



**SB367 SD1**  
**RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

March 12, 2019

8:30 a.m.

Room 325

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB367 SD1, which would prohibit the distribution or use of polystyrene food containers, plastic bags, and similar single-use plastics by food service businesses, as well as the distribution of plastic bags by stores, thereby reducing the impacts of plastic waste on our native wildlife, marine and coastal resources, and associated Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

Single-use plastics, such as polystyrene foam containers and plastic bags, have a well-established impact on native species of cultural significance, including endangered as well as subsistence resource species. For example, global production of polystyrene exceeds **300 million tons annually**; approximately **50 percent** of that production is disposed of indiscriminately into the environment, causing significant negative environmental impacts. In Hawaiian waters, the ingestion of discarded plastic debris including polystyrene and plastic bags by native seabirds, such as mōlī, as well as by endangered honu, is a well-documented phenomenon that may have highly injurious or even fatal consequences. Notably, such species hold special significance in Hawaiian culture and traditions: the cultural importance of seabirds includes their role in navigation, meteorology, craftwork, and in their spiritual symbolic significance; likewise, honu are also featured in numerous mo‘olelo, hula, ki‘i pōhaku, and other art forms, and were traditionally raised and harvested for food, medicinal, and other purposes. Such plastic debris may also be ingested by other marine fauna, and its bioaccumulation through the food web may adversely affect numerous other native and culturally significant marine species. **Therefore, reducing or eliminating the amount of disposable single-use plastics in Hawai‘i may help to mitigate the impact of plastics on the native and endangered marine species in our islands’ waters.**

OHA further notes that plastic waste may also threaten the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural and subsistence practices. For example, the toxins contained in discarded plastic, including those found in plastic itself as well as toxins readily absorbed by plastic material, may bioaccumulate in the marine food web, discouraging cultural and subsistence practitioners from the practice of gathering and consuming marine resources. The presence of plastic fragments or microplastics in our nearshore waters may also discourage the traditional gathering and consumption of pa‘akai and other non-living resources. In addition, the harm caused to endangered and native species may foreclose the future use of such species in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices,

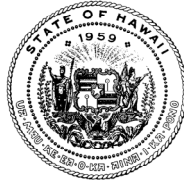
which depend upon the availability of healthy and abundant resources. Finally, the presence of discarded plastics may compromise the cultural and spiritual integrity of the marine and coastal environment, upon which Native Hawaiian subsistence practices and ways of life are inextricably tied.<sup>1</sup> **Accordingly, reducing the use and inevitable disposal of single-use plastics into our marine environment may also represent a small but important step towards the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture.**

Finally, while OHA understands and appreciates that economic concerns may be raised by some, OHA believes it may also be important to consider the economic benefits that would result from a ban on the single-use plastic products covered by this measure. For example, a reduction of plastic waste on our beaches and in our coastal waters will only enhance visitor experience and thereby economic activity in the islands. The outward commitment by our government to prioritize and be responsive to the needs of Hawai'i's marine ecology would also be favorable to Hawai'i's image as an attractive visitor destination. A single-use plastic ban would further enhance the market for locally produced, environmentally friendly alternatives to these products, injecting life into nascent sectors of our local economy and encouraging local, environmentally conscious entrepreneurship. Finally, the reduction of single-use plastic products' impacts on our marine and coastal environment, as well as on human health, may result in significant avoided economic costs associated with such impacts. OHA therefore urges the Committee to consider the significant economic benefits of a single-use plastics ban in any weighing of the marginal increased costs of using alternative products, if they are even necessary.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB367 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> In Native Hawaiian understanding the spatial bounds of 'āina and moana are viewed holistically and maintain powerful and epistemological connections to Hawaiian ancestry and resilience; in one salient example, hāko'ako'a, coral reefs, are prayed for and spoken of in the kumulipo, the Hawaiian creation chant.



**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 SB0367 SD1**  
**RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing Date: March 12, 2019

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Approximately \$1,000,000 annually.

2 **Department Testimony:** This bill proposes to ban food service businesses and stores from the sale, use,  
3 or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic  
4 straws, and plastic bags.

5 The Department of Health (Department) recognizes the urgency to address the impact of plastic  
6 litter on the environment. However, we note that the proposed ban duplicates existing plastic bag bans in  
7 all four counties as well as polystyrene food container bans that are active, or about to begin, in Hawaii  
8 County and Maui County.

9 We also note that there is a need for clarification. For example, in Section 2(a), no food service  
10 business shall distribute, sell or provide plastic straws, plastic bags, or polystyrene foam containers. It is  
11 unclear whether the plastic bags are limited to carry out bags and in-store packaging (meat and produce  
12 plastic bags), or includes pre-packaged items such as bread, salad mixes, granola, trail mix, candy, apple,  
13 cookie, and chip bags. Assuming candy and beverages are considered prepared foods, businesses like  
14 Home Depot and City Mill would be considered a "Food Service Business". As such, food service  
15 businesses would be prohibited to sell trash bags, potentially creating a greater litter issue.

16 We further note that sales prohibitions do not fit into the area(s) of responsibility of any of the  
17 Department's existing regulatory programs. The Department has not enforced litter laws since the  
18 abolishment of the Litter Control Office in the late 1990s. We estimate that to re-establish the Litter  
19 Control Office with an administrator, one clerical position, and a single inspector for each county will  
20 cost approximately \$1,000,000 annually.

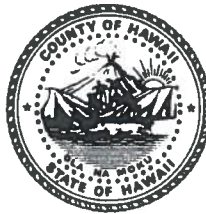
1           Finally, we ask that any mandates or appropriation made to implement this measure not impact  
2 the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget Request and the Department's appropriations  
3 and personnel priorities.

4   **Offered Amendments:** None

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



REBECCA VILLEGAS  
Council Member  
District 7, Central Kona



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## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

March 11, 2019

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS  
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON SB 367 SD1, RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Tuesday, March 12, 2019  
8:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 367 SD1, relating to environmental protection. My testimony is submitted by my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of the Committee on Public Safety.

The purpose of this measure prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

Amending the Hawai'i Revised Statutes by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated will assist the State of Hawai'i with littering of polystyrene foam, and includes the prohibition on the sale, use, or distribution of plastic straws and plastic bags. These materials are detrimental to not only our environment but also affects our local food chain and endangers marine animals and avian populations. These materials are the most common type of litter and pollutes the State of Hawai'i.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection to support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

  
Rebecca Villegas  
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



LORI M.K. KAHIKINA, P.E.  
DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY A. HOUGHTON  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
WAS 19-117

March 11, 2019

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
The Honorable Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Energy and the Environment  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 325  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members:

SUBJECT: SB 367 SD1  
Relating to Environmental Protection

The Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu (ENV) supports the intent of SB 367 which proposes to reduce the amount of plastic in the waste stream and its potential to become littered into the natural environment, and provides the following comment.

The definition of "plastic bag" currently in this measure is overly broad and would include thicker bags made from recycled woven plastic fibers, which are commonly considered reusable. ENV suggests the definition be amended to include a bag made from "plastic film," which could be defined as bag made from thin sheets of plastic with a thickness under 10 mils.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori M.K. Kahikina", is written over a printed name and title.

Lori M.K. Kahikina, P.E.  
Director



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
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#### Executive Officers

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**Lauren Zirbel**, HFIA, *Executive Director*  
**Beau Oshiro**, C&S Wholesale Grocers, *Past Chair*  
**Stan Brown**, Acosta Sales & Marketing, *Advisor*  
**Paul Kosasa**, ABC Stores, *Advisor*  
**Barry Taniguchi**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*  
**Derek Kurisu**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

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TO:  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2019  
TIME: 8:30 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 325

RE: SB367 SD1 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

Position: Comments with Suggested Amendments

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.

**Our Government Relations Committee recently voted to support a statewide ban on Polystyrene Foam with clear and easy to implement definitions in exchange for a state leadership on this issue.** At the county level we have had last minute interpretations on various food service ware issues, which has proven extremely difficult for businesses. The need to apply for individual exemptions with two weeks notice is time consuming, stressful and totally preventable with clear definitions, communication and a reasonable timeline. Working at the state level will allow businesses a consistent standard to use across the state for food service ware.

**We are working to set up a packaging symposium with environmental groups to define the problem, find a solution, and work together to solve the problem in a way that is possible to implement. If the solution is to move towards compostable items, we need to work to develop a composting site that will accept these**

**products. If the solution is to recycle we need to work towards developing a viable way to recycle items. Likely, the solution includes both of these. Businesses need to have a clear understanding of what is expected of them. The waste management system must hold up their end of the solution.**

One example of why we ask for your consideration on time needed to implement changes is that the demand for paper straws currently outpaces the supply of paper straws. If you were to pass a straw ban today, businesses would not be able to order enough supplies. **Businesses that are currently trying to use paper straws have had consistent issues with not being able to get the product due to shortages.**

**We anticipate the same issue with many of the food service ware items discussed in this bill. The industry is working hard to provide solutions to environmental problems; however, the supply is currently not available to cover all businesses.**

**If we have a few years to assess different options and make vendors aware of the need for a massive order, the chances of success go up considerably.**

**We would like to suggest that the contents of this bill be replaced with SB 11. The definitions are clean in that bill. That bill effectively bans polystyrene statewide.**

**All counties currently have banned plastic checkout bags. There is a bill addressing straws that is currently moving forward this session with full support.**

The bag issue is already addressed in each county and contains considerable nuances. Any attempt to fix the bag language in this bill will be controversial and likely make it harder to pass. **From an HFIA perspective, we supported Honolulu City Council's bill 59 (2016) along with many other environmental groups. We would be ok with the exact language from that bill being added to this measure. However, any differentiation from that bill would jeopardize a project that environmental groups and businesses worked on for years. The bag fee has reduced the use of single use bags by large margins. It has proved very successful in reducing the amount of waste produced by grocery shopping.**

Down to Earth Organic and Natural confirms that assessment, and reports that prior to July 2018, when businesses in Honolulu were required to start charging 15 cents for all types of bags, the company was purchasing over 42,000 paper bags per month for their stores.

“For August, since the implementation of the bag fee, the number of bags needed was reduced to just 5,700 for the month, allowing us to cut costs – which helps us to keep prices low for customers – and reduce the environmental impacts of producing, shipping, and disposing of the bags,” says Alison Riggs, Down to Earth’s public policy & government relations manager. “The current bill is effective in reducing the number of single use bags used by customers.”

We would ask that in exchange for our support of the language in Bill 11 which will ban polystyrene containers that this section be added to the bill:

(c) This section shall take precedence over and preempt all contrary ordinances or rules adopted by a county or any department or agency thereof regulating to food service ware. Except as expressly authorized by state law, no county shall enact an ordinance, rule, or regulation regulating food service ware. Food service ware items are plates, trays, cups, clamshells, bottles, utensils, lids, and straws.

Working towards a statewide solution to food service ware and packaging in general is a priority issue for the food industry.

We look forward to working towards solutions that make sense and implementing them state wide.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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BILL 11 with amended language:

RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that products made using polystyrene foam are one of the most common kinds of litter pollution in Hawaii. Polystyrene foam is ultra-light, which prevents collection systems from capturing it and allows it to easily accumulate on land and in waterways. The fragments of polystyrene foam that are left leach styrene, a known carcinogen, and other toxins that then poison the environment

and the local food chain. The sight of polystyrene products littering Hawaii's landscapes serves as a detriment to the State's number one industry, tourism. Polystyrene foam also contributes to the potential death of marine animals and avian populations through ingestion.

The legislature also finds that, in order to absolutely reduce the use of nonreusable food containers and all forms of litter in the environment, additional focus should be placed on implementing a broad education campaign to inform consumers of certain harmful product materials and to encourage proper disposal of litter and strongly encourage consumers to change their habits. Through education measures, positive environmental changes and broad reductions of litter can occur for all material types. Behavior modification campaigns have been among the most successful long-term litter solutions tested to date, with significant reductions proven by scientific studies in North Carolina, Texas, and other states.

The purpose of this Act is to protect the State's economy and environment by prohibiting restaurants from serving prepared food using polystyrene foam containers statewide.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER**

**POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS**

**§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Polystyrene" means a thermoplastic petrochemical material utilizing a styrene monomer, including all polystyrene, meaning any styrene or vinyl chloride polymer that is blown into a foam-like material. Polystyrene includes materials created from techniques including the fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, foam molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene).

"Polystyrene foam container" means a container that is made using polystyrene.

"Prepared food" means food or beverages that are prepared to be consumed with no additional heating or cooking on or off the premises of a restaurant or food establishment. "Prepared food" does not include raw eggs or butchered meats, fish, or poultry.

"Restaurant" means an eating establishment, including but not limited to a coffee shop, cafeteria, sandwich stand, food truck, and private or public school cafeteria, that gives or offers for sale food or beverages to the public, guests, or employees, as well as kitchens and catering facilities in which food or beverage is prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere. The term "restaurant" includes a bar area within the restaurant and outdoor areas of restaurants.

**§ -2 Prohibition on serving prepared food using polystyrene foam containers.** No restaurant operating within the State shall serve prepared food using polystyrene foam containers.

§ -3 **County ordinances.** (c) This section shall take precedence over and preempt all contrary ordinances or rules adopted by a county or any department or agency thereof regulating food service ware. Except as expressly authorized by state law, no county shall enact an ordinance, rule, or regulation regulating food service ware. Food service ware items are plates, trays, cups, clamshells, bottles, utensils, lids, and straws.

§ -4 **Rules.** The department of health may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to implement this chapter, including rules relating to enforcement and exemptions."

SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.

SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

SECTION 5. This Act is intended to be a proper exercise of the State's police power and role as a market participant, to operate only upon its own officers, agents, employees, and facilities, and other persons acting within the State's boundaries, and not to regulate inter-city or interstate commerce. Nothing in this Act shall be interpreted or applied so as to create any requirement, power, or duty in conflict with any federal law.



SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on December 31,  
2020.

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**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:08:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ocean Friendly Restaurants HI Coordinator	Ocean Friendly Restaurants HI	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to you today to beg you to consider supporting SB367!

We realize a lot of the concern about passing such a bill is around our economy and how it will affect small, local, businesses.

We have worked with those small, local, restaurants around the islands for years. We have helped them to choose more eco-friendly products, while not driving their cost of business up to the point where it would kill their business.

In 2 years we have certified [over 200 restaurants in Hawaii](#) as “Ocean Friendly”. To be an Ocean Friendly Restaurant, you must meet a rigorous set of criteria, which we have provided below. Many of which, deal directly with getting rid of single-use plastics.

For a full list of participating restaurants by island, please visit [https://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org/full\\_list.php](https://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org/full_list.php) .

We hear a lot from owners that they want to do more, and are concerned with the costs. This is WHY we need to regulate this space. In doing so, there will be a higher demand.

The higher demand will then cause a great domino effect, saving our small business money.

First, it will generate a need for a greater supply. More sustainable products will be created and this greater supply of more environmentally conscience products will drive their price down.

Secondly, these new demands will CREATE JOBS. It is inevitable. With the creation of new products, green technology, and a greater need, we will see the creation of more local companies to satisfy these needs. We are already seeing this now. [Eco-Utensils](#) launches this month.

There are already new jobs to support this movement!

There will be workforce realignment.

Plastic is bad for us, bad for the ocean, and ends up in the bodies of sea life that we then eat ourselves. You don't have to care about the ocean, or others, you only need to be selfish to know this is a better choice for you.

- Plastic is killing more than 1.1 million seabirds and marine mammals every year
- 73% of beach litter worldwide is plastic
- It takes up to 1,000 years for plastic to degrade
- At least 8 million tons of plastic enter the ocean each year
- FACT: Hawaii should be a leader in this space, not a follower!

The city of Hobart has already banned single-use plastics

(<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/hobart-leads-way-as-first-australian-city-to-ban-all-single-use-plastics>).

Thank you for your time and consideration to this very important matter.

Mahalo,

Ocean Friendly Restaurants HI

***Ocean Friendly Restaurants Criteria:***

**Restaurants participating must follow the first five criteria:**

- No expanded polystyrene use (aka Styrofoam).
- Proper recycling practices are followed.
- Only reusable tableware is used for onsite dining, and disposable utensils for takeout food are provided only upon request.
- No plastic bags offered for takeout or to-go orders.
- Straws are provided only upon request.

**And choose a minimum of two of these criteria:**

- No beverages sold in plastic bottles.
- Discount is offered for customers with reusable cup, mug, bag, etc.
- Vegetarian/vegan food options are offered on a regular basis
- All seafood must be a 'Best Choice' or 'Good Alternative' as defined by [Seafood Watch](#) or certified as sustainable.
- Water conservation efforts, such as low-flow faucets and toilets, are implemented.

- Energy efficiency efforts such as LED lighting and Energy Star appliances, are in place.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:23:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
leah gartner	cheeseburger restaurants inc	Comments	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Leah Gartner and I am giving testimony representing six restaurants in the state of Hawaii that have made the switch to eco-friendly products. We have been successful in making the transition from single-use plastics to sustainable alternatives.

While we support the ban, we also feel it is important to speak to the challenges that we have faced in making the change. We are a high volume company, family owned and operated in Hawaii since 1989, serving over one million visitors to Hawaii annually.

Taking care of the Aina is a value of ours, and we would ask that measures are in place to protect costs to business owners making these changes. Currently, in Hawaii, eco-friendly materials are a high-cost item often with limited supplies.

A note on plastic straws-- while we actively support banning their use, we also think it worth noting that to adhere to state health codes that straws be wrapped in paper if being handled by a food server. To date, paper wrapped paper straws are not available.

