



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

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony COMMENTING on HB0762
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTIC STRAWS

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Hearing Date: January 31, 2019 Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unkown

2 **Department Testimony:** The purpose of the measure is to prohibit a full-service restaurant
3 from providing a single-use plastic straw to a consumer unless requested by the consumer.

4 The Department of Health (Department) offers two comments. First, we recommend that
5 Lines 1-3 on page 2, “Except as expressly authorized by state law, no county shall enact an
6 ordinance, rule, or regulation regulating single-use plastic straws.” be removed, so as to allow
7 counties to be more stringent than state law, if they choose.

8 Second, the Department has not actively enforced state litter laws under Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes Chapter 339 since the abolishment of the Litter Control Office in the late 1990s.
10 Therefore, the Department may not be able to actively enforce without additional funding and
11 resources.

12 **Offered Amendments:** None

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



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Barry Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*
Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

TO:
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Representative Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: January 31, 2019
TIME: 8:30am
PLACE: Conference Room 325

RE: HB762 Relating to Single-use Plastic Straws

Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

This is a common sense measure that will greatly reduce unnecessary use of straws, without banning a safe, useful, and affordable product. In many cases customers in sit down restaurants have no need for a straw, but sometimes they are distributed as a matter of habit. Ending this practice in sit down restaurants means less straws end up as waste and puts the decisions of whether or not to use a straw in the hands of customers. We encourage you to vote yes on this measure.



Kelii Gouveia, Chairman – Duke's Waikiki **Tom Jones, Incoming Chair** – Gyotaku
Tammy Fukugawa, Vice Chair – TS Restaurant **Dirk Koeppenkastrop, Secretary** – IL Gelato Hawaii
Michael Miller, Treasurer – Tiki's Grill & Bar **Tyler Roukema, Past Chair** – Outrigger Canoe Club

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To: Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Victor Lim, Legislative Chair
Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj: HB 762 Relating to Single-Use Plastic Straw

Date: January 29, 2019

We at the Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,500 restaurants in Hawaii supports HB762 stating that a full service restaurants shall not provide a single-use plastic straw to a customer unless requested by the customer.

We are in support of being eco-friendly with common sense being applied to achieve this objective.

Thank you very much for allowing us to comment on this bill.





COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

Rep. Sharon E. Har

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane

Rep. David A. Tarnas

Rep. Cynthia Thielen

Rep. Chris Todd

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, January 31, 2019

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 325

**TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITION IN SUPPORT OF HB762
RELATING TO SINGLE USE PLASTIC STRAWS**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and Members of the EEP Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC) speaking in support of HB762 Relating to single use plastic straws.

The OTC represents over 300 Ocean Tourism Businesses across the State.

While this proposed legislation does not directly impact our industry the reduction of plastic straws in our environment will have a positive impact on everyone. There are viable biodegradable and reusable options readily available.

Please pass HB762 this is an easy win for the environment.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President

Ocean Tourism Coalition



LATE

January 30, 2019

To: The Honorable Nicole Lowen, Chair
Members, House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

From: Tim Shestek, Senior Director
State Affairs

RE: HB 762 - SUPPORT

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) is writing in support of HB762, which would require straws be provided to customers only upon request.

Attention is rightly turning to the overall volume of consumer waste generated by the way in which we use products, and many are looking for ways to reduce or eliminate wasteful uses of products. Consumer attention has recently focused on situations where drinking straws are automatically provided as an area where unnecessary use could be reduced.

There are many circumstances in which the use of drinking straws will enhance safety, and promote sanitary conditions. Some examples include beverages consumed while driving, hospital use, daily living for people with physical impairments or recovering from injury, seniors and others who may have difficulty lifting a drink, and travelling with small children. However, there are also circumstances when a drinking straw is automatically provided in a drink before the consumer has asked for one.

ACC and its members take seriously the issue of litter and marine debris. To that end, ACC's Plastics Division recently announced a product stewardship position for straws as part of our ongoing efforts to help promote the responsible use of valuable plastic materials.

To avoid unnecessary and potentially wasteful use, ACC supports an "upon request" approach such as proposed in HB 762. Additionally, a statewide solution related to straws is preferred in order to avoid a patchwork of local ordinances.

Thank you in advance for considering our views. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or via email at Tim_Shestek@americanchemistry.com. You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551.





