals to mistake as food and ingest. During my degree I have worked on microplastic pollution, which presents a threat for marine life and ultimately us as we base our living on resources from the ocean. Once released into the marine environment, wave action, sun and wind break large plastic pieces into microplastics, which then are impossible to collect and small enough to be ingested by organisms at the bottom of the food web. As plastic surfaces readily adsorb heavy metals and other toxins, bioaccumulation and magnification are valid concerns.

Besides environmental impacts, the onetime use of styrofoam is costly: Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our storm water management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups.

This is largely unnecessary as we have good alternatives: Compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones can be created.

In conclusion, the use of styrofoam presents an unnecessary environmental threat, because there are good alternatives. In addition, styrofoam is costly for the consumer and bears potential health risks.

For these reasons, I strongly support the Styrofoam ban. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely, Paula Moehlenkamp

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:32 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** ferrarifari@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Farinaz Hadian	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There are many alternatives to styrofoam use. We must stop killing our animals and polluting the planet!

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tonybiallas@yahoo.com  
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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Styrofoam needs to be banned! We can't have animals and especially endangered animals ingesting it any longer. We need to make changes that help the protect our future our environment. This is one of those changes.

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## AEN Testimony

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### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nat bletter	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help rid our islands of the terrible waste & environmental hazard that is polystyrene. There are many better alternatives to styrofoam to carry food in from bringing your own container to more compact, but able, home grown fiber food containers. There is no way we should be using an unrecyclable, toxic burning, ocean clogging product on our fragile small island ecosystem. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) report shows that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. For each ton of polystyrene incinerated, 1.64 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent are emitted. If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. Fiber clamshells are also less than half the volume of EPS, so a restaurant could fit about twice as many clamshells on the same amount of shelf space or have more space for other things. The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii. EPS is designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:51 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** pennie.bumrungsiri@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pennie Bumrungsiri	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii residents generate more trash than the national average, about 6.6 pounds of waste per resident per day compared to the national average of 4.4 pounds per day. We need to sustain preventable measures that keep plastics and harmful debris out of our ocean and marine life.

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** jpetrick03@icloud.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joseph petrick	Individual	Oppose	No

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:37 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** brandon@manifesthawaii.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I believe, if theres a chance to stop hazardous non decomposing materials from arriving on a boats, exercising our ability to address a problem that generations yet to come, will not have to arrive at the same conclusion that we can come to today. I would like to see a island nation that sets an example for not allowing polluting and nature corrupting materials on to its shores.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:20 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** conninewsome@me.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Conni Newsome	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please ban this horrible product. It has proven to be bad for the environment and especially to our animals.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:49 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** jessicagates12@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** 4domicastillo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dominique castillo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Dominique Castillo and I'm a resident of Kona. I am in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 4:54 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** oraya\_k@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
oraya koonlin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 1109

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:47 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** taylormtucker@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I support SB1109 for the protection of our marine life! To protect our environment for our future, and the future of our children.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 5:56 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** codyjoe23@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 6:37 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** viviansuet@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha from Hawaii Island. We were so close to having a Styrofoam - polystyrene foam ban last year at the County level. So many of us testified for it. It was within one vote of passing. Many business are now voluntarily posting signs of being Styrofoam free. Yet I still see "organized" signs up at some places of business wanting to continue the use of Styrofoam. With the many satisfactory alternatives available, there is no need to continue with this environmental poison. Please make Hawaii a showcase of concern for all life. Sooner than later. With Aloha, Mahalo

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:01 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** zenawetzel@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I wish to support a ban on styrofoam here in Hawai'i. WE need to Malama 'Aina a me Kahakai!

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:25 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** knm956@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I strongly support this measure. A few cents added to the cost of a plate lunch is well worth the improved environment in our state.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** Raina Whiting <rainawhiting@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:29 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony; PSMTTestimony  
**Subject:** Support for SB1109

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AEN & PSM,

My name is Raina Whiting and I am a resident of Hawaii Island. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic.