Mahalo,

Leah Gartner





March 12, 2019

To: The Honorable Chair Nicole Lowen and Vice Chair Tina Wildberger  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Kona Brewing Company  
Mary Rait; Director, Regulatory Compliance and Government Relations

RE: SB 367 SD1; Relating to Environmental Protection; **In Support**  
March 12, 2019; Room 325

Kona Brewing Company offers our **support** of SB 367 SD1, which prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags. We are encouraged by the statewide commitment to environmental protection and particularly the growing awareness of the negative impact of the use of polystyrene foam containers. Environmental sustainability is a key value of Kona Brewing Company and a guiding principle for how we operate. To this end, our organization does not use polystyrene or foam products and instead offers readily available environmentally friendly options at our pubs in Kailua-Kona and Koko Marina.

Kona Brewing Company runs our flagship brewery in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii and produces more than 12,000 barrels of beer per year. The company was started by a father and son team who had a dream to create fresh, local brews made with spirit, passion, and quality. Kona Brewing Company is currently in the process of expanding our pub and brewery operations in Hawaii to include a new state-of-the-art, eco-friendly 30,000 square-foot facility. In addition to creating more local jobs, this will increase our annual production capacity from 12,000 to 100,000 barrels. All the beer we produce in Hawaii is made for Hawaii distribution. Kona Brewing Company is proudly invested in the future of Hawaii, and therefore feels passionate about promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and share our strong commitment to this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Rait".

Mary Rait  
Kona Brewing Company

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:58:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joe P. Lorenzen	Waikiki Brewing Company	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Waikiki Brewing Company supports SB 367 SD1. Single use plastic straws are a waste of resources, but even worse, they pollute our environment when discarded. This law serves to help all restaurants do what is right by making clear to our guests that straws may only be given out upon request.

Thank your for your consideration,

Joe Lorenzen

Brewmaster/Partner

Waikiki Brewing Comapny





# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

**MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.***

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

March 12, 2019      8:30 a.m.      Room 325

In **SUPPORT of SB 367 SD1**: Relating to environmental protection

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Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 367 SD1**, which seeks to prohibit food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags, taking effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, dedicated to exploring, enjoying, and protecting these unique and beautiful islands we call home, have engaged in decades-long efforts to protect public access to trails and beaches in addition to restoring hundreds of trails on public and private land. Part of our dedication to protect is to keep these valuable public areas free of pollution from plastics and other waste. In this case, we advocate for halting harmful plastic pollution at the source. This measure is one of many that support our collective efforts to reduce pollution across the board.

We are currently experiencing a plastic pollution epidemic here in Hawai'i. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters--settling on our reefs and, in some places, creating massive collections of trash, such as The Great Pacific Garbage Patch which is currently twice the size of Texas and growing. This patch is located between Hawaii and California, but close enough to Hawaii where we see and feel the significant effects of this plastic trash on even the most remote of beaches that can be found in the state. This is particularly concerning for our economy being that tourists don't want to visit beaches engulfed in plastic pollution. Not to mention, single-use plastics create an overabundance of waste that overflows our local landfills or are taken to H-Power, which creates pollution when burning plastic. The toxins and heavy chemicals found in plastics are not compostable or biodegradable and can take 500 years or more to decompose.



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

We have been trying to pass these bills for years now, and this is the year to do it. Companies will be able to make the transition as they have had many years to understand the movement away from plastic and polystyrene is happening, and that they need to adapt. Change isn't always easy, but it is inevitable. The transition away from single-use plastics is very possible and happening in many places around the world, such as the pacific island nation of Vanuatu where single-use plastic bags, drinking straws and polystyrene food containers have been banned since July 2018. As well, there are numerous cities across the United States that have banned plastic bags, polystyrene, plastic straws or a combination of these, showing that it can be done and that there are alternatives. There are currently many eco-friendly, biodegradable, compostable alternatives to single-use plastic with more constantly being developed. The market is changing, people want to be able to contribute to a healthier environment and don't mind the added few cent fee that these new products could bring.

By reducing single-use plastics at the source, Hawai'i will have the opportunity to take on one of the most toxic and widespread of pollutants and showcase its state sustainability goals to the nation.

*We urge the Committee to pass this measure, which will serve our collective efforts to keep Hawai'i's land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.*

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of SB 367 SD1.**

Mahalo,  
Lori Mallini  
Volunteer, Sierra Club of Hawai'i



Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Representative Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Re: SUPPORT of SB 367, SD1 – RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and members of House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

Dolphin Quest strongly supports SB 367, SD1. This measure has the potential to reduce plastic-based pollution in the State of Hawaii and ultimately help protect our natural resources and human health.

One of Hawaii's greatest assets is its natural beauty. Unfortunately, plastic debris is one of the most common forms of litter found in Hawaii. We have seen this first-hand during Dolphin Quest's decades of participation in beach, stream, and highway clean-ups.

It is well known that plastic has a devastating effect on Hawaii's beaches, the marine ecosystem, wildlife, and human health. There is also growing concern about the negative impact marine debris may also have on tourism. It is essential that we get ahead of these problems through influential legislation just like this.

Ingestion, entanglement, and habitat degradation are just a few of the complex issues related to plastic pollution. Ingestion of micro-plastics has been observed at every trophic level, from large whales to even corals and zooplankton. High levels of plastic-based persistent organic pollutants (POPs) have been detected in the tissues of marine mammals, sharks, and other large predatory animals due to bioaccumulation and the biomagnification up the trophic system as results of this ingestion. Many of these POPs are known endocrine disrupters and there is growing evidence that humans may also be at risk. In addition to this, the plastic monomer used in manufacturing expanded plastic has been classified by the US National Institutes of Health and the International Agency for Research on Cancer as a possible human carcinogen. Unnecessary plastics need to be regulated for the health and well-being of all.

It is our duty and our responsibility to protect the land and water that allow us to thrive. We must safeguard the future of wildlife and our children so that all may have the opportunity to enjoy nature unadulterated. Supporting this measure would keep Hawaii at the forefront of conservation action and leadership.

Dolphin Quest is an organization of marine mammal specialists, animal advocates and ocean stewards with two business locations in Hawaii. We've championed public education, conservation, and scientific study related to marine mammals and our ocean for thirty years. This issue is critically important to us and we respectfully ask that you support SB 367, SD1.

Respectfully yours,

L. Rae Stone, DVM  
Dolphin Quest

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 5:06:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ursa swift	midnight bear breads	Support	No

Comments:

As a small business owner on Kauai, I have found that there are multiple options for eco friendly, biodegradable packaging for wholesale and retail applications. It is crucial that we ban materials that are destroying our land and oceans.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 7:43:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Heithaus	What it Dough - Mobile Restaurant	Support	No

Comments:

We support this bill because there are better solutions for take-out foods than styrofoam, for our islands. As a business, we have made the commitment to only use compostable products for take-away, and our customers have been supportive of this, because they care about our islands and the impact we have here. People are looking for ways to easily make choices that align with their values of caring for our environment, and our customers have let us know that they appreciate our commitment to using no plastic products for take-away.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:30:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter Anderson	Morning Brew Cafe	Support	No

Comments:

In my opinion it is absolutely crucial that Bill SB367 be passed! As a small business owner for the last twenty five years here on Oahu I am well aware of the costs of running a business in this state. But with this measure I believe time is of the essence to pass and implement it. For businesses, the negligible additional costs associated with this can be either absorbed or offset with slight price increases without negatively affecting the business. In fact, I believe the general public is ready to accept whole heartedly these changes associated with the measure, and will reward businesses that implement these changes to help preserve our beautiful Hawaiian Islands.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 8:05:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Matt Hong	Banan	Support	No

Comments:

I can't speak for all small businesses but the cost of our compostable or plastic-free materials has never been of concern – very affordable and easy to purchase. Let's minimize our harm towards our future by making this small simple step.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:22:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Norihiko Sakamoto	Pioneer Saloon at Kakaako	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:58:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lindsey Dymond	Kalapawai Market & Cafes	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

It is absolutely necessary that Hawaii supports SB 367 regarding the reduction of plastic pollution through limiting and ultimately banning the use of certain single use plastics and other environmentally harmful materials.

I own and operate the Kalapawai Market at the entrance to Kailua Beach Park along with two other Kalapawai Cafe restaurants on Oahu. I was born and raised in Kailua and currently live with my wife near Waimanalo Beach. I came home from college almost 20 years ago to run and grow the family business. My experience abroad opened my eyes to just how special my home is and I have been in a unique position to witness the changes and growth in my communities. With this growth comes many growing pains and the foot print left by our many residents and visitors goes far beyond those in the sand. Kailua and Waimanalo beaches are literally covered in plastics that are left from wrappers blowing away, litter from BBQs, and plastic bags that just tumble in the wind...not to mention the rubbish that floats to our shores that's out of our control. Unfortunately, the dirtiest of the trash is our own and comes in the form of food left overs and other plastic containers that escapes the trash bins (if it was placed there at all) and migrates into the bushes or into our oceans where it will stay forever unless it is eaten by a bird or other animal. Beach, trail and highway cleanups are wonderful but can only do so much.

Mahalo for your consideration!

-Lindsey Dymond

After seeing this worsen on an annual basis, just look in the storm drains along any major road, my staff and I decided to act on what we can control: the materials that we offer for our to-go products. Beginning a couple of years ago, we began migrating all of our locations away from using any non-compostable packaging for our take-out orders. This includes our coffee cups and sleeves, hot and cold take-out containers, straws, take out cutlery, and biodegradable bags.

Through a methodical process of building these costs into several minimal price increases, that were already needed due to other overhead increases, we have been able to eliminate all styrofoam and most other single use plastics while limiting any affects whatsoever to our margins and business cash flow needs. While going through this process, it positioned us for other Earth freindly certifications such as an Ocean Friendly Restaurant, etc.... AND....my guests notice and come to our stores because of this awareness and effort.

Transitioning Hawaii away from single use plastics and other harmful materials is not only possible from a small restaurant perpective but is beneficial and good for business! However, it needs to be done over time to allow for adjustments in the added costs. But, as time goes by and the Earth friendly packaging industry grows, prices will continue to drop and the choices will expand making it even less of a strain on the business owners. I see this first hand often.

The beauty of our islands is one of our most precious resources; we have many of the world's most beautiful beaches, some of the most dramatic mountains, and the most unique wildlife to be found anywhere. The combination of these, along with Hawaii's other resources, provide us with gathering places to take family for the most special of occasions, opportunities to stay happy and healthy outdoors and attract billions of dollars in visitor revenue each year from our guests that want to share in our home's beauty. The job is ours to keep Hawaii beautiful for ourselves, our children and our visitors.

# Island Plastic Bags Inc.

TO: Chair Nicole Lowen; Vice Chair Tina Wildberger; and Committee

FROM: Adrian Hong, President of Island Plastic Bags, Inc.

RE: SB 367 SD1 RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

POSITION: STRONGLY OPPOSE

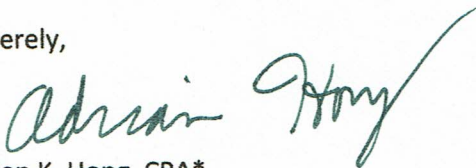
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of SB 367 SD1. My name is Adrian Hong and I am president of Island Plastic Bags Inc., a second-generation, family business in Halawa Valley that manufactures plastic trash liners and clear, food grade bags. If passed SB 367 SD1 would create a significant health issue and contribute to an environmental issue.

Clear, food grade plastic bags are used to serve or package prepared food because they are an effective way of preventing the food from being contaminated and extending the life of the prepared food. SB 367 SD1 would prohibit the use of these bags, making it more likely people will get sick from food provided to them at restaurants, bakeries, food trucks, etc. It would also mean that the prepared food would not last as long, which would contribute the growing food waste problem we have today.

Compostable containers are not a viable replacement for plastic bags, especially when the food is hot and wet. Compostable containers lose their structural integrity when they get wet or very hot. That makes them ineffective at containing certain types of food. That is why the Oahu ban on plastic, t-shirt bags exempted food establishments from the ban. People realized that compostable bags or paper bags could not hold hot and wet food and that food spillage was a sanitary/public health issue.

Because of the health risks and food waste problems this bill would create, I strongly oppose SB 367 SD1 as it is currently written. I recommend that all mention of plastic bags be removed from the bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions or comments about my testimony you can contact me by email at [ahong@islandplasticbags.com](mailto:ahong@islandplasticbags.com) or by phone at 808-484-4046.

Sincerely,



Adrian K. Hong, CPA\*

President

Island Plastic Bags, Inc.

# *Island Plastic Bags Inc.*

[www.islandplasticbags.com](http://www.islandplasticbags.com)

Email: [ahong@islandplasticbags.com](mailto:ahong@islandplasticbags.com) | Phone: 808-484-4046 | Fax: 808-488-8505

\*Not in public practice







**SB 367sd1, Relating to Environmental Protection**

**Hse EEP Hearing**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

**8:30 am – Room 325**

**Position: Oppose**

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

KYD, Inc. dba: K. Yamada Distributors opposes SB367sd1 that would ban the sale and use of polystyrene foam food containers.

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.

We offer the following information for consideration as the Committee deliberates over SB 367sd1:

- **FDA-Approved<sup>1</sup> PS foam food containers are no more harmful to fish and ocean wildlife than other manmade materials, and are not likely to become marine debris**

Marine debris is any manmade material that enters the marine environment. None of it belongs in our oceans regardless of what kind of material it is made of - whether wood, metal, plastic, or paper. A recent Ocean Conservancy study listed the most common types of litter that are found along the world's coastlines, based on data gathered during three decades of international coastal clean-up efforts. Fishing gear, balloons and plastic bags were estimated to pose the greatest entanglement risk to seabirds, sea turtles and marine animals. Plastic bags and plastic utensils ranked as the greatest threats for ingestion.

NOAA (National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration) states that the 5 most common items found during the International Coastal Cleanup are cigarette butts, food wrappers, plastic beverage bottles, plastic bottle caps, and plastic straws and drink stirrers. Plastics can enter into the ocean through ineffective or improper waste management, intentional or accidental dumping and littering on shorelines or at sea, or through storm water runoff. (Trash Talk: Marine Debris and Plastics, NOAA, Sept. 17, 2015)

Locally, the composition of ocean debris appears to be similar to NOAA's list of most common items. Anecdotal testimony from a Big Island marine biologist said that 25-89% of the island's ocean debris is land-based, predominantly straws, wrappers, insulation, shipping containers, hot coffee cups, meat trays, and saimin containers. EPS foam containers were about 1% of the debris. Although large foam block packaging, ice chests and coolers are often found in coastal cleanups, they are usually excluded from ban bills.

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<sup>1</sup> FDA Regulation Title 21 CFR 177.1640



- **Banning Food Grade PS Foam Containers Will Not Reduce Litter**

According to Steven Stein, an environmental scientist who studies litter, banning one material will not reduce the overall litter in waterways. “Food-service containers made of polystyrene are a minor component of litter and, because there is no reusable alternative, a ban simply will substitute other materials that also end up in our waterways.”

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/opinion-la/la-ol-polystyrene-food-takeout-containers-ban-20170628-story.html>

On a local level, the **Honolulu City Auditor’s Single-Use Polystyrene Food Containers and Plastic Bag Study** also conclude that polystyrene bans are not effective in reducing litter, and such containers are a minor component of litter. Like Stein, the Honolulu City Auditor states that because there is no reusable alternative, a ban simply substitutes other containers that will likely be littered. Both Stein and the City Auditor cite the California State Water Resources Board in its NPDES application noted that a ban of PS foam food containers resulted in the substitution of other products that were discarded in the same manner.

Personal reusable food containers are not a takeout option due to FDA regulations that restrict food service businesses from accepting personal, reusable consumer takeout containers due to sanitary and health reasons. Food container replacement for polystyrene containers, whether it is paper, fiber or plastic, would likely be littered in the same fashion. [http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca\\_docs/PS Ban Study Final Report.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf)

- **Replacing PS foam carries significant and unnecessary costs to small locally-owned restaurants and lower-income consumers**

As a local distributor of food packaging materials, polystyrene as well as alternative products, we find that polystyrene foodservice products are generally more economical to use than other disposable foodservice products and reusable food service items. The wholesale price of single-use polystyrene foodservice products is often approximately two to three times less than other single-use containers, and four to five times less than a comparable reusable foodservice item when the costs of equipment, labor, water, electricity, and detergent costs are included. This allows schools, hospitals and other institutions to make better use of their limited budgets. For example, local Hawaii pricing shows the average compostable 8 oz cup costs more than twice the average polystyrene cup. This means the razor thin profit margins under which restaurants operate will be cut even lower. This may well translate to rising costs to the consumer, our local citizens and the small business owners working all over the island.

Anecdotally, we have heard that some Big Island food operators have made the switch to alternative containers ahead of the July 1, 2019 ban implementation date. Plate lunch prices in Hilo have gone up to \$12.00 - \$15.00 range. In Kona, plate lunches are at \$14.00 to \$18.00. In addition to the increase in plate lunches, residents complain that there’s less food served.



**Supply Chain Disruption and Impact on Business and Residents:**

Different customers are not necessarily looking for the same replacement container. They are looking for containers that are price sensitive and a good fit for their product.

The ban on foam food containers and increasing consumer demand for take-out foods increases the burden for packaging products, no matter the material

- There is no history of movement of alternative containers. There is uncertainty about how much to stock and when it will be needed.
- It takes a minimum of 4-5 weeks before supplies are shipped to Hawaii
- Warehousing of inventory is a costly expense and capacity is limited throughout the islands.
- Maui distributors are facing this problem and want to push the carrying of inventory to Oahu distributors
- Shortages of alternative food service containers will occur

**It is prudent for policy makers to pause and assess the true impact of bans imposed on Maui and the pending Big Island Ban before implementing a statewide policy.**

The following is the City Auditor’s data about estimated costs to business owners which will more than likely increase cost to consumers.