KYD, Inc. dba k. yamada distributors

An independent leader in packaging and wholesale distribution

P.O. BOX 29669, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820 Phone: (808) 836-3221 Fax: (808) 833-8995

**RECEIVED
Date & Time**

Jan 30, 2019, 11:28 am

HB 762, Relating to Single Use Plastic Straws
House EEP Hearing
Thurs Jan 31, 2019
8:30am – Room 325
Position: Support

LATE

Chair Lowen and Members of the House EEP Committee:

I am Dexter Yamada, President of KYD, Inc. dba: K. Yamada Distributors. KYD, Inc. is a local family run business that originated in the 1940's. Today, KYD, Inc and its sister company, Hawaii's Finest Products, LLC, manufacture packaging materials such as food-grade EPS (Expanded Polystyrene) food containers, and distribute a variety of packaging products to include compostable containers.

As a kamaaina family business in Hawaii, we live here and care about our environment. We believe in stronger litter management programs that curtail land-based litter from migrating to waterways and the ocean. This means public education and consequences for proper disposal of litter and a call for civic responsibility.

This measure allows the consumer to request a single-use plastic straw in full service restaurants. This is particularly important for persons with disabilities.

According to Emily Ladau, an activist and writer on disability issues, (CNN, July 11, 2018) and has Larsen syndrome, people who need straws need plastic straws. Straws from paper dissolve. Metal straws can get too hot or cold depending on the liquid drink. Reusable straws are often forgotten at home.

"Other types of straws simply do not offer the combination of strength, flexibility, and safety that plastic straws do," Disability Rights Washington, a nonprofit with offices in Seattle, said in a letter it coauthored to the city.

For others who are able-bodied, this measure provides a choice to request straws or forego it altogether. No matter what material is used for the straw proper litter disposal is key to protecting the environment.

Please support this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



WILL CALL, G&A, AND WAREHOUSE OFFICES: 2949 Koapaka Street, Honolulu,
Hawaii 96819-1923

Phone: (808) 836-3221

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HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 11:18:42 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Inga Gibson	Pono Advocacy	Support	No

Comments:

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 8:35:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Marsh	Native Ecosystem Services LLC	Support	No

Comments:

From the desk of Taylor Marsh, Owner, Native Ecosystem Services LLC

I highly support the intention of this bill but with significant ammendments. Changes must be made to this bill that include a full ban on platic straws and include all restaurants and food establishments, not just full service restaurants.

Platstic straws have been documented more and more by researchers in the digestive and respiratory tracts of wildlife, especially marine wildlife, around the world. This problem is increasing and is global. It is Hawaii's responsisbility to lead our nation and the world by example and eliminate our consumption of unnnecessary products that never biodegrade and stay in our environment forever. This is a huge topic and must be addressed seriously by our government officials today.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me.

With the best intentions and hope for saving our degrading environment,

Taylor Marsh

(808)469-9432

nativeecosystemservices@gmail.com



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP)

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, January 31, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

RE: HB 762 Relating to Single-Use Plastic Straws

Aloha mai kakou Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 762 relating to Single-Use Plastic Straws.**

HB 762 prohibits a full-service restaurant from providing a single-use plastic straw to a consumer unless requested by the consumer. HB 762 takes effect on 1/1/2020.

The Democratic Party of Hawai`i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment are essential. DPH supports a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. DPH supports the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. DPH believes in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai`i.

DPH believes in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement. DPH supports programs that encourage sustainable clean, efficient, creative and environmentally friendly modes of transportation, recycling and waste reduction.

The conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawai'i's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 17, In. 4-16.*

DPH supports the protection of our `aina against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our fresh water resources. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 17, In. 18-21.*

Single use plastic straws are contra to recycling and waste reduction.

For the foregoing reasons, OCCLP supports HB 762 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

Mahalo nui loa
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Ph. (808) 258-8889

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 10:12:24 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmelita Phillips	KYD, Inc.	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 10:58:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Bitonio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB762: Strong Support

Hearing: January 31, 2019

As a resident of Kaneohe and an active member of Surfrider Foundation's O'ahu Chapter, I have become increasingly concerned about plastics on our beaches, in our nearshore waters, and now found in marine life that calls these areas home.

The automatic offering and sheer volume of straws offered at restaurants is an increasingly significant threat to the health of our islands and with over 500 million plastic straws used and discarded per day in the United States alone. As a country, our citizens produce more than double per capita plastic waste of China and five times that of Indonesia, while (with Europe), housing 95% of the companies, lobbyists, and industries in the plastic economy (WEF 2016). By centering our eye on, Hawai'i, the U.S. state with the highest rates of waste generation (doubling the national average) and the beaches inundated with the Pacific Gyre's rapidly increasing plastic pollution (CNN 2016) we are at the heart of the global plastic problem. Up to 80% of the plastic in our oceans comes from land-based sources, estimated at 5-13 million tons of plastic. Hawai'i is uniquely positioned to focus the narrative of plastic solutions and our State has the opportunity to lead the world in a progressive movement that cultivates change at the source.