K. Raina Whiting

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 7:55 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** bryan@lhawaii.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eddie Flores, jr	L & L Franchise, Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments: We have tried various types of containers. There is no substitute to hold and carry items with very hot gravies. Customers complain that the loco moco and beef stew makes the plates too hot. Some say they are almost burned. Our food is fresh and hot - e.g., hot rice and hot thick stew. We will support if you make an exception for stews, soups, and items with a lot of gravy. They are different from sandwiches, fries, etc. Thank you.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:07 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** edgarespero@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Plastic pollution continues to grow as a source of harm and ruin to the environment. I firmly support the ban/reduction of all single use plastics especially polystyrene foam containers by food vendors.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:13 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** nateserota@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Serota	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Having regularly participated in clean up efforts at beaches, streams and other natural areas, I have consistently observed that plastic and styrofoam products are the majority of the items collected as rubbish. It is understandable why we consistently see these products littered around the island. They are cheap, easy to use and have an abnormally long lifespan/non-biodegradable characteristics that enable them to endure long after their often single use is fulfilled. It is counter-productive for a product intended for a one-time use to remain as a detriment to our environment for a lifetime. While a ban of styrofoam products is only a small drop in an ocean of environmental concerns, it is change none-the-less. It also serves as a launching point in the effort to reduce the number of single use products introduced into our environment as trash. Other counties have either adopted similar measures or are considering them, so lets unite the common goal of making our archipelago a cleaner, more sustainable place to live. From a business standpoint, this bill does represent change which can often require a redesigned business model on the part of the affected company. I cannot imagine there being many companies that support their bottom line begin challenged from outside influences. However, imposed change breads opportunity for creative growth and innovation. There are already several proven alternatives to styrofoam in the marketplace, lets give businesses and consumers the push towards those more sustainable and healthier alternatives. Thank you for your time and service. Take care.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:15 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tayjam6934@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
james Hall	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please ban the use of all foam products. These products are extremely hazardous to the environment and all the life in the oceans.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:17 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** bruce@welti.us  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce Conrad Welti	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This bill is a good first step in dealing with our problem with plastics. Styrofoam is exceptionally bad because it breaks into little bits and spreads so easily, and banning its use in food containers is a relatively low-cost and high-visibility measure. High visibility is important because people need hope and inspiration to tackle our numerous environmental problems, and Hawaii is a place people come for inspiration (in addition to rest and relaxation).

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:18 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** meredithing@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meredith Ing	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Meredith Ing and I am a resident of Hilo, HI. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. Please do the right thing and help protect our environment!  
Sincerely, Meredith Ing

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:33 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** joyshih@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Leilei Shih	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support SB 1109.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:04 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** scseasurfer@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Littlefield	Surfers' Environmental Alliance	Support	No

Comments: SEA strongly supports SB 1109. This bill will reduce the amount of polystyrene products that foul our highways, public places, and beaches. Styrofoam is an oil-based products and never degrades. Please, ban these products NOW!

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** bkkchu@uw.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Chu	Golden Touch Trading	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Koa Pancake House in Moanalua Shopping Center uses styrofoam for takeout orders. My breakfast sausages ALWAYS burns through the styrofoam because their cooks don't use wax paper or foil to separate the food from the container. I am ingesting melted styrofoam daily at the risk of my long-term health. I probably won't get cancer overnight but I don't need to be a scientist to know that my body wasn't created to process styrofoam. I am in full support of this bill to ban styrofoam in restaurants. This should have been done years ago.

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** rhona312@sbcglobal.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:32 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** 1pagnus@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dominique Turner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Dominique Turner am a local beach cleaner who goes by the anonymous name of "Whale Mchuggins". Under the alias i document and post my daily beach clean findings. beginning June 11th, 2016 i have done 100 individual beach cleans picking up a minimum of 30 gallons of trash each occurrence. that is around 3000 gallons of trash cleaned by me myself, and thousands of bits of data that accurately depict our waste culprits. among the items found, food related trash including Styrofoam, straws, cups forks and knives make up about 80% of the findings. Styrofoam breaks down to small, yet buoyant pieces making them attractive to fish and birds. understanding that the lifespan of Styrofoam can exceed the lifetime of the human using it; should bother anyone of cognitive holding. understanding that there are some people who use 1-3 Styrofoam containers a day; with the population being over 300,000 makes for a very detrimental relationship with the sea-life surrounding us. No beach cleaner is excited to find eels choking in plastic bags, pigeons pecking a containers or fish stuck in plastic bottles. Being that cities such as New York, Seattle, D.C., San Francisco and Portland, Maine have already successful banned Styrofoam use. Please use your power to make Hawaii sustainable and non threatening to the world.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:36 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** gentlewave@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 9:41 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** merdaystar@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Every choice we make today creates our future please make the choice to have clean oceans and earth! There are many other options for to go containers that are biodegradable!

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Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is Kristen Harmon and I am a resident of Honolulu. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic.

Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our storm water management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups. Hawaii State Department of Transportation has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream. The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California: CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and cleanups. San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million alone on plastic cleanup. United Nations Environmental Program Global Estimates are in the billions for the global cost to cleanup plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastic alone. This cost is closer to \$78 billion annually if all costs are considered, including the cost lost in fossil fuel production and loss of resources. Burden on the public. According to cleanup hours recorded across Hawaii's beach cleaning organizations and volunteer hour base rates, we spent \$750,000 - \$1 million on beach cleanups in 2016 alone.

It is argued that styrofoam is acceptable because we can incinerate it for energy. However, this approach is not without significant impacts. According to the Hawaii DOH Clean Air Branch the Covanta H-POWER plant emits 0.15 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (a potent greenhouse gas) annually. Although touted as a "clean energy solution" for Hawaii, H-POWER only generates about 3% of Oahu's energy needs while still emitting greenhouse gases through burning plastic. Further, for each ton of polystyrene not produced, 2.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions are avoided. This directly supports Hawaii's greenhouse gas reduction goals as stated in the Aloha + Challenge and as mandated by the US EPA. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) report shows that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. For each ton of polystyrene incinerated, 1.64 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent are emitted. If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. Fiber clamshells are also less than half the volume of EPS, so a restaurant could fit about twice as many clamshells on the same amount of shelf space or have more space for other things. The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii. EPS is designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally. EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air, so even when properly disposed of, foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters, and they enter into the natural environment, eventually polluting our ocean and negatively impacting ocean health and threatening marine wildlife. EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily and quicker than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up than other plastics and easier for animals to mistake as food and ingest. According to the EPA Waste



Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Of our total plastic recovery, polystyrene makes up 0.7% of recycled plastic.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kristen Harmon

[kmcorey@hawaii.edu](mailto:kmcorey@hawaii.edu)

SUPPORT FOR SB 1109 RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS  
February 8, 2017

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am in strong support of SB 1109, prohibiting the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Our beaches are littered with marine debris and it only continues to get worst. Every Tuesday morning I walk Kailua beach with my mom and I have witnessed the tide line that was once comprised of bits of shells and corals turn into tiny bits of plastic. Styrofoam is only part of the problem of marine pollution but passing this bill would lessen the amount of non-degradable trash we are leaving behind for future generations. I would like my children to walk on a beach with sand and not plastic. It needs to start here with this bill. I understand this may increase costs for businesses but I'm willing as a consumer to take on this cost. There are plenty of small businesses that make the commitment to reduce their use of plastics and Styrofoam and they are doing just fine. It is a small adjustment for consumers and businesses to make that would have a positive impact on the future of Hawaii's marine environment.

Thank you

Chelsea Arnott  
Kahaluu Resident

The Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) is a public non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. HAPA's mission is to catalyze community empowerment and systemic change towards valuing 'aina (environment) and people ahead of corporate profit.

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:25 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** lfoote@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: I'll echo what Surfrider Foundation and others have already submitted in support of this legislation. It's about sustainability.

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Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017

Hearing Time: 1:15 PM

Place: Conference Room 224

Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is Fred W. Styer and I am a resident of Kauai County. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic.

Primary supporting factors:

Human Health

- A common practice is to re-heat food held in Styrofoam containers. Early combustion begins at 375° F emitting harmful and possibly carcinogenic by-products into the food they eat.
- Styrene is a confirmed animal carcinogen and a suspected human carcinogen (The National Institute of Health, 2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014)
- We already have a healthy compostable alternative used in high-profile restaurants like Duke's Canoe Club on Kauai.
- The material for fiber containers is now cost-competitive and can be grown in Hawaii to produce safe, compostable food containers while also creating sustainable jobs.

Environmental Impact:

- Polystyrene materials are extremely slow to decompose. They are very light and tend to follow where the wind goes, much like the plastic bags recently banned on Kauai. Foam quickly breaks into small particles and consumed by surrounding birds and ocean fauna.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a report showing that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics.
- If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process.

Cleanup Costs & Economic Benefits:

- Hawaii State Department of Transportation (DOT) just produced a trash plan that shows Styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream. The plan says that banning these wasteful single-use products could save the state millions of dollars.
- United Nations Environmental Program estimates that it costs billions globally to clean up plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastics alone.
- To clean up this litter, much of the burden has been put on environmental groups whose volunteers spend thousands of hours cleaning up Hawaii's beaches and coastal areas.