Exhibit 3.4 Monthly and Annual Cost Estimates for Non-Polystyrene Food Containers by Types of Restaurants

Source: OmniTrak and Office of City Auditor

Type	Monthly Cost Increase Estimate	Annual Cost Increase Estimate (Monthly x 12)
Total:	\$ 294.64	\$3,535.68
Small Restaurant (1-10 employees)	\$ 293.75	\$3,525.00
Medium Restaurant (11-50 employees)	\$222.72	\$2,672.64
Large Restaurant (50 or more employees)	\$420.00	\$5,040.00

Rather than a statewide ban of EPS foam containers, we encourage discussion with the respective Counties, about solutions for managing land- based litter to prevent marine debris since the Counties are responsible for municipal solid waste management.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.





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**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

**Sheryl Matsuoka**, Executive Director      **Leila Morinaga**, Executive Assistant      **Holly Kessler**, Director of Membership Relations

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

From: Victor Lim, Legislative Lead  
Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj: SB 367 SD 1 Relating to Environmental Protection

Date: March 10, 2019

The Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,500 restaurants here oppose SB 367 SD1 That prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, and or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags. The deadlines of July 1, 2021 is not reasonable.

Polystyrene Foam Containers are a USDA approved product that is primarily used by ethnic business here in Hawaii due to its superior ability in transporting hot foods and soups. The neighbor islands have regulations against this product but in Honolulu, all of the waste goes to H Power. A recent report by the City Auditor Edwin Young in Honolulu shows that eliminating of these Containers will basically shift from one type of waste product to another and they all end up at the H Power. We do not have any composting facilities here in Hawaii so we will just shift from an economical and durable product to a much more expensive one. It also states that less one percent of our total trash is currently made up of foam food containers.

Plastic Straws. We do support the bills and initiatives that state that straws should be given out only upon request at full service restaurants similar to the California State law that was passed in 2018. How beverages are consumed varies greatly from the sit down restaurants to the quick service restaurants with drive-thru where many food and beverages are consumed on the go. Alternate straws made from paper, bamboo, metal are all being tested around the world with limited success due to its performance, durability, after taste, and costs. Supply chain is seeking and working towards an alternate product but will not be ready with a good alternate product by July 1, 2021

NextGen Consortium. This is a partnership initially set up by Starbucks and McDonald's to fund research now joined by Coca Cola and Yum for food service containers that will be both environmentally green and meet performance needs of the food and beverage industry. Each of the parties contributed millions for this to help us find a workable solution.

Many of the major chains's like Steve Easterbrook, McDonald's CEO, has made a corporate commitment that by 2025, 100 percent of McDonald's guest packaging will come from renewable, recycled or certified sources with a preference for Forest Stewardship Council (FRC) certification. Many other major entities like Starbucks are working on a similar path.







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Victor Lim

The alternate industry is in its infancy and that why we at the Hawaii Restaurant Association urge our legislators to recognize that this July 1, 2021 deadline is not realistic. We will need a few additional years,

Thank you very much for giving us this opportunity to share the Restaurant Industry's perspective on this very important issue.





To  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Representative Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair  
March 12, 2019; 8:30 am  
Conference Room 325

From:

Bruce Iverson, Director of Marketing and Development  
Reynolds Recycling, Inc.

### **Testimony in opposition to SB367 SD1**

Aloha,

As Hawaii's largest bottle and can recycling company, Reynolds Recycling supports any measure that would enhance recycling opportunities and help to improve the Hawaii Bottle Deposit Law, unfortunately this measure does not meet the above mentioned goals.

Recycling is obviously the "right thing to do" whenever and wherever it can be done. The majority of beverage containers are already collected, and recycled into other products, or into energy. This is because Hawaii has a state-wide Bottle Deposit Law, it has curbside recycling in many areas, and trash on Oahu primarily becomes recyclable material to be used at H-Power.

Additionally, we use large plastic bags within our operations (and recycle them as well), and we are currently having these bags made here on Oahu. This bill would likely cause this local company to close, which would effect our operations in Hawaii, and put good people out of work.

For these various reasons, while we support your intent to keep Hawaii clean, we oppose this bill.

Bruce Iverson, Director of Marketing and Development  
Reynolds Recycling, Inc.

3/12/19

EEP Committee:

My name is Bryce Fujimoto and I am the Vice President and Catering Manager of Shiro's Saimin Haven. We are a family-run restaurant and have been in business for 50 years.

I am concerned with the upcoming state legislation around restaurant to-go packaging. At Shiro's, we use foam to-go containers. I have looked into alternative to-go packaging and there is no alternative packaging for hot soups that is as good as foam containers. Shiro's Saimin Haven uses foam to-go containers for the following few reasons:

1. The cost of doing business in Hawaii is rising at a frenetic pace: minimum wage, insurance, increasing regulation and restrictions, let alone food cost. Green containers are 2-3 times more expensive than foam. Our niche is providing affordable food to customers by making things in-house as much as possible. Forcing us to use green containers is one way to offset our hard in-house work. We would have to raise prices, and would not be able to offer the same affordable, quality food that we have offered for years. I am scared we will lose our customer base who depend on our low prices. It might just seem like one small change in our business to those looking in, but, I can assure you that one small change can affect our business' entire production and profitability.
2. We serve hot saimin soup and it is important for us to serve our customers delicious and hot food in a safe manner. Other containers cannot safely hold hot soup. We are concerned that staff and customers might burn their hands just by touching a take-out paper or compostable soup to-go container.
3. Paper and compostable soup containers leak and can not hold liquids.
4. I have not seen any green 24 or 32 oz squat containers, which is the size of container we need for our soup take-out.

This change to green containers would be more palatable if we had a compost station to process the green containers - unfortunately we do not have this and everything goes to H-power anyways. We are all for protecting the environment but we ask that this ban is not rushed. Right now it just doesn't make sense. Containing trash to trash bins by using lids etc, regulating the transportation of trash might be better. Hopefully we can all work together to find a solution that does not have such a drastic impact on restaurants, especially small restaurants like mine.

Sincerely,

Bryce Fujimoto

VP/Catering Manager

Shiro's Saimin Haven

[98-020 Kamehameha Hwy. #109](#)

808-488-8824

### We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
LELITA A ANIDA	<i>LeLita</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	(808) 358-7977
ETIENNE D. NICOLAS	<i>Etienne</i>	91-1072 OKUNE ST EWA BEACH, HI 96706	508-421-7687
MARIA B. NICOLAS	<i>Maria</i>	91-1072 OKUNE ST EWA BEACH, HI 96706	808-678-1081
BRIKTRIS CALINA	<i>Briktris</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	(808) -676-9547
DEAN FALKENBERG	<i>Dean</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	808-676-9547
MELISSA ANN WILSON	<i>Melissa</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	(808) 348-5143
CANDICE HAWKINS	<i>Candice</i>	91-1009 PA SHEET EWA BEACH HI 96706	808-763-7349
KAROLINA KUTUMAKU	<i>Karolina</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	808-282-9049
CLARENCE CALINA	<i>Clarence</i>	94-734 KAWA ST WAIKANAHI HI 96799	(808) 748-4777
JOY CALINA	<i>Joy</i>	94-734 KAWA ST WAIKANAHI HI 96799	(808) 492-6263
ANGELO B. ANTON	<i>Angelo</i>	91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	(808) 358-6646

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Janabelle 


2350A Pele Ave Honolulu 96816

pele@gmail.com

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## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Mr POU NAWAIAWA	<i>[Signature]</i>	81172 Kaulaunani St 96742	808 6944525
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Aida Paulo	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-011 Kalaupuni St. 96792	808-696-6068
JESSE KAWAIAWA	<i>[Signature]</i>	86-037 KONA ST WAIKANE 96792	808-675-8003
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Lolita Kurokawa	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-1073 Hokino St	(808)-734-3926
Machina	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-158 Maipela St.	808 620-4979

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Email/Phone Number

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Signature

608-9659

808 216 2142

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JOSSEIND GARCIA	<i>[Signature]</i>	94-077 AKAMOUEN ST	678-2018 352
Cherlyn Calaway	<i>[Signature]</i>	985 Leonele CT	<del>389</del> - 9420
Rollan Montesini	<i>[Signature]</i>	1060 Kona Hwy Pearl City	389-6336
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ANDER YAMAS	<i>[Signature]</i>	44173 WAKO RD KAUAI HI 96744	
Nelly M. Colino	<i>[Signature]</i>	43 Prospect St. Honolulu HI 96813	808-627-2053
Lou Buchanan	<i>[Signature]</i>	3224 George St.	
DEX PITMAN	<i>[Signature]</i>	99-009 KAUAI ST. 96791	808-989-0300
Val Morales	<i>[Signature]</i>	991 Kopele St. 96819	459-3393

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Emerita Eusebio	<i>Emerita E. Eusebio</i>	94-1058 Ieko Pl. Waiparahi 96797	mla
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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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Reah Ribao	<i>Reah Ribao</i>	94-456 Liana Place	(808) 898-0464
NORMA PAET	<i>Norma Paet</i>	94-1067 KAHUAMOKU	(808) 397-4722
Ginahyn Loynagan	<i>Ginahyn Loynagan</i>	94-1098 Nalii St.	(808) 398-8936
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SAMANTHA ESTRADA	<i>Samanta Estrada</i>	91-992 PAHUNA ST. EWA BEACH	(808) 342-3570
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Vergin Pasaru	<i>Vergin Pasaru</i>	94-1138 Nualai St. Waipahu	(808) 6360919
ELEEN PADILLO	<i>Eleen Padillo</i>	94-122 Kahuanani St Waipahu	(808) 304-2291
URSULA SIERRA	<i>Ursula Sierra</i>	91-131 NOHOIHOEWA HWY. EWA BEACH	(808) 450-1057

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
LEORETA DUPRA	<i>Leoreta Dupra</i>	1823-AHUKUWA ST 96819	349-8641
CLEBERIND DUPRA	<i>Cleberind Dupra</i>	1823-AHUKUWA ST 96819	NONE
JULIETA DUIDUIAO	<i>Julietta Duiduiao</i>	1823-AHUKUWA ST. 96819	845-2116
JONG RIO	<i>Jong Rio</i>	1823 AHUKUWA ST. 96819	7251561
ELISSA DUIDUIAO	<i>Elissa Duiduiao</i>	1823-AHUKUWA ST 96819	465-7518
LEILA SUPPIO	<i>Leila Suppio</i>	1823 AHUKUWA ST 96819	272-41-22

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Name (Print Clearly)

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Lisa Surtain Lisa Surtain

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Edith Murphy Edith Murphy

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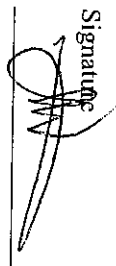
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Amari Dale



91-1031-Honua of Lawa Blvd, HI

808-842-0390

BIENVINIDO ABRAHAM Puello

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Name (Print Clearly)

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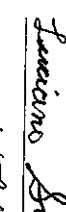

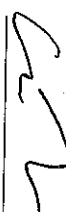

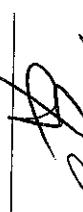


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wangkwanin@yahoo.com

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Michael Nakato



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1111713@gmail.com

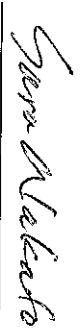
Yuka Nakato



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Sara Nakato



94-870 Lomianau St. 96797

None

Kristine Nakato



94-870 Lomianau St. 96797

None

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## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

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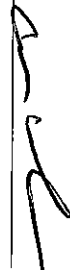
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Eric Nevelan



9501127 Kalei St, 96739

611-2724

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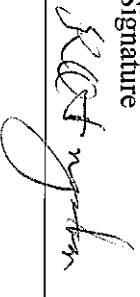
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

REXNA D. FUGABARI



94-389 Kapiolani St., Honolulu HI

836-7337

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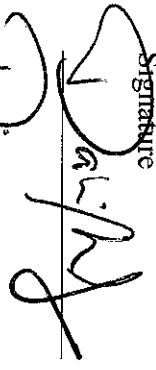
Name (Print Clearly)

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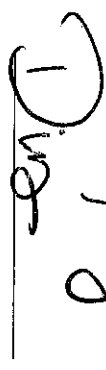
Dani Mendoza



4324D Orion Dr. 96107

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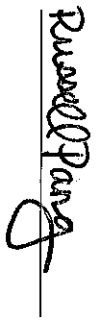
Dina Ali-Bang



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Russell Pang



4324D Orion Dr. 96107

majidhpang.rp@gmail

Blank lined area for additional entries.



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Name (Print Clearly)

Kwan Lee

Signature



Home Address/Zip Code

3130 Al Timas 16A

Email/Phone Number

226-5302

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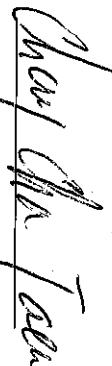
Daniel Lee



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CHONG Taeli



98-1090 Kemo MHI

488-1090

Lisa Lee



753 3776

Kyong Hinds



808-389-0845

Annie Knock



KAUHI BARBARA

808-847-3398

Joseph Maiana



Papa C/O

293-2292

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Jenny Rio

Jenny

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JRIV@HOTMAIL.COM

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Ronel Menor

*R Menor*

4013 Keeka Drive Honolulu HI 96818

*rmenor@kyd-inc.com*





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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Melina Conway

Melina Conway

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Melina-lope@yaho.com

Melina Alameda

Melina Alameda

2503 Dake Street Honolulu HI 96826

808-352-3898

Lope Alameda

Lope Alameda

2503 Dake St. Honolulu HI 96826

-



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Name (Print Clearly)

Mark Taleiguchi

Signature

Mark Taleiguchi

Home Address/Zip Code

98-442 Kili noe St #905 Pearl City HI 96767

Email/Phone Number

markosHI@cs.com 8327514

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Demie Ranelb Demie C. Ranelb 94-1579 Lumiana st. \_\_\_\_\_

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

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Rosanna Pascoal *Rosanna Pascoal*

1577 Haha Dr. Hon. HI 96818

*rp@kqd-inc.com*

Rose Bosse *Rose Bosse*

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*408-3-8-3555*

Juan Pascoal *Pascoal*

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Juan Pascoal *J. Pascoal*

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*741-3942*

Matthew Bosse *Bosse*

1577 Haha Dr. Hon. HI 96818

*Don't Have*

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Lance H. Nitta

Lance H. Nitta

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sirlanceh@gmail.com

DONNA M. NITTA

Donna Nitta

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nitta.donna@yahoo.com

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Shijie Huang

Shijie Huang

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shijie.h@hawaii.edu

Zhenhua Huang

Zhenhua Huang

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Lixia Zhang

Lixia Zhang

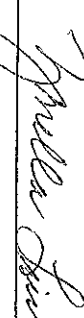






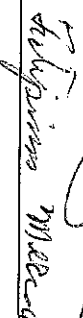


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lixia.z@yaho.com








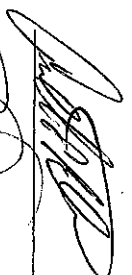





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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
YONELA LIU		46-3915 KAHUHA PAKE #3 96744	calhou@hawaii.nv.com
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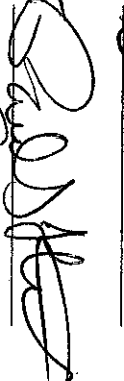

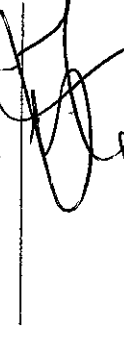


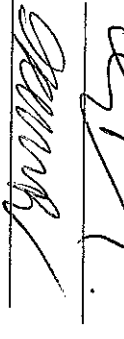


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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Kayla		921026 NOTONA ST 96707	NOUILLANI-27@Yahoo.com
Richard Weber		3056 Aiki st 96819	Pickweb88@gmail.com
Evelyn Say		1616 Alaneo 96817	dragon-lady 2009@notuaail.com
John W. Parker		9561 SML Lake Blvd	One two three@gmail.com
Brenda Walker		948 Third St 96782	—
Anthony R. Balderson		6305 EBP Ave 96706	808-685-8565 SAKO Electric Tower Hol, com
Bob Sappara		1415 Victoria St. 96822	Bob Sappara @ yahoo.com
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Ethan Panti		1733 Dillingham Blvd.	Heingapafishing@Hawaii.RR.com
Richard Aikint		1040 Lumlills St # 713	leewardsbuckle@gmail.com
Angelal. Tamara		1007 N. King St # 200	FHS

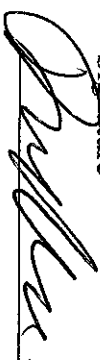






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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Patrick Brady		1611 Luniti Circle 96821	pbrady1967@gmail.com
Ally Walker		1671' Ohia St Honolulu HI 96819 Hon HI 96814	
Steven Walker		1277 S. Beretania St	
JK CARNO		94-095 Poialani Circle	349-5521
Paul Fletcher		7002 Kawai'i Kei Dr.	
Aunt Leah		91-261 Fern Way	358-9970
Joel DeGala		1164 Sunrise	
Anvesh Singh		920 Ward Ave	lasonh@gmail.com
Samuel Meeker		91-180 Olai St Kapaeha	808-237-0307
Quinn LeFau		56-1079 Kona Hwy	808-779-3475
Rusnan Fumakosih		95-2065 Puhaka St. 96789	808-829-5718


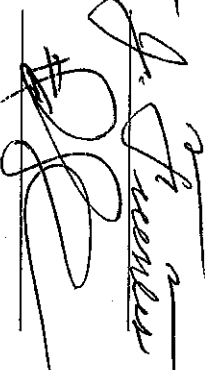
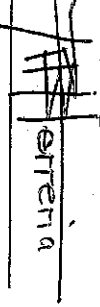


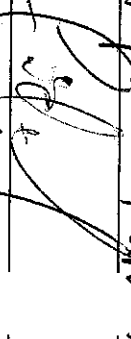
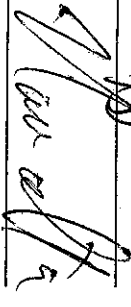
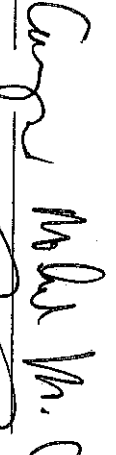



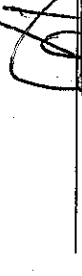
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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
David Mao		1151 Haganua 96819	David Mao@waterworks
Pete Bethune		1532 Hawaii Ip. 96817	
Songyang Li		601 Ala Moana 96813	li@waterworks.com
Dany Tamasmoo		4563 Ukou 57196818	808-778-9582
		981198 Hokuale	
Dawn G. Madsen		1612 Waiolu St 96811	808-723-2332
Shawn Gero		1118 Wanda St	

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
REGINA ORO		993 MCCARTHER WAY APT 1, 910817.	
Jane Stenler		68-132 Av. Street Wahiawa, HI 96787 41-515 W. Coast. Wahiawa HI 96787	
ROGER HERRERIA		99-264 OHIENANA LOOP	
Jared Santos		4367 Keokea Dr.	
Marjorie Pulliam		91-1008 Kuluniu ST EULESSA HI 96786	
		94-1170 Aiea ST 96797	
Ms. M. C. Nino		94-247 HANA ST. Waikeolu 96797	
Nathan Nino		1822 Beckley St.	
LAURELLE FAMILIA		99-1079 CAMMADA ST. WAIKANAHI HI	
Jaime Leon		95-1032 Kalapu St. 96704	
FRANK		94-1111 KULANI ST. 96797	

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Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Janice Chew Janice Chew 45-1000 Pali i St. Mililani HI 96789 Janice@Dine.com

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

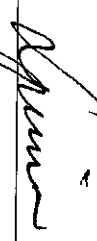
Email/Phone Number

*Andra Ramos*



*2474 Keopaka St Honolulu HI*

*Carlyta Percin*



*2049 Keopaka St. Honolulu HI*

*Jonathan Hyslop*



*2474 Keopaka St. Hon*

*Tom Kubo*



*2474 Keopaka St Hon*

*TKubo@K4901nc.com*



### Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local restaurants—some small take out places and some sit down places. We oppose bills that want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, salmon bowls, foam cups. We notice that when restaurants serve food in compostable containers our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We seem to pay more for less food in these containers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a litter bug!

Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address

Email /Phone Number

Lorena  
Rekoa-Aspenlla

Lorena  
Rekoa-Aspenlla

1943 Pacific Heights Rd #8

(808) 778-4324

Laura Ramirez

L. Ramirez

4449 Ewa Rd

808-285-9698

Brian Jehnke

Brian Jehnke

2345 Maluaia #2306

William Yane

WY

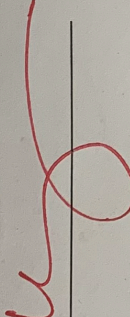
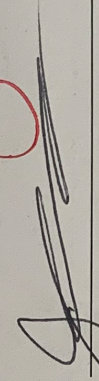
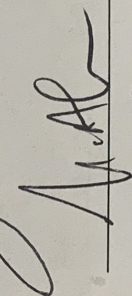
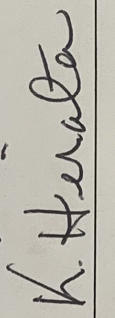
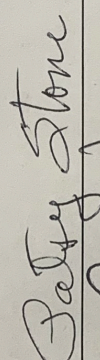
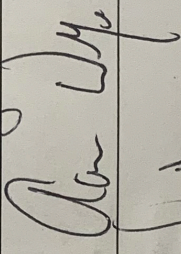
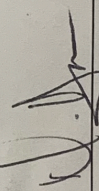
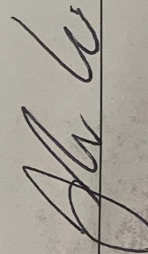
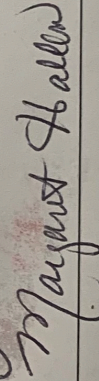
2131  
1874 Pualoi Circle #24

808 260-8866



Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

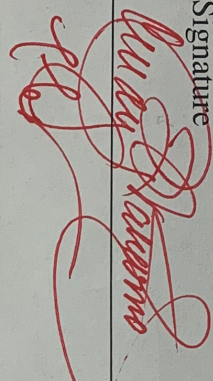
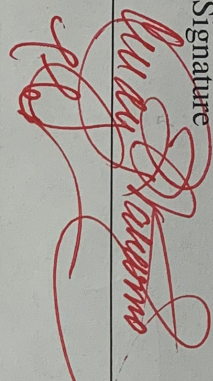
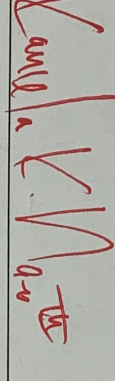
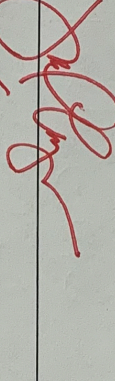
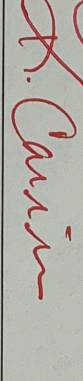
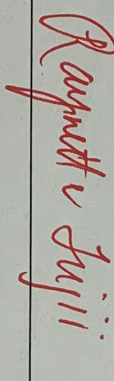
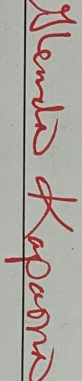
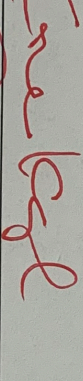
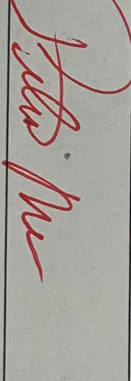
We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local restaurants—some small take out places and some sit down places. We oppose bills that want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, saimin bowls, foam cups. We notice that when restaurants serve food in compostable containers our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We seem to pay more for less food in these containers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a litter bug!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address	Email /Phone Number
<u>Deborah Danvers</u>		<u>1148 Bishop Street</u>	<u>debi.1074@yahoo.com</u>
<u>Joni Quimino</u>		<u>1088 Bishop St.</u>	<u>jkq@pasificbasin.net</u>
<u>MATTEN AHN</u>		<u>45-409 Pua Inia St.</u>	<u>ahnhitred808@gmail.com</u>
<u>Kathy Hirata</u>		<u>1412 Huihana Ct.</u>	<u>Keithral@yahoo.com</u>
<u>PATSY STONE</u>		<u>1253 S. BRETANIA #2800</u>	<u>808 7213604</u>
<u>Aaron Wane</u>		<u>1148 Bishop St.</u>	<u>vaiderwofe@yahoo.com</u>
<u>A.M.H ZABOBIK</u>		<u>1136 Union Mall, 310</u>	<u>nicholasealiioharapm.com</u>
<u>John Usui</u>		<u>47-394 Ahimama Pl</u>	<u>usuij001@icloud.com</u> <del>usuij001</del>
<u>Margaret Hallam</u>		<u>1720 Huna St. #405</u>	<u>marghallam@hawaii.rr.com</u>



Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local restaurants—some small take out places and some sit down places. We oppose bills that want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, saimin bowls, foam cups. We notice that when restaurants serve food in compostable containers our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We seem to pay more for less food in these containers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a litter bug!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address	Email /Phone Number
Sunny Wakimoto		1718 N. Ho St Honolulu HI 96819	none
Feri Ketii		94-440 Kahuaka O Way.	X
Kauiola Nao		1150 Maunakea St.	
Joel Tabangana		94-871 Lumikuke Way aiea.	
Kanoa Carrero		94-800 Muna St.	X
Raymuth Nijii		5064 Kuliouou Rd Hon HI 96821	—
Estelena Kapama		91-346 Ewa Beach Rd.	
Kane Kawana		95 98 1301 Kahala Hon HI PC. 96818	—
Porra MA		3079 Ala Lima	



To: Hawaii State Senate  
Energy and Environmental Protection  
From: Tsukenjo Restaurant

Aloha Committee:

I am writing to you as the owner of a small plate lunch restaurant. We had the great fortune to be able to move from Kakaako to Downtown last year. Normally I am the only person working in the restaurant, but we have had success in Town and we were able to hire a part-time kitchen help. Before we moved, and on the days when the kitchen staff doesn't come in, I wake up at 3am to open the restaurant on time by 5:30am. I am the cook, cashier, dish washer, handle all maintenance and cleaning, and manage the books. This is not a glorious job, but I love it. Running this business is my passion and I love being self-employed. However, with high costs, we are considering moving again because it is so hard to make a profit and to stay in business while maintaining sanity.

I am very concerned about this proposed ban on styrofoam containers.

Of course I care about the environment and I love our beautiful island. But, I already work so hard and our profits are so thin. It frustrates me to no end that I work hard, and try to move up and then I hear about these laws that only affect the small mom and pop restaurants.

Why can't you create environmental laws that don't only hurt the little guys? More trash cans won't hurt small businesses, but helps the environment. Better recycling is good too. Maybe instead we can have a law where customers have to ask for bags or utensils? Or we can encourage customers to bring their own to-go containers. All of those ideas do not hurt business.

Tsukenjos has been around since 1959. Plate lunch is important to our culture. Why do you think so many restaurants that serve plate lunch use styrofoam? Are you willing to vote on something that 100% impacts all plate lunch restaurants? This law is just not fair. I really do struggle and work so hard to stay in business, provide for my family, and provide for customers. I hope you can see this and you will reconsider this unfair idea.

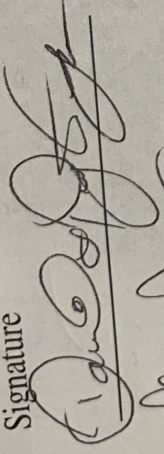
Aloha,  
Deborah Dombrosky  
HNA Food Service LLC dba Tsukenjo's  
1148 Bishop St  
Hon, HI 96813  
808-779-4328  
tsukenjo705@gmail.com



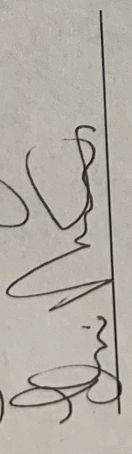
We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite restaurants. We seem to find a lot of trash in our containers. We want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, saimin bowls, foam cups, and foam bowls. We want you to be sure you are not a nuisance to the other customers. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a nuisance to the other customers. Our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a nuisance to the other customers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean.

Name (Print Clearly)

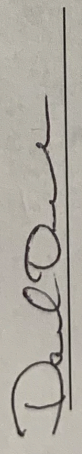
Signature



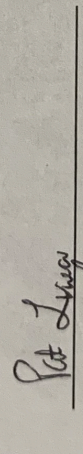
David Payton



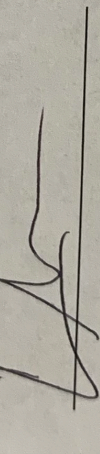
Leslie Mendenhall



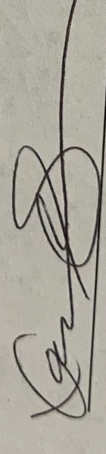
Daniel Ornelles



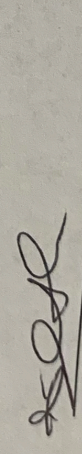
Patrick Lucero



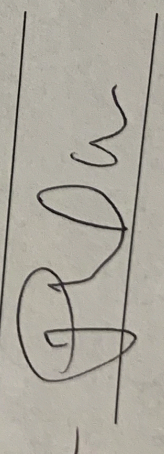
Chris A. Alvarez



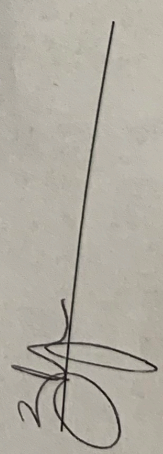
Xavier Swain



Kym Akao



Phil Urekwhant



Brenela Yamada

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85-300 A Kaula Waikele Rd  
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2950 KOANUKA ST

914-338 HOUULIILI PL, MILIAMA  
HI 96744

7346 HANALE PL, HOKOLELE

42-106 ALCKA PL  
PATTIKA, HI, 96734

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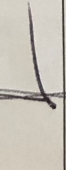
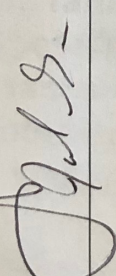
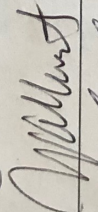
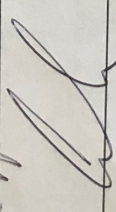
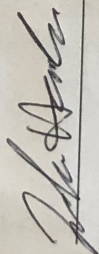
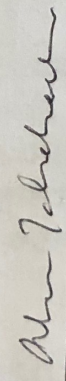
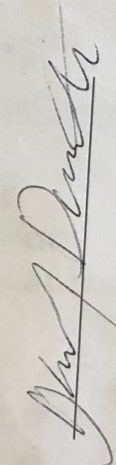
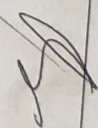
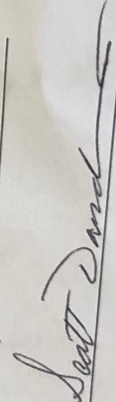
808 557-8759

bkyamada@gmail.com



**Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills**

We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local restaurants—some small take out places and some sit down places. We oppose bills that want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, saimin bowls, foam cups. We notice that when restaurants serve food in compostable containers our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We seem to pay more for less food in these containers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a litter bug!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address	Email /Phone Number
JORDANS		2671- J ANUU PL	
John Schlaff		95-743 KAHIKINI PL	808-3750105
Yorie Albert		649 N Vineyard	808 801-2786
Clinton Smith		46-051 Koaohiki St	618-910-9106
Joshua Hamasaki		99-824 Puawa PI	808 799 5625
Alex Takahashi		1249 E Ioleo Dr.	745-4995
CAKYE DUNN		2218 Tantalus	465-6108
Troy Sparks		98-288 Kaonohi St Aiea	Troy Sparks@a+h.net
Scott Dandurant		47-090 Hui Wili St.	808 836-6439



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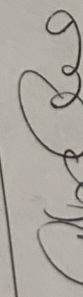
Home Address

Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

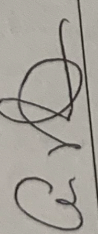
alkeynade@yahoo.com

91-1753 Kikiwa St

Alicyn Adverdeade 

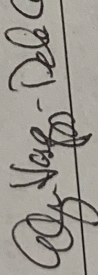
bushido4u@hotmail.com

1439 Howe Dr.

Aaron Nishimura 

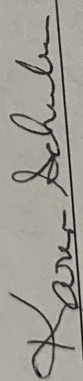
lynn.vasquez@gmail.com

99-122 Kihewa Pl.

Alyn Vasquez-Delta Cerna 

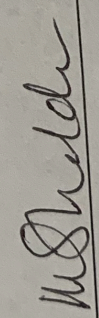
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2319 Ahiki St.

Karen Scheiber 

nsheldon03@gmail.com

91204 Umago Pl

Tasha Sheldon 



Senate EEP Hearing

SB367 - Oppose Bans on Polystyrene Food Service Products

Dear Senators,

I have a small restaurant in the airport area. Hawaii is a very tough place to own a business. A statewide ban on foam food service products will make it even harder. I try not to pass on too much of my business expense to customers because everything is so competitive and I will lose business if my food prices are raised too much.

I have looked at compostable containers and it doesn't work for my business. The good ones are too expensive. The lower cost ones do not work well; hot rice or other food, and even salad make the containers soggy. Customers don't like it when the rice sticks to the container or tastes like pulp.

Thank you

James Kim

Jets Fast Food

2957 Koapaka Street

(808) 833-7155

more1s@icloud.com

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 8:14:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
tien phan	Stadium Pho	Oppose	No

Comments:

my name is tien Phan i am a member owner of Phan LLC (DBA Stadium Pho)

i oppose the Ban of using styrofoams material container and any plastic utensil ,straw for foods services because i am a small Restaurant owner and we rely on them serve our customer need as far Dining in customer and carry out. Banning the use of such material will lead to use of other alternated that cost much higher and bring up the cost for our services. We as small business oner work extra hard , we do most of the work our self and even do work for our employee that often dont carry out their job correctly and on timely mater. so it is hard to have to spend that extra money to cover the new expensive to use the alternated material. Maybe one will challenger my believe by saying i should pass that new expense to customer . But by doing so will also scare customer away and not wanting to buy our foods and risk putting our business out of business. and most of our customer are also hard working men and women that have family driving up cost for meal does not help any one. While i understand the use of styrofoam and plastic like material is bad for the environment at the moment. we are not big business like Mcdonald Jackinthebox and Cheese Cake Factory that can hire as many employee as they please and lay on the beach enjoying that hawaiian sun. We work hard to make a living. please consider Us 90% of Citizen that is not mega richs in considering your dication on these ban of material being use for foods serives.



Oppose Foam Food Container Bans, SB 367  
Feb. 12, 2019 Hearing - EEP

Dear Senators:

We are a small Chinese restaurant in Honolulu Chinatown. It's a family run business with 24 seats and about 40 guests a day. Nearly 60% of our business is take-out. Foam containers do not leak and keep food hot which is important for take-out customers.

I want repeat customers and have only raised my price once in 4 years. \$8.00 plate lunch raised to \$8.50. We serve tasty, affordable meals and try to keep it affordable for our customers who are very familiar with my price.

My sales are predictable and I also cater and deliver to surrounding companies. To keep my prices low and to pay workers I use foam containers. I have gone to Chef Zone and looked at other containers but they cost 3X more than the foam containers.