The United States environmental protection agency (EPA) outlines a waste pyramid in which reduction and re-use stand as the pinnacle to effective waste management. Our Cities, Counties, and State need to rethink the way they create, handle, and discuss waste. Surfrider Foundation believes that we can become a leader in a regenerative economy in which we value reuse and recovery over the single-use items. Single-use plastics, like straws & polystyrene foam, are a fossil fuel driven, carbon emitting industry that has no place in an island economy where space is limited and our environmental health is the most important issue to our economy.

To date, the majority of dialogue regarding solutions to the plastic problem revolves around how we focus attention on regions of the world that have poorer waste management. These solutions may help slow the flow of waste into our oceans or clean up what is already there, but do not help solve the underlying issue. As our ocean fills

with more plastic by weight than fish (Washington Post 2016) by 2050, as we have seen a 610% increase in raw plastic production since 1975 (Jambeck 2015), and as 95% of plastic packaging globally (resulting in \$80-120 billion cost) is lost after a single-first use (WEF 2016), the solutions must be more geared towards a shift away from the fossil fuel based, greenhouse gas creating industry of plastics. Alternatives derived from compostable materials are widely available now as a stop-gap effort as we shift our economy back towards a system of reuse that is at the foundation of both Hawaiian culture and the ethic that this country began on.

The costs of plastic pollution are mounting in multiple sectors - financially, ecologically, and socially. Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our stormwater management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups. Hawai'i State Department of Transportation (HDOT) has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream, while in California, the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California. The study concluded that CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and marine cleanups. San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million alone on plastic cleanup. The United Nations Environmental Program has estimates in the billions for the global cost to cleanup plastics with \$14 billion for marine plastic alone.

A recent study published in the renowned journal of *Science* describes the mounting issues of plastics on our fragile and threatened reefs. The study describes corals as being 90% more likely to be diseased when plastic sits on the reef. The billions of pieces of plastic already in the ocean are scarring reefs and then likely infecting them with the contamination that comes from their chemical properties that allow for microbial colonization of pathogens. In other words, plastics bio-accumulate toxins in the water and thus can transfer such toxins to other organisms like coral. This is yet another toxic consequence of plastics in our oceans, of which many more are described in the points below.

The effects to marine life in our oceans are mounting. 50 to 80 percent of dead sea turtles have ingested plastic. Plastic bags, which resemble jellyfish, are the most commonly found item in sea turtles' stomachs. Worldwide, 82 of 144 examined bird species contained plastic debris in their stomachs; and in some cases, 80 percent of the population had consumed plastic. Researchers found that 66 percent of Giant Petrel shorebirds regurgitated plastic when feeding their chicks. Commercial fish, such as Opah and Bigeye Tuna, consume plastic, which could significantly reduce global populations. A University of Hawaii study reports "[i]n the two [Opah] species found in Hawaiian waters, 58 percent of the small eye opah and 43 percent of the big-eye opah had ingested some kind of debris."

On a recent field trip visiting with the Marine Mammal Research Program, Surfrider Oahu members were guided through the facilities where beached and dead Pilot

Whales had been examined. The stomach contents of the three animals found on O'ahu, Lana'i, and Kaua'i revealed between 15-30 lbs of plastic in the gut. Plastic does not breakdown like organic material and as marine animals continue to ingest the plastics their stomachs eventually fill to a state in which they can no longer consume enough food to address proper nutritional maintenance. This is similar to the problem widely shared with Laysan Albatross in Papahānaumokuākea.

Ultimately, we have to reduce the problem at its source and work towards a circular economy. Single-use plastics are an unneeded convenience that our society must learn to move away from. The alternatives exist and we must exercise some sort of ethic over our consumer behavior. Our kuleana is to protect our public trust resources like our shorelines for all generations into the future and currently we are not fulfilling that leadership role. I strongly urges the passing of HB762 eliminating common single-use plastics, straws, polystyrene food service products, and plastic bags from our waste streams and environment.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Joy Bitonio
Resident of Kaneohe, HI
Member of Surfrider Oahu

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 12:52:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Layla Kilolu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Elected Public Servants,

My name is Layla and I am a graduate student at UH Manoa studying urban and regional planning. I am also an East-West Center fellow studying resilience, and working towards making our state more sustainable and resilient. Further I support this bill because of the wastefulness and environmental impact that plastic straws have created. However, I'd like to add that other establishments such as places that make juices and smoothies should also abide by this law. They can offer paper straws, or none at all. Thank you for your service.