Respectfully submitted,

*Fred W. Styer*

(808) 264-4845

## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:35 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** moonlitesurf@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Napua Camarillo	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It still amazes me that we as an island still offer styrofoam or polystyrene products when there are other more environmentally friendly products that don't help contribute to the garbage patch in the ocean that's pretty darn close to us. Whenever I eat at Nicos on the Pier it always bums me out that they can't offer their lunches on plates or at least put their food in paper containers. Help us save our environment and help make it a bill that passes! thank you, Napua

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:38 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** streetburgerkauai@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Leikam	Street Burger	Support	No

### Comments:

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## AEN Testimony

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**To:** AEN Testimony  
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**Categories:** Red Category

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

#### Comments:

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Nathan H. Hall  
1737B Fern St.  
Honolulu, HI 96826  
nathanhhall@gmail.com

Date: February 7, 2017

To: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

From: Nathan H. Hall, Individually

Re: SB 1109

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1109. I'm not an environmental expert, so I won't pretend to be one by parroting statistics about the economic and environmental costs of single use Styrofoam packaging, despite its "cheaper" label. It's probably already been done anyway.

I'm here to make a small request: That those of you who make the decision about this bill, do it considering the things that you love the most. If these things include your family, or your children, or these islands, I ask you to help pass this bill on their behalf.

In Hawaii, using Styrofoam doesn't make you an evil person, that's not what this is about. It's not "us" versus "them," or small businesses versus environmentalists. Because the truth is that ultimately, Hawaii's businesses, economy, and people, will not survive in to the future if we continue to degrade the environment - our most valuable resource. Continuing practices that we know are harmful and unsustainable over the long-term makes no sense, especially when less destructive alternatives are available.

It's true that even today money is tight, and competition is stiff. Families often a struggle to just put food on the table in Hawaii, without having the time to care about how it's packaged. But in a world

with fewer fish, dirtier air, and less clean water, the prices for basic necessities will only go up, making it tougher to get by. You don't need to be a scientist to connect the dots.

As the son of a small business owner, I know there a time and place for the government to help businesses survive and grow. But there are countless ways to achieve that goal (through tax credits, subsidies, governmental services, etc.), while also furthering the goal of survival into the next century and beyond. It is not a zero-sum game. And while having the ability to do business here is a vitally important right, it does not come with an unrestricted license to pollute. There are some who believe their well-being and right to prosperity is more important than their neighbors'. But certainly the government exists, if for no other purpose, than to further the *public* interest and to ensure the masses cannot be taken advantage of by a powerful few.

So I will end with a question: Who are we, as one generation of people, to say that we can do what we want and treat this land however we want, in spite of future generations to come, and in spite of these islands that have stood beautiful and pristine for millions of years? For your family, the families of your constituents who you were elected by, to protect and speak for, and for those who cannot speak yet but will thank you in years to come, please pass this bill now. It's a small step, but nonetheless a step in the right direction. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nathan H. Hall

Aloha and thank you for taking the time to take my testimony into consideration today. This is my first time submitting testimony.

My name is **Geraldine Joy Ibarra**, a resident of Makiki and am in **SUPPORT** of this bill. In the 10 years I have lived in Makiki, I have seen the littering in the neighborhood get exponentially worse. The majority of the litter that I find? Take out items. Single use plastics, plastic utensils, plastic and Styrofoam containers and cups. This past weekend on a 30 minute excursion with my dog I collected 8 lbs. of trash that mostly included these items.



I not only see this type of litter in town. I am a volunteer for the organization 808 Cleanups, and have adopted the Kahuku Golf Course Beach Park as my main focus of action. Since May 2016, our organized cleanups have collected over 10,000 lbs. of marine debris and trash from the beach and foam continues to be a problem there as well. On the beach, Styrofoam is found in multiple forms: Take out containers, buoys, cups, random foam padding, and single use coolers. These items, if not found right away, break down into smaller pieces and find its way into our ecosystem by being mistaken for food by our wildlife. We need to break the cycle. We need to stop the use of Styrofoam products.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Geraldine Joy Ibarra



## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:59 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** writetosheila@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sheila Sarhangi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Sheila Sarhangi, a resident of Oahu, and I am in strong support of this measure. As an island state, our marine life is a significant driver for tourism. As residents, our health and well-being relies on the sustainability of the ocean, for food, recreation, and solace. To protect our ocean and its inhabitants, one small step is to prohibit the use of Polystyrene. San Francisco was able to ban the material outright as part of their "zero waste by 2020" goal. Surely Hawaii can also be a leader in waste management, and make strides in reaching Aloha+ Challenge goals, by banning the toxic substance. Aloha, Sheila

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## AEN Testimony

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** lisa.fohb@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Bishop	Friends of Hanauma Bay	Support	No

### Comments:

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Aloha,

My name is Jamee Allen and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa studying natural resource management. I am also the environmental chair of the Young Progressives Demanding Action Honolulu chapter, a group of 570+ registered members of esteemed community members of Oahu. Given the nature of my studies, it has been called to my attention the adverse effects polystyrene foam and plastics have on our environment. Most people direct their concerns on the pollution of polystyrene – which is, of course, a valid point of concern. What I am bringing to your attention today, however, are the lifecycle impacts that polystyrene and other plastics have on our environment. For the purpose of this testimony, I will use Styrofoam and polystyrene interchangeably.