Rent is very high, cost of vegetables and meat is very high. Meat is the highest wholesale price compared to other states. I can only control labor not these other price increases. I do not want to reduce hours or lay off workers who need jobs.

I want choice of what containers I use. If our business grows I can even get the higher costing containers.

Instead of ban on foam containers, regulate trash and have a place for it to go so it avoids the ocean.

Thank you,

Gaven Wu  
Papa's Café  
1120 Maunakea Street #105  
Honolulu  
(808) 523-8668

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:07:50 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christina Adolpho	Waiahole Poi Factory	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha State Representatives,

I am the General Manager of Waiahole Poi Factory. We offer traditional Hawaiiin plate lunches and are one of three restaurants on the island owned by native Hawaiians.

We are extremely concerned about the amount of pollution that ends up in our beautiful environment and how it affects wildlife. BUT, I question whether a ban on styrofoam containers at restaurants is the best solution.

First, these types of bans only hurt the little guys, the mom and pop restaurants. I work seven days a week, sometimes as long as 12 hours a day. Think about that, we are not a huge restaurant with a lot of staff. Our profit margins are thin. We use styrofoam containers for a few reasons, but cost efficiency is a big one. Looking at the alternatives, we will suffer a big hit with our profit if this ban were to be passed.

Second, I don't see how replacing one piece of trash with another will keep trash from going into the ocean.

I am interested in hearing ideas from you that support our beautiful Hawai'i while also supporting small institutions like ours that contribute to our culture.

Thank you,

Christina Adolpho

Waiahole Poi Factory

48-140 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744



March 10, 2019

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

From: Tim Shestek, Senior Director  
State Affairs

RE: **SB 367 SD1 - OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose SB 367 SD1, which would ban the sale, use and distribution of polystyrene foodservice containers, plastic straws, and plastic bags in Hawaii. ACC and its members certainly support efforts to reduce litter and marine debris; however, SB 367 SD1 appears to be drafted under the false assumption that alternatives to polystyrene foodservice containers are environmentally preferable.

ACC membership includes the leading suppliers and manufacturers of plastics foodservice packaging products, including polystyrene food and beverage containers. Unfortunately, the proposed bill is based on many misperceptions about polystyrene foam foodservice products, including that it cannot be recycled and that alternative food service materials leave a lighter environmental footprint and can be easily recycled or composted.

Key questions ACC believes the Legislature should assess prior to imposing new mandates on Hawaii businesses include:

- Will this legislation actually reduce waste or rather simply result in replacing one type of trash with another?
- Are there environmental impacts (e.g. energy use, water use, impacts on greenhouse gas emissions, trash generation, landfill waste, etc.) associated with the manufacture, distribution, use and disposal of likely alternative replacement products?
- Are likely replacement products recycled or composted within the State's existing infrastructure and do viable, end use markets exist for these products?

#### **Impacts on Trash Generation/Disposal/Litter**

New policies and practices should ensure that no waste, plastic or otherwise, ends up having a negative impact on the environment. SB 367 SD1 is misguided and likely to be ineffective based on data from completed litter studies. The bill fails to recognize that litter and improper waste management are independent of material type. In fact, a study recently completed by the Honolulu City Auditor found that a "simplistic ban on a single kind of litter or trash is unlikely to effectively reduce the overall amount of litter and its harm to the environment"<sup>1</sup>.

Litter studies conducted following the enactment of a ban have shown an increase in the litter of alternative materials that is greater than the decline in the banned material. For example, when the City of San Francisco placed restrictions on the use of certain plastic foodservice products, the City found that replacement products became more dominant in the litter stream<sup>2</sup>. For this reason the California Water board rejected the use of bans as a compliance mechanism for waterborne trash reduction<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca\\_docs/PS\\_Ban\\_Study\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/MRP/02-2012/Comments/Dart/Staff\\_Exhibits.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/stormwater/MRP/02-2012/Comments/Dart/Staff_Exhibits.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/trash\\_control/docs/trash\\_sr\\_040715.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/trash_control/docs/trash_sr_040715.pdf)



## **Assessing Polystyrene Foam and Likely Replacement Products**

If alternatives are considered, the decision needs to be based on a full life cycle analysis. All packaging leaves an environmental footprint regardless of the material type. It takes energy and raw materials to produce, transport, and recover or dispose of any material. So it is important to measure all of these impacts throughout the entire lifecycle of a product. Consider the following:

- Polystyrene cups weigh anywhere from two to five times less than comparable paper packaging products which means fewer air emissions when transporting products<sup>4</sup>.
- A polystyrene hot beverage cup requires about 50% LESS energy to produce than a similar plastic-coated paperboard cup with a corrugated cup sleeve, and creates significantly fewer greenhouse gas emissions than a similar coated paper-based cup with its corrugated sleeve.
- Studies conducted for Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) showed that banning polystyrene foam food take-out containers would dramatically increase environmental impacts by doubling the greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, and waste associated with the use of alternative products<sup>5</sup>.

It is also important to note that compostable food service containers only “degrade” in a controlled composting environment – essentially a large industrial facility where temperatures can exceed 140 degrees for several days. Hawaii does not currently have a commercial composting facility to process compostable alternatives, so these products will end up in a landfill. Biodegradable containers do not degrade if littered alongside the road, deposited into a trash can, nor will they degrade if they make their way into a storm drain or other water body.

The Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI), a not-for-profit association of key individuals and groups from government, industry, and academia seeks to educate manufacturers, legislators and consumers about the importance of scientifically based standards for compostable materials which biodegrade in large composting facilities. Under their “Myths of Biodegradation”, BPI states:

**Myth:** Biodegradable products are the preferred environmental solution because waste simply biodegrades in the landfill.

**Reality:** Nothing biodegrades in a landfill because nothing is supposed to<sup>6</sup>.

## **Cost Impacts**

Lastly, replacements for polystyrene products will likely result in higher operating costs for restaurants, caterers, delis, and the host of other food providers covered under SB 367 SD1. Polystyrene containers cost 2-3 times less than replacement products, which in some cases do not perform well, especially for very hot and cold food and beverages.

## **Straws**

There are many circumstances in which the use of drinking straws will enhance safety, and promote sanitary conditions. However, there are also circumstances when a drinking straw is automatically provided in a drink before the consumer has asked for one. ACC’s position on straws is designed to help avoid wasteful use by recommending that straws not be provided unless customers ask for them. At the same time, it acknowledges that there are circumstances where straws enhance safety and sanitary conditions. Adopting this type of voluntary policy will help prevent any unnecessary and potentially wasteful use, while ensuring that straws can still be distributed to those who need them.

Instead of banning plastic straws as proposed in SB 367 SD1, we would instead encourage material suppliers, product makers, food/drink establishments and NGOs to work collaboratively to promote the responsible use of straws.

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<sup>4</sup> Life Cycle Inventory of Foam Polystyrene, Paper-Based, and PLA Foodservice Products, prepared by Franklin Associates, a Division of ERG, February, 2011

<sup>5</sup> Alternative to Disposable Shopping Bags and Food Service Items Volume I, prepared for Seattle Public Utilities, January 2008, Herrera Environmental Consultants

<sup>6</sup> See <http://www.bpiworld.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=190439>



## **Efforts to Address Litter and Marine Debris**

ACC and its members take seriously the issue of litter and marine debris. To that end, ACC is working domestically and internationally with government officials, retailers, anti-litter groups and consumers to devise solutions to prevent litter and marine debris.

On January 16<sup>th</sup> global companies in the plastic value chain including many ACC members announced the creation of a new non-profit called the Alliance to End Plastic Waste. This new group is committing \$1.5 Billion over five years to end plastic waste and will focus on providing help to the largest sources of plastic in our ocean.

Some of our recent activity also includes helping develop new and innovative recycling programs nationwide; promoting industry-wide practices to contain plastic pellets; partnering with governments and conservationists to encourage recycling and discourage litter; working to educate children on the link between litter and marine health; working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to advance scientific understanding of marine debris; and continuing to innovate and develop smaller, lighter packaging. More information about our activities to help reduce marine debris can be found at: <http://www.marinedebrissolutions.com>.

Additionally, last year ACC partnered with the City and County of Honolulu on a pilot project to find and close off potential pathways for trash from land-based sources to migrate into the marine environment. One of the primary sources of litter found near waterways and beaches on Oahu is uncovered public trash cans that allow garbage to blow out. Through our partnership, ACC and the City and County of Honolulu identified a better design for outdoor public garbage cans to keep trash out of parks, and most importantly, out of waterways and the ocean.

ACC believes that reducing landfill disposal, marine debris and litter requires the implementation of a variety of tools. In addition to efforts that seek to increase recycling and improve solid waste collection infrastructure, opportunities to recover non-recycled plastics may be an option as well. An emerging set of technologies is allowing governments and businesses to convert non-recycled plastics into energy, fuels, and feedstocks, or raw materials for new manufacturing. A range of energy recovery technologies are being used to complement recycling in helping to divert more valuable post-use materials from landfills. Some of the most widely used and rapidly emerging technologies include waste-to-energy, plastics-to-fuels, gasification, and solid recovery fuels.

Experts agree that improving waste management is the key to addressing marine debris. Attempts to reduce marine debris through product bans fail to recognize the underlying source of marine debris in developed countries, litter. 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](mailto:Tim_Shestek@americanchemistry.com). You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551.



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:11:03 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
George Ngyuen	Pho Tri Restaurant	Oppose	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State Senate

Energy and Environmental Protection Committee

From: George Nguyen

1307 Kalakaua Ave

Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Date: February 26, 2019 Hearing

To whom it may concern:

I am a small business owner. I am a single dad and am putting my daughter through college. My family relies on my business, Pho Tri Vietnamese Restaurant. We use styrofoam to-go containers for our customers because they are the most affordable and they also work the best. I spend \$23 on a case of 200 styrofoam containers. Other containers cost \$52 for 200 containers. We use about 200 to-go containers per day. I work in my restaurant every day. I am not rich, but I am proud to have a small business that I started when I immigrated to this country. Banning these containers and making business more expensive will make it harder for other immigrants like me.

Please think about how this ban will affect small immigrant businesses like mine.

George Nguyen

Pho Tri Vietnamese Restaurant

1307 Kalakaua Ave

808-341-6012

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:12:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Lee	Cooke Street Diner	Oppose	No

Comments:

Senate Committee of Energy and Environmental Protection,

Aloha. I am the General Manager of Cooke St Diner in Kaka'ako. We serve working class people food. We serve a lot of construction workers and port workers. All of our food is served in styrofoam to-go containers because most people take their food to go. We are not a fancy fine dining restaurant. We provide breakfast and lunch to the regular person who is on the go. Our customers rely on cheap, quality food that will fill them up. Our customers have fixed budgets and we already struggle to keep costs low with so many rising costs.

This ban does not affect rich people, it affects working class people like me and my customers. Sure, I want to work on taking care of the environment. But, why should we pass policies that hurt the little guys?

Thank you,

Karen Lee

General Manager

Cooke St Diner

605 Cooke St

Honolulu, HI 96813

[kar.lee.2007@gmail.com](mailto:kar.lee.2007@gmail.com)

(808) 597-8080



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:13:58 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gwen Alejo-Herring	Queen Street Cafe & Grill	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB 367 — Oppose Foam Food Container Ban Bill

Senate Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Aloha Senators,

My name is Gwen Alejo-Herring. I am the owner and operator of the Queen Street Cafe & Grill in the Aiea Town Square.

My cafe prepares and sells plate lunches like kiawe grilled steak, firecracker chicken, ahi Belly and more. All entrees come with a choice of two scoops rice, garlic mash or brown rice, along with a choice of potato, mac or tossed salad.

We use foam food containers because it can handle the weight, moisture and retain the heat of our foods. My customers and I believe foam food container bans don't make sense because here on Oahu, foam food containers and even compostable containers all go to HPower for energy production. If there were a biodegradable/compostable plant, it then makes more sense for paying more for biodegradable containers.

I also provide lunch for schools. One school requires biodegradable plates, which I find to be flimsy and I worry about if and when a child may get burned from hot lunches. Another school that I work with uses the foam plates. I notice that the biodegradable plates are double or more the price of the foam plates.

If a foam food container ban becomes law, I will need to raise prices and I worry about losing customers. Everyone is very price-conscious.

Please do not support these foam container ban bills.

Sincerely,

Gwen Alejo-Herring

Queen Street Cafe & Grill

99-080 Kauhale Street Aiea,

HI 96701

[galejherring@gmail.com](mailto:galejherring@gmail.com)

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:15:30 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Ushijima	the Hibachi	Oppose	No

Comments:

Tues. Mar 12, 2019 - Hearing

Senate Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

SB 367 - Oppose

Members of the Committees:

My name is Mark Ushijima and I am a partner in the Hibachi Kailua. I am strongly against a ban on styrofoam containers in Hawaii. This will truly impact the small businesses in Hawaii. We already have high overhead costs (labor, electricity, taxes, fees, lease rent, etc...) that adding to our cost of goods would be very detrimental.

I also have a small business with my friend in Washington State. Washington State did not impose a ban on styrofoam but they strongly discourage styrofoam. They understand the importance of small businesses in Washington.

State legislators should review the Honolulu City Auditor's Study (which I participated in) about Single Use Polystyrene Food Containers and Plastic Bags.

[http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca\\_docs/PS\\_Ban\\_Study\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf)

The City Auditor finds that the majority of litter observed was miscellaneous items, and food service items mainly of non-polystyrene material that would remain unaffected by a ban.

Since there are no reusable alternative food containers, the ban will only change the material of the container, and that substitute container will become litter. Customers sometimes bring in personal reusable containers but many do not know that is against the law due to safety and hygiene reasons.

Focusing on styrofoam and only one type of plastic, that is not a big part of the waste stream, doesn't make sense. Someone should look at all the plastics from retail chips to juice pouches to frozen food bags—just walk through a grocery store. Some of these like potato chip bags are littered on streets, parks and beaches far more than foam food containers. I don't understand this. There are so many other plastic litter why go after a economical, useful product that's not even a major part of the litter problem.

Please do not pass this law. Not only will it affect the business owners but it will also affect the employees who work tirelessly for higher wages.

Thank you,  
Mark Ushijima  
the Hibachi  
515 Kailua Road  
Kailua, HI 96734  
thehibachihawaii@gmail.com

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:13:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Suehiro	Nabeya Maido	Oppose	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kevin Suehiro, and I am the owner of Nabeya Maido, a hot pot restaurant in Kaimuki. I work everyday and hardly have time to watch the local news, so it was quite a surprise when I heard about the potential styrofoam ban.

As a small business owner here in Hawaii, our restaurant is constantly faced with increasing food costs, increasing insurance costs, increasing minimum wage, and the ever increasing rent. So when I hear that there is a bill concerning the banning of plastic bags or styrofoam containers, I'm like, give us small businesses a break! For my restaurant, we use the styrofoam containers for our hot soups that the customers take out. We might not do as much volume as some of the plate lunch/bento places, but the alternatives to styrofoam are just too expensive. We would just have to pass those costs on to the customers which might lead them to lost business. I hope that when you folks are deciding these policies, you are taking into account ALL the points of view that are out there. For the people who want to ban styrofoam and plastic bags, I get you. I understand that it is bad for the ocean, that it is bad for the environment, but so are a lot of other things. Yes styrofoam will not decompose and might kill some marine life, but what do you say about oil spills or toxic runoff being dumped into our ocean? They kill marine life too. What I am trying to say is that there has to be some kind of middle ground where all parties can concede something to attain a positive outcome. I go to the beaches all over the island, and I have not personally seen all the trash that they say is flying into the ocean. What I do see are overflowing rubbish cans with no covers, I see homeless people with there worldly possessions in bags trying to live in makeshift tents. Can't the government do something without completely banning styrofoam and plastic bags?

People always talk about being ecologically friendly and "going green". But why is it when I thought of allowing my customers to bring in their containers to take their food home, a friend of mine warned me that the board of health considers that a health safety violation? I thought it would be correct to offer a small discount for customers to bring their own containers to take things home, I didn't think it would be a violation to do something "ecologically friendly". There has to be some give somewhere so we can all get along. You all want to do things black or white, but if you can find a way to meet somewhere in the gray. Find something that you can offer the small businesses as a

viable alternative to styrofoam, and I do not mean viable meaning it can do everything that styrofoam does,,,,,,but at 10x the price. Going with waxed coated containers or compostable containers with waxed paper lining or aluminum foil lining, does that really solve the problem? Waxed paper or aluminum foil flying into the ocean wouldn't seem to be an acceptable alternative either right? And to make all the compostable containers, where are we going to get the wood pulp from, are we going to cut down the trees that the world with climate change needs so dearly?

I don't have any answers for the styrofoam problem except for people trying to be more responsible and disposing of their trash in proper containers. I don't feel that banning styrofoam is the answer. There might be a lot of small shops who might just give up due to the ever increasing costs of doing business in Hawaii, and that would be just a shame. Small businesses with their unique flavor makes Hawaii Hawaii. You take away the small mom and pop, locally owned stores and have it replaced with big corporate businesses and you take away the uniqueness that we call home. I couldn't imagine going to eat and have only big restaurants with their "local" menus, it just wouldn't be Hawaii.

Please vote no on the styrofoam ban, and instead, think of ways that in the future, both sides can meet somewhere in the middle to make a better Hawaii to live in.

Mahalos,

Kevin Suehiro

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:18:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eric Wong	LoCo MoCo Drive Inn - Ewa Beach and Wiki Wiki Drive Inn - Waterfront Plaza	Oppose	No

Comments:

Re: Foam Foodservice Container Bans, SB 367 - OPPOSE!!