Warmly,
Layla

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:52:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 3:00:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 3:23:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary LaPrade	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 6:35:15 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Albritton	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 10:58:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Plastic straws are not the largest plastic pollution problem, but they are ubiquitous and unnecessary. Please pass this bill! Mahalo!

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 1:25:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Madison Beardsley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Madison Beardsley and I believe that this bill should be passed but ammended banning the use of plastic straws in its entirety across the Hawaiian islands. I am currently double majoring in Biology and Environemntal Science at HPU and based off of research I have conducted here, I have seen first hand the extent of damage these straws and other single use plastics are causing. Not only on land but specifically in the oceans. We are surrounded by the biggest body of water in the world and we need to respect it. These straws are entering our waters and breaking down at such a slow rate that it exceeds our generation for a single drink. Imagine how many straws each individual uses in their life time and where those straws are now? Many of these straws will simply break up in the ocean and turn into microplastics. Microplastics are a major issue within every trophic level within marine food webs. Microorganisms and small organisms are consuming these plastics thinking they are food and will either kill them due to the filling in their stomach and it making them feel full even though they have not gained any nutrition from it. Another issue with these microplastics within our waters is biomagnification. This is when larger trophic leveled organisms consume these lower-smaller organisms that are full of plastics. This will begin to poison foods that we consume such as Ahi or Ono. Aside from the science I see it first hand at both of my jobs but specifically at Starbucks. Starbucks is notroious for single use straws and I see people everyday waste multiple straws. 50% of people who drink coffee don't just come for a single cup a day, they come back two, three times a day to get a new cup of their favorite beverage. Each time they get a new plastic cup, plastic straw, and most times a sleeve for their cup. People don't think twice about their environmental impact but I do and I see it all the time. I always offer customers sippy lids that do not require straws, and even then I watch them move to the condiment bar and grab a straw and put it in a lid that is already ready to drink without a straw! Starbucks has set fourth a plan to ban these single use straws by 2020 and I hope that Hawaii will too! We are a progressive state with some of the most unique ecosystems located within the world, we deserve to preserve these lands for future generations and for our selves! I hope that you will take this information into serious consideration and if any other information regarding anything mentioned above feel free to contact me at 631-921-3453. Thank you.

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:01 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Balazs	Department of Education	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 1:19:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brett Toomey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Plastic straws may be small but are also a really unnecessary tool for the vast majority of people. These straws are incredibly dangerous for the environment and since Hawaii has a very delicate and protected environment, it is crucial that plastic straws should be banned. If you choose to decide to keep straws, I suggest some type of biodegradable, non-toxic material to create straws instead of plastic, such as paper or metal. Climate change is already becoming worse and worse as time goes on and we need to act fast in order to reduce pollution and let Earth thrive.

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:31:56 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alden	Kaiser High School Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:33:08 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Conrad Morgan	Kaiser High School Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:34:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:34:37 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamryn Conway	Wipeout Crew Kaiser High School	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:34:44 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
emily ramirez miranda	wipeout crew	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jordan May	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:04 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashtyn Cummings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:08 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lawrence Komo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jayna Westbrooks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:28 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thomas Osa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:35:39 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lei Shimabukuro	Kaiser High School	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:37:45 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Will Sato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:37:58 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isa	Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:39:36 PM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jourdin W	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 12:42:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Haberman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
January 31, 2018**

Re: HB 762 Relating to Single Use Plastic Straws

Good morning Chairperson Lowen and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a statewide not-for-profit trade organization committed to supporting the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

Retail Merchants of Hawaii supports the intent of HB 762 Relating to Single Use Plastic Straws. Customers are the driving force as to how many business are run. Businesses respond to the wants of the customers that patronize their particular establishments. We are already seeing establishments changing and offering at the request of the customer.

We should also be looking at is truly coordinated comprehensive litter reduction education and program.

Again mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 8:57:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

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

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 9:19:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Brown III	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members,

I strongly support this measure and ask that you report it out of EEP, so that it may continue to progress through the legislative process. Encouraging people to reduce plastic waste of all forms is a key part of caring for our ailing aina and oceans, and waning off of single-use plastic straws is an easy change individuals can make. I appreciate that this bill contains language that would still make these types of straws accessible for those who need them, as those with disabilities have raised concerns over outright bans. Please vote YES.

Mahalo nui,

Joey Brown, Kailua, HI.

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 12:03:19 AM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren DelaCalzada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 7:52:48 AM
Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucia You	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-762

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 8:06:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Surfrider Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

Surfrider's Hawaii Chapters support this bill.

Mahalo, Stuart Coleman