During the production of Styrofoam, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are released into the air. This is a major greenhouse gas that is now believed to be 3-5 times more dangerous to the ozone than previously thought.<sup>1</sup> Styrofoam is made from the chemicals benzene and styrene which are both known to be carcinogenic to humans. Roughly 90,000 workers are exposed to these chemicals in production each year, increasing their likelihood of severe adverse health effects such as Parkinson's disease and leukemia.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, a report done by UNEP, *Valuing Plastic*, states that material extraction for Styrofoam causes \$13 billion in downstream environmental damages, of which they report is likely a generous estimate.

After production, the US EPA calculated that less than 1% of Styrofoam is recycled nationally. The rest is gone to landfill, incineration, or to the ocean – all of which have damaging impacts on the environment and human health. The UN states that roughly \$75 billion are spent in response to the negative marine and atmosphere impacts from incinerating plastic.<sup>2</sup> Millions of dollars are going into cleanup efforts to remove Styrofoam and other plastics from beaches, oceans, streams, and other locations that attract tourists and natural biodiversity. Not only is Styrofoam pollution hazardous for wildlife (which can ingest or choke on smaller pieces of Styrofoam), it can also detract tourism. Nothing serves as more of an eyesore than large plastics sitting on beautiful, white sand beaches. As Hawaii's economy is predominantly dependent on tourism, preventing Styrofoam from landing on our beautiful beaches would be worth considering.

I ask you, our leaders, to prohibit Styrofoam from these beautiful islands. Although this bill will not make Styrofoam completely obsolete from Hawaii, it is certainly a big step that will stir momentum. If we can pass this bill, SB 1109, we will make a milestone for our generation, and future generations, to release our dependence on limited, unsustainable resources.

Sec 2

Thank you,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sustainability.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Impacts-of-Styrofoam.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48113#.WJUl8fkrLIX>

Jamee Allen  
Young Progressives Demanding Action Environmental Chair



Aloha,

**Please ban polystyrene foam** – commonly referred to by the brand name Styrofoam. We need to join the numerous forward thinking cities like New York, who have banned the use of this outdated material.

The problems are numerous. Polystyrene foam doesn't break down easily, and it's easily dispersed by the wind, creating a litter problem in streets and local waterways. Aside from the litter problem, there are the health effects of the chemicals that make up extruded polystyrene foam or EPS.

The biggest concern that we should have as a state surrounded by marine environments are the problems caused by 'Styrofoam' when it leaks into marine environments and contaminates water. According to Douglas McCauley, a marine biology professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara, there are two main issues that polystyrene causes for marine animals - mechanical and chemical.

"The [mechanical root] is very straight-forward," said McCauley, "Oftentimes, we find polystyrene foam lodged in the intestines that causes blockages that can be lethal. If you think about how we worry about a mild blockage from eating the wrong thing, imagine eating a ball of Styrofoam. That's what some of these animals are doing."

Chemically, absorbent properties make 'Styrofoam' even more dangerous. "Polystyrene foams essentially act like little pollutant sponges, picking up and concentrating some of the nastiest contaminants in the ocean," McCauley says. "Then something like a sea turtle comes along and eats this thinking it is a jellyfish."

That's not just bad for the fish and the oceans. It could be bad for humans. We are already aware of the huge problem that microplastics pose to our islands and this merely adds to that. We should all be extremely concerned that the plastic eating fish are ending up back on our plates. Would you want you or anyone in your 'ohana to eat these fish?

There is the argument that instead of banning, we should aim to recycle. However, the difficulty in recycling EPS was a main reason New York City enacted the ban. It has not been proven that recycling dirty foam can be done on a large scale, and there is no demonstrated market for this material. Furthermore, due to the chemical process that turns polystyrene beads into EPS, it's nearly impossible to turn an EPS plate, for example, into an EPS takeaway box. You couldn't just take recycled Styrofoam cups and make molds again because it's already expanded," says Joe Biernacki, professor of chemical engineering at Tennessee Tech University.