Aloha distinguished Representatives,

First off, thank your time to review my written testimony, name is Eric Wong and I am the co-owner of the Wiki Wiki Drive Inn, a small take out window located in the Downtown's Waterfront Plaza and the Loco Moco Drive Inn at the Ewa Beach Shopping Center.

Many of our customers know us in both location as an affordable spot for 'plate lunch', yes — 'cheap eats' thus we use Styrofoam® containers extensively for our customers come in. We hardly see 'sit down' dining as much as our 'take out'.

It's no secret that Styrofoam® containers are sturdy enough for insulation to keep the plate lunch hot, easy to open and eat immediately, and of course it is relatively inexpensive.

Other containers which are available do not insulate as well nor can it be 'piled on', Like others that have expressed their concern, we too is a 'mom and pop' small, family oriented businesses have a hard time as it is keeping our costs low and affordable, and with always rising rents, always rising ingredient prices, and now the possibility of paying even more for take out containers.

The hurdle we have to get over gets higher and higher every year. We are not one of your corporate restaurants who have deep pockets, we are the small, personable, flavorful restaurants that make Hawaii what it is, a place where people can enjoy different flavors from many cultures. By doing away with Styrofoam, it might prove to be the straw that broke the camel's back for many small businesses.

I ask that you DO NOT ban foam containers as it will affect most local businesses around the State. I agree and surmise that while there are ecological reasons but there has to be some other way to resolve the problem without a rash and ultimate ban.

Ask yourself this- will small restaurant owners be capable of taking another added cost? How would you feel if your favorite take-out restaurant that you've been going to for years, just permanently closed shop? We have been in business nearly 25 years supporting our families and our 12 employees'. Approving this ban against Styrofoam ® would affect many small food operators around Hawai'i and may force us to close, thus I humbly ask that you vote against the ban.

Mahalo,

Eric S.S. Wong, Vice President

Imperial Investment, LLC.

d.b.a. Loco Moco Drive Inn-Ewa Beach

Wiki Wiki Drive Inn- Waterfront Plaza

808-689-8321





**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
March 12, 2019**

**Re: SB 367 SD1 Relating to Environmental Protection**

Good morning Chairperson Lowen 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) as founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii OPPOSES SB 367 SD1 Relating to Environmental Protection. This measure prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags and takes effect 7/1/2021.

This measure would ban items like eggs shipped in Styrofoam cartons, meat trays, Cup of Noodle, storage & garbage bags, doggie waste bags, juice boxes and pouches with straws, reusable tote bags made out of recycled plastic, reusable cups with straws to name a few items. We also question if this measure would violate interstate commerce by banning the sale of these items and more.

Bans are not the simple answer. We need to maintain a fair balance regarding food service containers, bags, straws and other products and look at coordinated litter reduction programs.

Businesses respond to the wants of the customers that patronize their establishments all while operating on a very thin profit margin. They look for cost effective food containers that ensure that products are durable enough to protect people from spills and burns as well as keep food protected and fresh longer by sustaining appropriate temperature.

We have been in support of environmental measures like the call for the customer to request the use of a single use plastic straw. It would also be easier on retailers if there were just a state law and not a diverse array of ordinances dealing with this issue.

A mere substitution of polystyrene type containers, plastic straws, beverage containers and bags to another type will NOT result in reduced trash as more than likely the substitution product would be discarded in the same manner.

We need to be looking into a comprehensive litter reduction program that not only takes into account educating the public, but also looking for alternative solutions like public trash cans that are designed so that it will keep its content from flying out.

We also want to point out that the alternative products often creates more waste in volume and energy as well as increase air and water pollution – in the manufacturing of and in the transportation to the business.

We urge you to hold this measure. Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:42:15 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



Nicole Chatterson  
 Director, Zero Waste O'ahu  
[oahu.zerowaste@gmail.com](mailto:oahu.zerowaste@gmail.com)  
 808.561.7730

March 11, 2019

Aloha Chair Lowen and EEP Committee Members:

My name is Nicole Chatterson, and I am Mānoa resident and the Director of Zero Waste O'ahu writing in **strong support of SB 367**, to prohibit the sale, use, and distribution of polystyrene foam containers, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

In response to the claims made in previous testimony by Dexter Yamada (President of KYD, Inc. dba: K. Yamada Distributors), the Hawaii Restaurant Association, and the Hawaii Food Industry Association, that polystyrene bans are ineffective and cause undue hardship on businesses, I would like to offer the following excerpt from the Hawai'i DOT 2016 "Trash Reduction Plan". While Mr. Yamada has claimed that polystyrene bans will not make a meaningful impact on litter, the state DOT has identified polystyrene reduction legislation and the second most effective trash reduction measure (just behind plastic bag reduction policy).

CONTROL MEASURE	TIERS OR CONTROL MEASURE DESCRIPTION	REDUCTION CREDIT
<b>Single-Use Carryout Plastic Bag Ordinances</b>	Tier 1 – Prohibit Distribution at Large Supermarkets	6%
	Tier 2 – Prohibit Distribution at Retail Establishments that Sell Packaged Foods	8%
	Tier 3 – Prohibit Distribution at All Retail Establishments (with the Exception of Restaurants)	10%
	Additional Credit	2%
<b>Polystyrene Foam Food Service Ware Ordinances</b>	Tier 1 – Prohibit Distribution at DOT-HWYS-sponsored Events and DOT-HWYS-owned Property	2%
	Tier 2 – Prohibit Distribution by Food Service Vendors	8%
<b>Uncovered Loads Enforcement</b>	Require Municipal Trash Haulers to Cover Loads	1%
	Enhanced Enforcement Program	4%
<b>Anti-Littering and Dumping Enforcement</b>	Anti-Littering and Illegal Dumping Enforcement Program	2%
	Tier 1 – 20-50% of Identified Hotspots Under Camera Surveillance	1%
	Tier 2 – > 50% of Identified Hotspots Under Camera Surveillance	2%
	Tier 1 – Physical Barriers or Improvements Implemented at 20-50% of Identified Hotspots	1%
	Tier 2 – Physical Barriers or Improvements Implemented at > 50% of Identified Hotspots	2%



This type of single-use plastic phase-out policy is being seen around the world. From island nations like New Zealand and the United Kingdom to places in the global south like Costa Rica and Ethiopia, communities are saying no single-use plastics on the basis of climate change mitigation and pollution prevention.

If single-use plastic consumption maintains on the current trajectory, **plastic use will account of 20% of our fossil fuel use by 2050<sup>1</sup>**. While recycling and waste-to-energy are often cited as ways to deal with this plastic waste—we have recently seen that the recycling markets are too unstable to offer a consistent, sustainable solution to our waste. Compounding this, roughly 80% of the Global North's 'recyclable' plastics (exported from places like Hawai'i) are not recycled and instead escape into the marine environment.<sup>2</sup>

While we have the option to incinerate plastic for energy locally via H-POWER, this is also a flawed approach. Per megawatt, **H-POWER produces 3 times more greenhouse gas emissions than Kahe—O'ahu's largest oil-based energy plant.**<sup>3</sup> Further, **H-POWER requires 800,000 tons of waste annually** to maintain operations and profit margins. This means that waste production is incentivized, driving more upstream impacts through the extraction, production, and transportation of products-turned-trash. According to the U.S. EPA, about 42% of the U.S. greenhouse gas footprint results from this production-disposal chain<sup>4</sup>.

If Hawai'i is indeed serious about our commitment to the Paris Climate Accord and mitigating our climate footprint, it is clear that single-use plastic reduction is a necessary part of our climate change prevention tool-kit. Plastic pollution reduction and movement away from a single-use economy are directly tied to the Aloha + Challenge goal to reduce our solid waste footprint and build sustainable communities. Further, plastic and single-use reduction also correspond to the following [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#), which have been adopted as a framework by the Hawai'i State Senate.

- **SDG 12 = Responsible Production & Consumption**
- **SDG 13 = Climate Action**
- **SDG 14 = Life Below Water**
- **SDG 15 = Life on Land**

Mahalo for your time and consideration.  
Nicole Chatterson, Director of Zero Waste O'ahu

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP (2018). SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: A Roadmap for Sustainability

<sup>2</sup> World Economic Forum (2015). The New Plastics Economy. Rethinking the future of plastics.

<sup>3</sup> <https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/main.do>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/smm/epa-sustainable-materials-management-program-strategic-plan-fiscal-years-2017-2022>

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:24:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie Parra	Keiko Conservation	Support	Yes

Comments:

**We strongly support SB 367.** Counties, cities, and countries around the world are beginning to take action against the impacts plastic pollution and polystyrene foam are having on our health and that of the ocean. If we allow another year to pass without stronger regulations on these products, we are allowing another year's worth of these single-use toxic products to enter our environment that will outlive us and generations to come.

So many children and teens have attended these hearings over the years and voiced their concern over this issue. Their generation will ultimately bear the brunt of our single-use products and it should ultimately be their generation's decision to make. Please, listen to the youth of this island and do what is best for them.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:25:05 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacey Gray	No Single-Use Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

No Single-Use Hawaii urges you to support this bill. Single-use plastics made from petrochemicals are not a sustainable or environmentally safe option for Hawaii in 2019. Every piece of plastic that has ever been created is still in existence -unless it has been burned (which has negative residual impacts on the environment too). We are able to proactively curb the flow of plastics into our oceans and on our beaches. This is an easy and attainable law with sustainability and pono goals in mind. The members of No Single-Use Hawaii are willing to pay an extra few cents for my plate lunch to ensure that the container it is served in will be a paper-based container. Many restaurants have already switched to environmentally sustainable options for take-out containers and getting rid of plastic straws and cutlery. The Ocean Friendly Restaurant website lists all those restaurants that have taken these easy changes already. <https://www.surfrider.org/programs/ocean-friendly-restaurants>

Mahalo for your time and consideration of our testimony.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:29:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lars Olsen	Olsen Pacific Consulting	Support	No

Comments:

It seems absolutely crazy to me that we are still using single use plastic anywhere, let alone here in Hawaii. It is so obviously wasteful for any of us to use single use plastics given the wide range of easy and viable alternatives. If we don't ban this here in Hawaii, how can we be leaders? How will we justify doing nothing about this problem to future generations? If we do stand up and ban them, think of significant influence Hawaii can have on the rest of the US and the world, given how many tourists and travellers come through Hawaii. Banning single use plastics seems like such a win-win for Hawaii - tourism, ecosystem, economy. Please support this bill and make it law. Current and future generations will thank you.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:26:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Miya Tsukazaki	Temple Children	Support	No

Comments:

We submit testimony in strong support of SB 367. Please help our community by keeping Hawai'i plastic-free.

Mahalo,

Miya Tsukazaki

Temple Children

Hilo, Hawai'i



# kōkua hawai'i foundation



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB367 SD1, RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

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

March 12, 2019, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 325

Aloha Representatives,

Mahalo for your consideration of SB367 SD1. Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our mission is to provide students with experiences that will enhance their appreciation for and understanding of their environment so they will be lifelong stewards of the earth. One of our many programs is the Plastic Free Hawai'i program. Plastic Free Hawai'i provides resources, tools, and trainings to educate schools, business partners, and community members about the environmental and health benefits of going plastic free to minimize single-use plastics in our islands.

Since the beginning of this program, it has been our goal to inspire the keiki of Hawai'i to make changes in their own lives to eliminate single-use plastics like EPS foam and plastic bags and ask the same change from their friends, parents, neighbors, and community. Working with these youth in beach cleanups, panel discussions, environmental fairs, we hear the same question repeated: "why?" They ask why a product like foam, that we know to be toxic to people, animals, and the entire ecosystem, should still be available. These youth are moved to make change, and we ask the same of our legislators.

The urgency of the plastic pollution crisis calls for us to take bold steps toward removing single use plastics from distribution. Cutting off the flow is the only true way to ensure that these materials never enter our watersheds or further impact human and environmental health, including climate change. Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation will continue working tirelessly to encourage behavior change, but we are just one determined group. We need government and state agencies to take an active role in protecting this place that we love.

We do encourage you to make an amendment to accommodate people with medical conditions requiring the use of plastic straws. This has been done in legislation passed in other municipalities.

Finally, we have two upcoming events with Dr. Pete Meyers, an expert on the health impacts of plastics. The first is a private event taking place this Friday, March 15 in Honolulu. We also have a public event on Sunday March 17, 7pm at the Queen Kapi'olani Hotel (event flyer attached). If you're interested in coming to either, please reach out to me.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please support SB367 SD1.

Sincerely,

Jack Johnson,  
Co-Founder, Vice-President

Kim Johnson,  
Co-Founder, President

Natalie McKinney,  
Executive Director

[www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org](http://www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org)

P.O. Box 866, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 • Tel: (808) 638-5145 • Fax: (808) 638-0757 • [info@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org](mailto:info@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org)

The Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i.



**MARCH 17th 7pm - 9pm**

**PLASTIC POLLUTION:**  
**THE SMOG**  
**OF THE SEA**

**FREE SCREENING + TALK**  
3RD FLOOR AT THE QUEEN KAPIOLANI HOTEL



SHORT MOVIE

**The Smog of the Sea**

TALK WITH

**Pete Myers, PhD** - Environmental Health Sciences

Speaking on health impacts of plastics

**Paul Lecomte** - The Swim Expedition

Sharing the story behind Ben Lecomte's Trans-Pacific swim

**Mark Cunningham** - The Smog of the Sea Expedition

Inspiring change through marine debris art



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:51:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christiane Pfisterer	Nalu Health Bar & Cafe	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 1:44:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass SB 367.

With excellent alternative containers we do not need this source of pollution that will outlive us all.

This will also allow those of us who refuse to buy food in styrofoam containers to enjoy food from ALL vendors and to support their businesses.

Mahalo, Lisa Marten

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 3:03:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**Hello and thank you for taking the time to read by testimony. My name is Ana Velasquez, I am a Marine Biology undergraduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Since moving here I have being working with nonprofit Surfrider Oahu and I'm relatively active in the environmental scene here on the island; before living in Oahu I never submitted testimony because I never felt as passionate about an issue as I do now.**

**By prohibiting food service businesses and stores from using polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags we will be protecting our oceans and environment as a whole. Single use containers made of plastic and styrofoam require a lot of energy to produce, are only used once, and last hundreds of years! Additionally, the light weight waste is easily blown into the ocean that is home to so much of Oahu's wildlife and pollutes the beautiful water, poisoning fish that we then consume. Companies may argue that they need these containers to serve food however, there are so many better alternatives to Styrofoam and plastic that are plant based which companies can purchase for the same price, ultimately, there is no excuse. Finally, by passing bills like SB 367 will help to ensure a more sustainable Hawaii which will inspire other states to be more environmentally friendly as well.**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 7:49:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a mother who cares about future generations and the only planet we have, I strongly support SB367. "We don't inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children." The Earth covered by plastics is not the kind of planet that our children deserve.

Mio Chee

Ala Moana

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 8:19:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am a 7th grader at SEEQS public charter school in Kaimuki. I am supporting SB367. If we do not stop using single-use plastics, we are sabotaging ourselves internally because we are polluting our resources.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 7:05:32 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a 16 year old high schooler who is concerned about his generation's future, I strongly support SB367. I believe that a reduction in our consumption of plastics will help both the environment and human health.



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 7:51:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass SB367.

David Chee

Ala Moana Resident

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 12:01:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara L. George	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Single-use styrofoam and other fast-food packaging are adding to the floating garbage patch and adding to all of the opala in and around Hawaii. Enough! SUPPORT this bill!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 12:24:25 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

It is imperative that we move forward as a state in banning polystyrene products,

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:31:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nadine Lane	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Styrofoam and microplastics are a huge problem on this earth. Hawaii needs to take action in this world issue and stop supporting styrofoam from making its way into the ocean. Please pass this bill. For the health of the ocean and it's animals and to make for a better future for all. Thank you.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:57:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I admit, most countries in the world don't see eye to eye in almost every regard. Be it political, economical, religious... But there is one thing that binds us all together, one thing almost everyone agrees on today. I wish I could say it binds us like an invisible rope. But it is visible, very much indeed: single used plastics and it's impact on marine life and global ecosystems absolutley everywhere. How can it be, that developing countries like Kenia put the use of single use plastics under extremely high fees, Rwanda banned it, all over Africa Governments are waking up and pass laws to get this 21st century cancer at bay. Europe banned it, your neighbours in Canada lead by example and many places in Australia put it under ban. Even the US, Seattle, Malibu - authorities have listened to the people, they have heard scientific facts and are acting as we speak. Can you really say you haven't read or heard about how aquatic life or birds have been suffering from it? Now, in 2019, with all the media attention, all our wonderful outlets and highly passionate conservationists fighting for a a better future? Have you not seen the gruesome videos of turles choking to death, whales dying slowly & painfully from it? These events happen, they are not an abstract concept. They can be dealt with, head on and fast. There are costs involved - but can you really say the financial invest doesn't outway the long term results? Is nature replaceable? Are we? I come from Germany, where Styrofoam for example, is something out of a far distant memory. Plastic bottles are sold with deposit in place, so we'd return them. For years it has been that way (though it is not enough). We don't accept traveling to places, that are in complete disregard of reality. You must act now. Or else even tourism, on which you so highly rely on, will suffer.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 2:24:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Shannon Murphy and I am a freshman at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, studying global environmental science. It is extremely important for me to testify and support this bill for numerous reasons. First, we know the scientific evidence on how polystyrene has effected human health and is a true carcinogen. That in itself should really be a driver for getting rid of foam in the State of Hawaii. Second, we know its detrimental to the environment and it poses a threat to marine life. This means the health of our fish are declining and that is a main source of protein here.