If more cities across the country follow the lead of cities who have already instituted a ban, the alternatives will soon become more plentiful and will cost less.

Please join the ban on Styrofoam and mālama our 'āina.

Respectfully,

**Moyra Kim**

(808)782-9103

moyrakim@gmail.com



## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** gr8bluhron@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Please make the date sooner than 2018. This legislation is overdue. Mahalo

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:47 AM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** babylontheory@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberlee Benjamin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please pass this ban. I'm not a resident of Hawaii, but I've had the opportunity to visit and I love Hawaii. The sea animals and the citizens of Hawaii deserve better. Please keep the ocean and the sea life safe by passing this ban on Styrofoam. Thank you for your time.

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## AEN Testimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:14 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** 1staciasage@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

### **SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacia Ash	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Senate Bill 1109 which is vital to preventing litter and reducing wind-borne marine pollution within Hawaii Nei and its waters. The intention of the Senate Bill (SB1109) is to prohibit the use of polystyrene by food service vendors beginning 1-1-18. The Maui Island Plan supports efforts to restrict single use materials. Therefore, I support this measure and I understand that Maui is poised to enforce this ruling within this timeline. Maui County's Plastic Bag Ordinance provides an excellent model to follow in the development and management of this program. I respectfully request this bill be passed out of committee to become law. I believe it is very important that SB1109 passes, rather than leaving it to the counties, both to protect the fragile marine environment around all counties, and in particular to provide a uniform framework for the entire state.

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**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:33 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** tru.carrie@live.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carrie Trujillo	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB 1109

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**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 2:28 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** scalonescone@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM\*

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eleanor Josephine Scalone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:46 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** kristajohan@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Krista Joan Donaldson	Ms.	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support banning styrofoam on BI. I appreciate that this new version of this bill allows for an individual organization, like KTA, to receive permission to use styrofoam for their meat packing. Passing bill SB 1109 is a necessary step forward for our community to stop an unhealthy and unsustainable addiction to styrofoam. As a sustainability specialist, I work with events, restaurants, schools, households, and businesses to compost, recycle, and reduce their discards. Moving our county away from styrofoam will allow more businesses to employ strategies to produce less waste via the county's soon-coming, expanded composting system. It is well within our means to turn discards into soil instead of adding to the stream of styrofoam ending up on our beaches, in our oceans, and congesting in our landfills. Getting off styrofoam is also a way for businesses to look towards developing food service ware from local ingredients like ficus leaves and bamboo. A boom is happening in India, Thailand, Indonesia, and other tropical climates to develop biodegradable, sustainably-harvested food service ware from local fiber sources. There is no future in styrofoam. We should invest in a future that promotes healthy local jobs while reducing toxic trash items from entering waterways, landscapes, and landfills. Mahalo for your time. Please Please support Bill 1109.

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Hello my name is Trudy Alefaio and I am a resident of Kailua, HI (Oahu). I am writing to support the ban of polystyrene disposable containers. (SB1109)

These containers do nothing but pollute our environment.

- At the production state the creation of these containers release ozone depleting chlorofluorocarbons into the environment.
- When used to hold hot foods or beverages they can often melt putting who knows what types of chemicals into our food.
- Post use polystyrene containers fill our landfills, end up on the side of the road ruining the beautiful landscape or even worse, in our waters leaching poisons that harm our sea life.

There are many options that better than polystyrene and many communities throughout the US and around the world have found banning polystyrene to have a positive impact.

This is a step in the right direction and I hope you will take this step and chose to ban polystyrene disposable containers.

Malam aka 'aina.

Mahalo,

Trudy Alefaio

Kailua, HI

**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:23 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** barberk@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kari Matadobra	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It is my understanding that single-use styrofoam products are already banned in 11 major cities. Their impact on the environment and sea life is irrefutable. Not only do single-use styrofoam products leach toluene, styrene, and benzene into food and drink products, but they break down into thousands of tiny pieces that end up washing up on Kailua Beach. I am a diver, and would prefer to never see styrofoam in the pristine oceans again!

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# 12<sup>th</sup>

AVE  
GRILL

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is Denise Luke, co-owner of 12th Ave Grill Restaurant and I am a resident of Kaimuki, Oahu, Hawaii. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. We would like to submit testimony in support of this measure as a successful business member in our community and specifically a growing restaurant/event-catering company in Honolulu, Hawai'i of over 12 years. As the scientific benefits of passing and enforcing this bill are already established, we speak to our own experience as an independent restaurant in a competitive climate to it's financial viability.

Although our smaller size and leadership structure allows for an agile response to a changing market our access to affordable, quality resources is consistently the most challenging factor in making ends meet. This has included finding functional, eco friendly choices in take out materials and products over the last 12 plus years. We have benefited from the increasing evolution and market for sustainable containers and have seen a price decrease that will only continue as the market demands. The industry trend is toward more thoughtful, sustainable, innovative and natural ingredients so utilizing earth friendly materials in all aspects of our business reinforces our brand and solidifies our place in current and future guest expectations.

In the large picture we know that the beauty and unique elements that bring people to Hawai'i and keep people in Hawai'i are intimately tied to it's ability to preserve it's natural resources. This is a commitment we have always dedicated ourselves to and know that it begins with steps like these. Other businesses understand this too.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Denise Luke/12th Ave Grill  
1120 12th Avenue  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:13 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** mike@myspectrum.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Ottman	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM, My name is Mike Ottman and I am a resident of Maui. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic. Cleanup Costs & Economic Benefits: • Hawaii State Department of Transportation (DOT) just produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream. The plan says that banning these wasteful single-use products could save the state millions of dollars. • The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California, showing that tax payers bear the burden of cleanup costs: o CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and cleanups. o San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million each year cleaning up plastic litter. • United Nations Environmental Program estimates that it costs billions globally to clean up plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastics alone. • To clean up this litter, much of the burden has been put on environmental groups whose volunteers spend thousands of hours cleaning up Hawaii's beaches and coastal areas. Environmental Impact: • The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a report showing that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. • If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process. • The material for fiber containers can be grown and made in Hawaii, and that would create more sustainable jobs and not expose workers to large amounts of toxic chemicals. • EPS Foam is designed to be used once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally. • EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air. So foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters and enter into the natural environment. They pollute our coastal waters and negatively impact ocean health and threaten marine wildlife. • EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up and easier for animals to mistake it as food and ingest. • According to the EPA Waste Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Human Health • Styrene is a confirmed animal carcinogen and a suspected human carcinogen (The National Institute of Health, 2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014) • When combusted, styrene produces many harmful and possibly carcinogenic byproducts. Thank you for your consideration. Mike Ottman 78 Aleiki pl, Paia HI 96779

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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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Dear Hawaii State Legislators, I am writing to provide testimony regarding:

*SB1109*

*RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS.*

*Prohibits the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors beginning 1/1/18, unless: (1) the county in which the food vendor works has established a polystyrene foam container recycling program; or (2) DOH allows an exemption.*

As a 14-year resident of this beautiful state, I give my strongest encouragement to ban polystyrene foam food containers across Hawaii. Foam is terrible for the environment and our health. Please take this opportunity to provide unwavering leadership and stewardship of our precious island resources and environment.

#### Economics

Polystyrene is currently cheaper (cost per unit) because of economies of scale, but better alternative products (paper, biopolymer, etc) should become at least as affordable if not more so if the demand is there. The argument that polystyrene containers are “more affordable” does not factor in the critical (and largely irreversible) costs of a degraded and poisonous living environment. Short-term economic pain should not weigh on this decision – the legislature could support short-term subsidies toward alternative container costs to assuage restaurant owners’ concerns.

#### Health

Polystyrene is horrible for our health. Toxic chemicals leach out of these products into the food that they contain (especially when heated in a microwave). These chemicals threaten human health and reproductive systems. Styrene is classified as a possible human carcinogen by the EPA and by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

#### Environment

The process of making polystyrene pollutes the air and creates large amounts of liquid and solid waste. These products are made with petroleum, a non-sustainable and heavily polluting resource.

Polystyrene degrades poorly and ruins our land and marine environments. We all know that despite best efforts to reduce littering, an alarming amount of rubbish (including polystyrene products) finds its way onto our land and into our waterways.

Recycling polystyrene, although possible, is not practical and is not done here in Hawaii. The argument that most foam food containers are burned by H-POWER must consider the toxicity of burning polystyrene and the resulting ash. A 1986 EPA report on solid waste named the polystyrene manufacturing process as the 5th largest creator of hazardous waste. The National Bureau of Standards Center for Fire Research identified 57 chemical byproducts released during the combustion of polystyrene foam. H-POWER requires a minimum amount of rubbish burned each year, which is incredibly problematic and removes any incentive for the state to



encourage trash reduction, recycling, and composting. That large-scale composting is not done is no excuse for it not to be encouraged and implemented.