I think we need to begin to understand that humans are encorporated into the environment. We are a part of the ecosystem. If we are destroying the environment with the use of plastics, we are ultimately effecting the animals we eat, food we grow, water we drink, and overall health of our people. When will we realize this all needs to change? Yes polystyrene is a convenience but money can't be driving our society and ways of life forever. As a consumer, I am willing to pay 20 cents more for every plate made of compostable materials because I know that fiber plate will return back into the environment.

For the sake of my future and next generations, we need to ban polystyrene in this state once and for all. If other states across the nation can do so, there is no reason why we can't. Living in the state of Hawaii is a priviledge and we are extremely proud to live in such a beautiful place. Let's keep it this way and prevent styrofoam from polluting our beaches. Let's ingite change this state desparately needs- and it is possible with your help.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 4:39:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and committee members,

My name is Lily Washburn, and I'm a student at SEEQS: The School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability, a charter school in Kaimuki. I'm writing to say that **I strongly support SB367.**

I am in support of this bill because plastic pollution is having detrimental impacts on our environment, and will continue to do so if we don't do something about it. I am personally afraid for the health of our beautiful islands, because of how much plastic is causing harm to wildlife, and building up in our natural ecosystems.

We need to realize that we can't be so dependent on single use plastics, and must begin to eliminate them from our lives. I believe this bill could be a huge step towards a more environmentally safe future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this serious issue.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 9:23:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass this measure! Our island home needs to be protected from plastic and styrofoam! We have enough plastic that the currents bring in as it is and we need to be a leader to the rest of the US!



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 10:19:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill all the way from the state of Maine because I passionately believe that prohibiting the use and distribution of polystyrene foam containers, plastic bags, and straws would have a very positive effect on the future of our planet. We only have one home and that is Earth. This is the responsible thing to do. This is a step in the right direction towards ensuring the future generations are left with a planet that hasn't been destroyed. We need to take action and I plead that this bill is passed. We can no longer treat our planet as if we have another planet to go to. Please do the right thing and pass this bill. Thank you, all the way from Maine!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 10:58:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Danna Olsen. I support of SB367. I have a masters degree in public health from the University of Wisconsin- Madison School of Medicine and Public Health focusing on environmental health.

I moved to Oahu one year ago. I love Hawaii and I feel so lucky to live here. However, my biggest disappointment has been seeing the way many people treat the environment with their lifestyle decisions. It's shocking to see how much single use styrofoam is used here!

Hawaii is getting trashed and that breaks my heart. Especially in Honolulu, you have a lot of litterbugs. I'm so tired of seeing styrofoam litter. This is especially bad litter item as it doesn't break down. I work on Punchbowl and this area is constantly littered with plastic take out bags, styrofoam clam shells, plastic cups and straws and plastic utensils. What our food vendors give their customers matters. Much of it is littering the streets and making the city dirty.

On the weekends I often spend my time helping with beach cleanups. The amount of plastic on the beaches is overwhelming. Sometimes I when I go to the beach it makes me cry. I've watched birds eat it. It's in the fish. It's in our bodies too. We can't continue to ignore that our use of plastic is not sustainable.

I try to support with my dollars the businesses that are good environmental stewards. When people claim the alternatives to Styrofoam are more expensive, what they often fail to say is that generally we're talking in the ball park of ten cents or so- that's not going to deter me from going to my favorite restaurant. What many people aren't factoring in are the environmental costs. The lifecycle costs of plastics are much more expensive than most people understand. Plastic has health consequences from

cradle to grave. I'd pay a little extra to do what's right for environmental health, wouldn't you? I value clean air more than short-term savings.

There are now so many alternatives to single use plastics available that are compostable (and they are increasingly more and more affordable). Did you know that Hawaii now has over 200 restaurants that are certified through Surfrider as Ocean Friendly that are not using styrofoam take out containers, not giving out plastic bags, and only giving plastic straws out by request? These restaurants are raising the bar and showing that change is feasible and good for business.

Please show that you care about environmental sustainability- it's time to make big changes so the next generation can live in a beautiful, healthy world.

Mahalo,

Danna

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:13:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The amount of single use plastic I find piled up in public parks, beaches, and even in the bodies of dead sea life is getting out of hand. These pieces of plastic and styrofoam are encasing our land and our oceans, killing us and other living beings literally from the inside out. It is heartbreaking to see the uneducated standing idly, clueless, and the educated and empowered passively letting this crisis grow and devour lives whole.

I work in a restaurant where people fill a countless amount of plastic plates and containers with food from a hot bar. Charging them for the plate/container aggravates the customer, to which I explain they can bring their own container, bowl, etc., To use to get their food (with the weight of their container tared). Suddenly the customer is at ease, eager to save a few cents, eager to eliminate single use items, eager to participate in reusing their bento box collecting dust at home.

Eliminating the middle man by banning single use items allow people to cherish what they have and focus on what they need. With education and conversation, people become mindful of the harm that is paired with indulging in convenience; Finding that the small step of reusing something you already have can quickly turn into great strides.

Ridding single use plastic and styrofoam from our everyday lives will be an easy lifestyle to adjust to, almost as easy as it is to toss those same items into the trash and out of our minds. In this degree, I support this bill because I believe it will aid and support the life, safety, and chance of prosperity of our current and future generations. I believe it encourages the growth of our society, guiding us to forage a path towards a life of mindfulness and hospitality. I believe we will adapt, for the sake of the betterment of our oceans, soil, air, and our lives. Thank you.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:38:04 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

i testify to say that I think that there should be very serious limitation on plastic, styrofoam or any other short-term plastic /other debris.

The environment is the priority and it would create an incredible community and ideal!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:11:11 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

In order to preserve our planets health, it is imperative that we cease the use of all plastic, styrofoam, and any other type of non reusable products that just get stuck in a landfill or in the ocean for hundreds of years. There are so many other option to choose from. I support this bill and hope to see it accepted and put to good use.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:23:03 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please be the leader in support of protecting our oceans! We all know drastic measures need to be taken, Hawaii is the best place for hear measures to start! The world looks to and thinks of Hawaii as the ideal beach destination - take a stand for this reputation, show the world that oceans and beaches need to be protected from human pollution!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:26:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a frequent visitor to Hawaii, an avid scuba diver and a life long advocate for protecting our fragile marine environment, I urge you to support SB 367. I learned through programs at Dolphin Quest how Marine debris originating from single use plastics and polystyrene containers is wrecking havoc on our coastal environments carrying toxins into our food sources and strangling marine wildlife. There are many alternatives now to single use plastics. Hawaii can become a national leader promoting biodegradable alternatives and encouraging an enduring respect for our oceans and all they provide to wildlife and humans. Respectfully yours, Forrest Allen



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:06:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing to support the proposed bill SB 367 that that addresses the issue of plastic straws, plastic bags, polystyrene foam containers and expanded polystyrene food service products in Hawaii.

Dolphin Quest has been a leader in the field of marine conservation for over 30 years. Part of our approach is ensuring our guests are aware of the importance of taking action and making a difference when it comes to practices at home that promote a healthy ocean environment and weighing in on legislation such as this. I'm submitting comments to secure my commitment as a Dolphin Quest Crew Member for over 25 years.

We know that plastic is one of the most common types of marine debris found in Hawaii and it can be deadly to wildlife. As plastics never truly degrade and break down into micro-plastics that animals often mistake as food, this can mean ingested plastics lead to suffocation and/or blocked digestive tracts and ultimately starvation in fishes, turtles and larger marine life. Ingested plastic can also leach toxins which can bioaccumulate within an individual animal and biomagnify up the food chain threatening multiple animal species including humans. We need to act with bills like this to reduce or ultimately eliminate such threats.

Single-use plastics like utensils, straws, and bags are unnecessary as there are a multitude of environmentally friendly alternatives these days. This bill makes doing the right thing easier to do.

One of our goals at Dolphin Quest is to motivate conservation action daily. Our educational opportunities are one of a kind, connecting people directly to the need to preserve these magnificent animals, the ocean environment and their fellow cousins in the wild. Being an active part in helping this bill pass lets us assure our guests that our voice matters.

Thank you for your time.

Aloha,

Michelle Campbell

Vice President of Animals / Dolphin Quest

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:30:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

With so many alternatives to single-use plastics and given the enormous stress that single-use plastics cause on our environment, i ask you to support SB 367.

Plastic pollution is rampant on Hawaii beaches, inland and in the surrounding ocean environment on which Hawaii's marine life depends upon. Plastic can be deadly to wildlife because animals often mistake plastic pieces for food causing suffocation and blocked digestive tracts.

When wildlife ingests plastic, it can also be harmful to animals (including humans) that are higher in the food chain. Toxins from the deadly plastic can bioaccumulate in the animal and potentially pose a threat to any other who eats it. With humans at the top of the food chain, we should have an enormous interest in protecting our food source.

As a supporter of Dolphin Quest, i believe in their mission to promote sustainable choices in Hawaii and beyond. With so many easy alternatives to single use plastics like reusable utensils, reusable straws, reusable bags, and much more, i believe it is important to enact legislature promoting healthy alternatives.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:02:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**Testimony in Support** of SB 367

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION"

Submitted by: Vivian Strolis Plowman

Corporate Controller

Dolphin Quest, LLC / Dolphin Quest Oahu / Dolphin Quest Hawaii

**Report Title:** Polystyrene Foam Containers; Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products; Plastic Straws; Plastic Bags; Prohibitions

**Description:** Prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags. Takes effect 7/1/2021. (SD1)

I support the legislative actions amending Environmental Protection to appropriately define "plastics" and to regulate the non-use of plastic by stores and food service businesses.

The harmful effects of humans on our wonderful wildlife ohana must be limited and we need to protect the lands and oceans for the benefit of all future generations. Reducing or eliminating plastics to protect the existence of all the land and marine mammals and other flora and fauna of our biomes. Supported by multiple research projects, there is overwhelming evidence that the use of plastics must be eliminated, or at least severely limited, for the protection of the environment; specifically, for humans, wildlife, and ecotourism.

Our Crew Members are always amazed at the amounts of plastics that are found in our shore clean-ups. Plastic particles, large & small, are one of the most common types of

debris found in Hawaii and it can be deadly to wildlife. Plastics never truly degrade, they just break up into smaller and smaller pieces called micro-plastics that animals often mistake as food. Ingested plastic can leach toxins which can accumulate within an animal; which increases the concentration of toxic chemicals in the tissues of the wildlife. Following this concentration up the food chain, then magnifies the threat to more animal species, including humans.

Dolphin Quest's mission and associated activities is to create a connection to nature and to ignite a passion to learn more. As we learn and share, and through the research we support, we are often inundated with research papers/reports, news articles, and pictures of the affects of ingested plastics which cause suffocation and/or blocked digestive tracts leading to starvation. We should protect our animals from these awful situations.

In closing, please vote in favor of SB 367, the use of single-use plastics like utensils, straws, and bags are unnecessary because there are a multitude of environmentally friendly alternatives that can be used once plastics are limited in their use.

Respectfully,

Vivian Plowman

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:06:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
K Elizabeth Matthews	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill.

Austrailian Department of Sanitation determined polystyrene cannot be recycled. "Plus, Styrofoam sitting in the landfill releases methane gases that have *over 20 times the ozone destroying potency as CO2.*"

Expanded Polystyrene ( aka "styrofoam") is actually plastic that has been expanded with air. This process causes it to become extremely light weight. As a result, much of the litter is picked up by the winds and sent to the ocean. There it is broken down into smaller plastic and marine life ingests and dies.

Reference: <https://www.1millionwomen.com.au/blog/why-you-should-say-no-styrofoam/>

Mahalo,

Elizabeth Matthews

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:04:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ruby Oâ€™Malley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need to protect our oceans. There is no reason besides greed that our oceans are polluted to this degree. We need to do better.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:12:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

This bill has been long overdue and introduced many times and this government seems to continue to ignore the imperative and immediate actions required to protect our island from plastic pollution. If the entanglement, ingestion, and suffocation of marine life, including endangered Hawaiian monk seals, isn't enough to support legislation, will the hazardous toxicity of plastic on humans be enough? I'm tired of finding plastic in the whales I necropsy, I'm tired of corporations finding loop holes for our plastic bag bans. As a marine biologist, I understand the beatorcratic hurdles associated with measures like these, but at some point you have to recognize that *this is what the public wants*. You are here to serve, not rule. You know what is right for Hawai'i. Protect our aina. We are begging you.





# sustainable coastlines Hawaii

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SB 367: Strong Support

Hearing: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 8:30 AM

Committee on EEP

Aloha Chair Lowen & Members of the House EEP Committee

Mahalo for your time, effort and energized focus on a series of bills that are addressing plastic pollution and its associated effects on our environment, climate change, waste generation, and of course on our visitor industry. **We are in strong support of SB367** – a phase out plan for single-use foam, straws, and foam. The problem is dire as the story and data that follow illustrate.

NOTES on AMENDMENTS: It is our contention that this problem of plastic pollution is one of urgent concern and we are in need of major changes to our producer/consumer behavior. We believe that this bill is a major step in the right direction and would like to offer comments that we can do more. It would be prudent to follow the logic of SB 522 and HB 717 and immediately convene a working group on plastic pollution that seeks to do the following: address the reduction of plastic at its source by working with business, community, and government to eliminate single-use packaging and other forms of plastic from our island waste streams; and addresses the daunting task of cleaning up the plastic pollution that is arriving on our shores daily.

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i and our extended community is deeply concerned about plastics on our beaches, in our nearshore waters, and now found in marine life that calls these areas home. 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. Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i 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, plastic cutlery, bags, and water bottles 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 clean up our 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.

### **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**

Plastic pollution reduction and movement away from a single-use economy are directly tied to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) that our Senate has adopted and correspond to our Aloha + Challenge:

- Goal 12 = Responsible Production & Consumption - "Sustainable consumption and production is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, and providing access to basic services, green and decent jobs and a better quality of life for all. Its implementation helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty." If our state aims to work on this goal, removing unnecessary materials from our waste stream is paramount in holding both producers and consumers responsible for their choices.
- Goal 13 = Climate Action - See the climate change section of this testimony
- Goal 14 = Life Below Water - Countless studies globally have assessed the dire impact of plastics on marine life from whales to corals. Many of these studies are referenced in this testimony.
- Goal 15 = Life on Land - Calculations of cleanup costs (See above section) on land for plastic pollution are astronomical as they affect our stormdrains, freshwater systems, and beaches. Not only are their direct costs from cleanup of polluted resources, but their will be mounting indirect costs to our tourism industry should pollution trends continue.

### **Plastics & Climate Change (SDG #13:**

Plastics are made from fossil fuels. The proliferation of plastic production and the current projected increase will mean that plastic production will account for 20% of the global fossil fuel budget by 2050 (United Nations 2018). A recent study from UH Mānoa researchers, published in PLOS One, illustrates that not only are plastics contributing to greenhouse gases in the production & transportation sectors, they are also releasing methane and ethylene as they degrade in water and sunlight. This shed light on the full cycle consequences of plastic from production to disposal as major contributors to the climate crisis.

### **Cost of Plastic Pollution (SDG #12, 13, 14, 15):**

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 polystyrene foam 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. In late 2018, San Diego passed a sweeping prohibition of polystyrene foam and reduction of other single-use plastics, joining hundreds of municipalities across the globe in stemming this plastic tide.

“The economic damage caused by plastic waste is vast. Plastic litter in the Asia-Pacific region alone costs its tourism, fishing and shipping industries \$1.3 billion per year. In Europe, cleaning plastic waste from coasts and beaches costs about €630 million per year. Studies suggest that the total economic damage to the world’s marine ecosystem caused by plastic amounts to at least \$13 billion every year. The economic, health and environmental reasons to act are clear.” (UNEP 2018)

### **Harm to Reefs & Marine Life (SDG #14)**

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, we 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.

### **HPower and the problems of incineration (SDG #12):**

Many arguments against polystyrene foam bans and other single-use plastics contend that keeping these products is helpful for our incineration and energy production. In direct interviews with Covanta, the operators of O’ahu’s HPOWER, they have stated that plastics are some of the least efficient forms of waste to burn. Given their chemical composition, they burn fast and at high heat. While this may seem advantageous, the boilers are most efficient when running at a more consistent temperature. Covanta stated that it actually takes them adding other material to even out these “hot-flashes.” When looked at objectively this is very easy to imagine. If you were creating a fire in a fire pit or place imagine throwing oil or a plastic bottle into the flames - you would see a burst of flames which quickly dissipated after leaving a toxic smelling fume. Now think of burning a more organic material from paper or cardboard to a log; in this scenario you would notice a much slower, more controlled burn that put out a longer-lasting and more efficient source of heat (energy).

Additionally, incineration is a poor choice altogether for dealing with plastic waste. Just based on simple emission calculations on kilowatt/hour, HPOWER produces almost triple the GHG emission of our oil burning plant and just slightly less than coal. This places incineration as one of the dirtiest forms of energy production. In places like Copenhagen, their reliance on incineration actually caused them to go well over their agreed upon Kyoto protocol limits for GHGs. With the State of Hawai’i institutionalizing the Paris Climate agreement and also agreeing to net-zero emissions, incineration should be phased out of any energy production goals. Finally, as noted in a BBC News article in 2018, plastics in a landfill are mostly inert, as they don’t break down when buried in the landfill and are thus not emitting anywhere near the emissions that come with incineration. While we understand that Hawai’i is limited in its space as a unique piece to this discussion, it needs to be noted that the environmental consequences of incineration are far greater than advertised. Thus, the emphasis needs to be a continued to push towards reduction of waste.

Ultimately, we have to reduce the problem at its source. 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. Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i strongly urges the State Legislature to pass SB 367, creating a phase out plan for detrimental single-use plastics.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Rafael Bergstrom  
Executive Director, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i

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**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:44:46 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Abigail R Golder	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this testimony to support SB367.