The polystyrene industry, like most entrenched industries, does not change easily and is incredibly powerful regarding economic positioning, governmental support, and consumer comfortability. It often takes too long without governmental intervention to do the right thing when it comes to protecting our health and our environment. Thank you for your leadership in instituting the change needed for us to continue a healthy, sustainable, and high-quality way of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha,  
Eric W. Chang  
625 Iolani Ave #704  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
misterchang@gmail.com

**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** alohasteph@mac.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Please ban the use of one time use styrofoam food containers in Hawaii. There are better alternatives for our environment. Mahalo

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**gabbard2 - Donna**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017 1:00 PM  
**To:** AEN Testimony  
**Cc:** alohaavicolli@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1109 on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM

**SB1109**

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/PSM on Feb 8, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Aloha from Kailua where I am born and raised. Please please pass this bill in banning styrofoam products! It is completely unnecessary and there are better and affordable ways. These containers are polluting the oceans and land, along with SO MUCH other trash. We NEED to change the way we use single use plastics and every ban, testimony, and action will help. MAHALO!

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**Senate Bill 1109: Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers**  
In Strong Support

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 8th, 2017

Hearing Time: 1:15 PM

Place: Conference Room 224

Committee: Agriculture & Environment/Public Safety Intergovernmental, & Military Affairs

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Nishihara, Members of the joint committee on AE & PSM,

My name is Clarice Schafer and I am a resident of Moiliili, Honolulu, HI. I am writing in full support of SB1109 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors.

Although many people have heard that Styrofoam is detrimental to the planet, few understand how Styrofoam harms the environment and our health. Over the years, information about harmful effects of Styrofoam/EPS on people's health and the environment have been accumulating. Here are some reasons why you should support SB1109:

Cleanup Costs & Economic Benefits

- Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our storm water management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups.
- Hawaii State Department of Transportation has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream.<sup>1</sup>
- The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California:<sup>2</sup>
  - CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and cleanups.
  - San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million alone on plastic cleanup
- United Nations Environmental Program Global Estimates are in the billions for the global cost to cleanup plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastic alone.<sup>3</sup>
  - This cost is closer to \$78 billion annually if all costs are considered, including the cost lost in fossil fuel production and loss of resources.
- Burden on the public

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan\\_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf](http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/ca-pollution-in-waterways-IB.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> [www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/](http://www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/)



- According to cleanup hours recorded across Hawaii's beach cleaning organizations and volunteer hour base rates, we spent \$750,000 - \$1 million on beach cleanups in 2016 alone.

### Environmental Impact

- It is argued that styrofoam is acceptable because we can incinerate it for energy. However, this approach is not without significant impacts. According to the Hawaii DOH Clean Air Branch the Covanta H-POWER plant emits 0.15 million metrics tons of carbon dioxide<sup>4</sup> (a potent greenhouse gas) annually. Although touted as a "clean energy solution" for Hawaii, H-POWER only generates about 3% of Oahu's energy needs<sup>5</sup> while still emitting greenhouse gases through burning plastic.
- Further, for each ton of polystyrene not produced, 2.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions are avoided. This directly supports Hawaii's greenhouse gas reduction goals as stated in the Aloha + Challenge and as mandated by the US EPA.<sup>6</sup>
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) report shows that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. For each ton of polystyrene incinerated, 1.64 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent are emitted.
- If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products come without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process.
- Fiber clamshells are also less than half the volume of EPS, so a restaurant could fit about twice as many clamshells on the same amount of shelf space or have more space for other things.
- The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii.
- EPS is designed to be used it once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally.
- EPS Foam is composed of over 90% air, so even when properly disposed of, foam products easily fly out of trash bins and dumpsters, and they enter into the natural environment, eventually polluting our ocean and negatively impacting ocean health and threatening marine wildlife.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/ghg-inventory-20081.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [www.islandpulse.org](http://www.islandpulse.org)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www3.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/warm/pdfs/Plastics.pdf>

- EPS Foam also breaks apart more easily and quicker than other plastics, making it more difficult to clean up than other plastics and easier for animals to mistake as food and ingest
- According to the EPA Waste Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Of our total plastic recovery, polystyrene makes up 0.7% of recycled plastic

### Human Health

- Air pollution from polystyrene
  - Styrene is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen and a confirmed animal carcinogen as reported by the National Institute of Health in their Report on Carcinogens (2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014)<sup>7</sup>
  - When combusted, styrene produces benzaldehyde (US EPA classifies this as a hazardous substance), acetophenone (Group D carcinogen by US EPA, causes chromosomal damage on hamsters, but hasn't been tested in humans), styrene oxide (main metabolite of styrene, which is known as carcinogenic).

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/styrene/index.cfm>