It is well known that styrofoam is bad for the environment. It is not biodegradable, but it can easily break into small bits. This means that small marine animals that eat these pieces thinking that they are food, and these animals die because the styrofoam is blocking their systems and leading to starvation. Also, styrofoam is a porous substance, so it absorbs carcinogenic pollutants in the sea water like DDT produced in other countries. Styrofoam sinks to the bottom of the sea where it pollutes the seabed. When the fish eat toxic materials in Styrofoam and the additional pollutants it absorbs, the chemicals bioaccumulate and can harm people who consume this seafood.

Not only is it bad for the environment, it is bad for humans as well. When manufacturing styrofoam, pollutants such as benzene and dioxins are being used. Not only are these chemicals contributing to low air quality, the factory workers are at risk of getting sick. For example, benzene is considered carcinogenic by the EPA and is known to cause leukemia. Also, ordinary people using styrofoam are at risk of the chemical styrene being leached into their food. Styrene is also a known carcinogen, and the CDC has found that styrene is in 40% of Americans.

Styrofoam is bad for the environment, and if that doesnt bother you, it is bad for humans too. There are other ecofriendly (and human-friendly) options for take out and packaging. Please pass SB367 so we can be one step closer to creating a better environment for our selves and future generations. Thank you.

Abby Golder

BA. Environmental Science 2016

MS. Marine Science 2018

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:58:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**March 11, 2019**

**To: Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair**

**Representative Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair**

**Members of the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee**

**From: Karina Maciel**

**Subject: Support for Senate Bill 367, Relating to Environmental Protection**

**Aloha! My name is Karina Maciel, and I am a sophomore at Kalaheo High School. I strongly believe in SB 367 and would like to ask for your support. I urge you to vote in favor of passing this bill because polystyrene has extremely detrimental effects on the environment and on people, and banning it in Hawaii will help to protect our islands from pollution and our people from serious health problems.**

**Styrofoam products are single use consumer goods, meaning that they are used once and promptly thrown away. It is difficult to recycle, so it accumulates in landfills and as litter in the oceans. 20% of styrofoam is estimated to end up in waterways, and between 4.8 and 12.7 million tons of plastic in general enter the ocean each year. This litter presents serious risks to wildlife: birds and animals can eat small styrofoam and plastic pieces, and it can clog their digestive systems and starve them to death. Styrofoam is bad for humans as well. Because polystyrene is made of chemicals like benzene and pentane, it can negatively**



**affect human health because the chemicals benzene and pentane are known to cause leukemia and cancer.**

**The best way to prevent the effects of polystyrene is to ban it and make sure no one can use it anymore. Passing SB 367 would help to reduce these negative impacts of styrofoam on the environment and the people all over Hawaii. Please help to pass this bill and take action to help the people of Hawaii. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Sincerely,**

**Karina Maciel**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:05:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

There is no need for these plastics when there are so many great and accessible alternatives!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:15:53 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please support SB367 in helping our beautiful islands eliminate pollution that ends up in our oceans and beaches! Keep the aina clean for our people, tourists, and our ocean life. Plastic straws, plastic bags and polystyrene containers/products are unnecessary. They end up adding to our landfill...and worse, they end up in our beaches/oceans. Fish/Marine Life consume them accidentally or are killed by them. There's numerous videos showing this from fish trapped in plastic bags, straws stuck up turtles noses, styrofoam bits in bird and fish bellies. There is no way for these to break down completely. I see plastic and styrofoam almost every time I'm in the water! There are better solutions/alternatives available for sale/usage. Restaurants using polysterene do so because they think it is the only cheap option, but more local businesses are developing and selling environmentally friendly solutions. All local businesses here in Hawaii should serve as global leaders that we, Hawaii, respect, appreciate and protect our environment--the people and the businesses and that we encourage our tourism community to do the same. This is just one additional way to help encourage this, and more and more places are already doing so in some some measure--Maui, Australia, San Diego, etc. Mahalo!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:00:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**February 25, 2019**

**To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair**

**Senator Glenn Wakai , Vice Chair**

**Senator Mike Gabbard**

**Senator Donna Mercado Kim**

**Senator Kurt Fevella**

**From: Kendyl Peterson**

**Subject: Support of Senate Bill 367, Prohibition of the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.**

**Aloha! My name is Kendyl Peterson, and I am currently a senior at Kalaheo High School in Kailua. I strongly believe in SB367, and I would like to ask for your support. As of the end of 2018, approximately eight million tons of plastic flow into the ocean every year, and straws makeup 0.025 percent of that. The issue with plastic is that it takes hundreds of years for plastic to decompose or biodegrade- so they just sit in landfills or make their way to the ocean and breaks down into smaller pieces of plastic- microplastics. These microplastics can poison animals and hurt the environment.**

**By passing Senate Bill No. 367, it will improve the environment in multiple ways. By banning the use of some plastic products, it can help reduce marine trash, clogging oceans, and stop entangling sea life/reduce consumption of plastic in sea life. It will help reduce the amount of plastic on the beaches. There are alternatives to using plastic straws that are being put into effect by other companies**

**Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will support Senate Bill 367.**

**Sincerely,**

**Kendyl Peterson**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:14:31 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Honorable members of the committee,

I am writing to support SB367.

Disposable plastic is a well-known treat for our environment, oceans, wildlife and health environment. A ban on plastic straws, bags and styrofoam and other disposable plastic products (i.e. utensils, plates, cups, bottles) is long due. I am urging the committee to pass this bill, and would recommend to move the effective date to an earlier one.

Thank you

Delphine Homerowski

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:33:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Cheap convenience is not more valuable than our oceans.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:05:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying **in support of SB 367.**

I think this bill will **help** small businesses in the long run.

There is a worry that this will harm small business. I, and many others, currently do not patronize businesses that use styrofoam. I look forward to being able to patronize businesses that go about their business in an enviromentally responsible way. Yes, there may be an expense to some businesses, but as many others have discovered, there are also many new customers waiting to be tapped which might open up to you if you are making sustainable choices as a business.

Mahalo  
Dave Strang



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:28:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

It is our kuleana to malama our environment, the ocean, and land. These harmful items should be banned. We should be taking these types of steps to create a better future for our children. People need to change, this proposal is a huge step in the right direction.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:38:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jesse Owens, Ph. D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Just yesterday I pulled 4 pieces of single use plastic from the water as I was about to head out to the surf break. Trash was being blown all over the beach and ending up in the ocean. As residents of a pacific island, we have the responsibility to keep our trash away from the ocean. The single-use plastics ban SB367 is a crucial first step in this process. We can easily use re-usable containers or other alternatives to styrofoam for our food. I personally bring a re-usable clam-shell when I get lunch, and there is absolutely nothing wrong with that. Styrofoam has polluted our oceans enough! Additionally, straws cause un-needed pollution and we should follow the large change in mindset that is happening worldwide and stop promoting the use of single-use straws. I support SB367.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 12:52:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and committee members. Mahalo for taking the time to consider SB367 SD1. My name is Jennifer Milholen, and I work for KÅ• kua Hawai'i Foundation as the Waste Reduction Coordinator. Our programs work with schools and communities across the state who envision a plastic-pollution free Hawai'i. We achieve this through presentations, beach and watershed cleanups, community and business partnerships, and modeling waste free events, all engaging 10s of thousands of Hawa'i residents and visitors. The feedback from these programs is overwhelmingly unified: Get Single-Use Plastics Out! This bill address the "low hanging fruit" of senseless plastic pollution that can be quickly and effectively transitioned out with massive impact. Other municipalities, like Berkeley, CA are already moving on measures like these with massive public support. The path is defined, we only need the courage of lawmakers to push us forward.

The legislature is tasked with considering thousands of bills every session, each taking up matters that impact the health, safety and happiness of Hawai'i residents and visitors. Every single one matters, but I would argue that these bills that address plastic pollution and embracing a zero waste framework for production, consumption, and disposal are THE most important. What is often lost in plastics conversations, is that PLASTIC PRODUCTION = CLIMATE CHANGE.

"99% OF PLASTIC COMES FROM FOSSIL FUELS.

When we think about climate change, we typically focus on factories, coal and cars, but rarely on this fact. As plastic activists, we usually talk about downstream environmental impacts or health threats, but only marginally on the connection between the plastics economy and carbon pollution.

**PLASTIC IS CONNECTED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND IT POLLUTES AT EVERY STAGE: FROM MATERIALS EXTRACTION TO PRODUCT PRODUCTION TO WASTE DISPOSAL."**

Climate change is the most dangerous issue of our time, and urgent, broad sweeping action is essential. IF we want to truly act as the global environmental leaders that we claim to be, we HAVE to acknowledge that the flood of plastics in our lives are

directly contributing to climate change and take local, but impactful, changes to transition away from these single-use convenience plastics.

Specifically speaking to the EPS foam components of this bill, please consider the following:

The environmental and health detriments of foam for food vending are established and well-documented. We have known for years that, by design, EPS foam is ultra lightweight and escapes collection and management systems. Once in the environment, the foam fractures into billions of pieces of microplastics, which are consumed directly into the food chain - into us. Countless thousands of marine animals and birds starve to death because of ingesting plastics like foam. This is in addition to the leaching of known carcinogens from foam when used with hot and acidic foods.

1) Public Demand: The Honolulu Auditor office's 2018 report on prohibiting foam food containers determined that foam "bans" have overwhelming public support.

From the Report: "Restaurants want to do what is best for the environment. 95% of respondents said that they believe waste and litter is an environmental problem for our streams and ocean, and 98% of respondents stated that they would be willing to do more if they knew it would be green and protect the ocean. A majority (56%) of respondents stated that they would support (i.e., rating of 6-10 on a 10-point scale) a bill that banned the use of single-use polystyrene food containers.

In the 2018 Legislative Session, a foam ban bill (SB2498) was the most supported bill of the session, and recent memory, receiving well over 600 testimonies in support for a single hearing. Students were excused from classes, people took time off work, and business owners left their restaurants all to come show support for measures like these. It was impossible to even get into the hearing room it was so full, so many of us congregated outside waiting for our chance to show support.

2) Economic Imperative: In 2017, the HI DOT Highways division produced a report on roadway flooding that indicated foam containers and plastic bags were the TOP items found to be clogging up storm drains, leading to flooding. The report also indicated that the prohibition of these items would save the division and the counties multiple millions of dollars in cleanup costs.

3) Established Precedent and Modeling: Maui and Hawai'i Island counties have already vetted these arguments and determined the value of prohibiting foam in food service. Maui's foam prohibition has already begun, and their environmental office will testify to the fact that it is well-supported and the transition has been smooth.

As a final thought, please consider the inclusion of a medical necessity (ADA) exemption for straws, though this bill still allows for straws as long as they are not petrochemical-derived.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please support SB367 SD1.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:12:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meg DeLisle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Single-use plastics may represent the epitome of today's throwaway culture. Most of our plastic ends up in landfills, our oceans and waterways, and the environment. Plastics do not biodegrade. Instead they slowly break down into smaller pieces of plastic called microplastics.

Research shows the effects plastic has on the Earth as well as on humans. It can take up to thousands of years for plastic bags and Styrofoam containers to decompose. In the meantime, it contaminates our soil and water. The toxic chemicals used to manufacture plastic gets transferred to animal tissue, eventually entering the human food chain. Styrofoam products are toxic if ingested and can damage nervous systems, lungs and reproductive organs.

For many animal species, plastic waste is simply a nightmare. Plastic items like bags and straws choke wildlife and block animals' stomachs. Turtles and dolphins, for example, often mistake plastic bags for food.

If this doesn't sound bad enough already, the problem is getting worse. Each year, about eight million tons of plastic waste enters our oceans. That is like dumping a garbage truck full of plastic into the ocean every minute. If this continues, **plastics could outweigh fish in our oceans by 2050**. Unless we take drastic action now, it's expected that the amount of plastic littering the world's oceans will triple within a decade.

Every little bit of plastic reduction can make a big difference. SB 367 is a critical step in moving Hawaii in a safer, healthier and more environmentally friendly direction. There are SO many alternatives to styrofoam and other single use plastics. Merchants and companies can adjust with minimal cost and inconvenience. It's just the right thing to do for Hawaii's future. Malama ka aina!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:27:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Plastic pollution is destroying our planet and needs to be solved now starting with SB367. Our future generations and families are counting on us to make the difference now.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:34:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anny Barlow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a Kailua resident who feels deeply regarding this issue. I support SB 367.

In 2007 I left the island to back pack around the world for 6 months. I ended up traveling for a decade and returned in 2017.

I could not believe what I returned to!

Simply put, there are plastics everywhere!

I feel more like I am in one of the underdeveloped countries I just came back from, instead of being in a first world country... let alone on one of the supposed "*most beautiful beaches in the world*".

There are micro plastics everywhere. I now play a game where I sit on my towel, in 1 spot without moving my rear end, and see how many pieces I can pick up. Its sad to say, but I have been there for more than 4 hours without needing to move more than rotating 360 degrees. And the area around my towel is still not clean.

I challenge you to try it!

It's pathetic really. We are better than that! Sure, micro-plastics from all over the world end up on our shores, but this is precisely why we need to be a leader in this space, and not a follower!

It wasn't this way 10 years ago before I left.

The city of Hobart, Australia has just done it, they have banned all single-use plastics. (<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/hobart-leads-way-as-first-australian-city-to-ban-all-single-use-plastics>)

Also noticeable, I used to swim in Kailua everyday and you would almost always see turtles popping their heads up around you. Now, you have to go way out before you see turtles.



I appreciate change is hard, but this is something we need to do, and yesterday. Things will change, but it won't be bad for our economy.

The workforce will realign. Businesses will need to source other eco-friendly products, there will be a higher demand for these eco-friendly products and their prices will go down.

But only if we force the market by regulating the needs of our Aina properly.

Thank you for listening.

Mahalo,

Anny Barlow

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:22:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Banning single-use plastics is one of the most important steps our state, and nation, can take toward reducing harmful waste. Single-use plastics make up over 50% of marine litter. Hawai'i has long been tied to the health of the ocean - I am proud that we are moving forward with ways to increase dwindling ocean health.

The EU has already agreed to ban single-use plastics by 2021. The UN Environment Programme states that "To date, regulations on plastic bags and Styrofoam products have been introduced at the national level in more than 60 countries." Hawai'i can be a leading in the US by passing this ban!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:52:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Plastic should be banned.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:29:17 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cailey	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I do not understand why people are still picking money over the environment. I am tired of picking up trash off our sidewalks and park, which is mainly restaurant to-go containers. It makes my walks twice as long and un-enjoyable. It sad seeing beautiful Honolulu covered in peoples rushed convinces This will be my first time testifying in person because this is how passionate I am about stopping this growing issue.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:46:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Living on an island surrounded by ocean, we have a responsibility to ensure that no plastics, or other human produced debris, reach our oceans. We also have a responsibility to use our resources wisely to limit our impact on the small amount of land that we possess and limit transportation of foam trash and plastic recyclables across the ocean. The economic and environmental cost is simply too great to rely on these solutions long term. Using the ocean as a dumping ground is not an option because plastics never decompose in the marine environment. Never. That means any plastics that reach our ocean environment are there in perpetuity. Incinerating plastics and foam are not a viable option either because these materials release harmful fumes when incinerated, which languish in our atmosphere and contribute to other heat trapping gasses which are contributing to climate changes on a global scale. Sorting out these materials for recycling also does not solve the problem due to the economic and environmental costs of transporting these materials to appropriate facilities for recycling, if they will even accept them. This leaves us with the persistent problem of plastics and foam on our island. The most responsible way to solve this problem is by eliminating the use of these harmful materials. I strongly support Bill SB 367 to prohibit the use of plastics and foam in Hawaii.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:33:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Polystyrene food containers are not in the best interest of the people of the state of Hawai'i. Now is the time to ban polystyrene. Please don't wait.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:32:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As the only island state in the US and one dependent on lush natural landscapes for income, the ocean and environmental stewardship should be our number one priority. Especially now with the world population breaching 7.5 billion people and climbing, we need to think about our accumulating trash problem. The rubbish that makes its way to a landfill is clogging our system, but even if it gets thrown away in a receptacle, there is no guarantee that it will make it to a landfill. A large proportion of rubbish along the shoreline was put into proper trash containers that either tipped over or the wind blew the trash out. The more polystyrene and other plastic containers that are available, the more of this stuff is going to be drifting off of our shorelines and inevitably making its way into the food chains of our ocean life. And because this stuff doesn't go away, it will be infecting the food chains of our children's children.

A similar bill banning single-use plastic bags was ruffling feathers around the Big Island. Years later, people hardly notice the missing bags. Instead, I notice how comparatively dirty other places look when I travel, where plastic bags litter highways and natural places. It is a very similar story with the polystyrene containers. There are other materials that we can use that hurt the world a lot less to produce and throw away. It just doesn't make sense to make single-use products out of a material that will outlive the people using it. Please support this bill.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:54:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I brought a visiting family member to the beach and instead of being in awe of Hawaii's natural beauty, their first reaction was "wow look at all the plastic".



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:00:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Senators

Please support SB367 SD1 to reduce the amount of single-use/disposable products we consume. Many of our social and environmental challenges are so complex that they are hard to address. The issues of overconsumption and plastic waste in our soils and oceans have straightforward solutions and this bill will show that we are willing to act responsibly.

Thank you

Jerry Riverstone

Honolulu

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 1:11:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 7:46:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:00:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

It is hard to walk on a beach on this island for more than a minute without seeing a piece of trash. Many fast food companies use styrofoam takeout containers on Oahu. These containers never break down. Although we have H-Power to burn our trash (including these containers), many of them seem to get swept away in the wind and wind up in our oceans. Companies should switch to paper containers, or encourage customers to bring in their own reusable tupperware or silverware. We should prioritize protecting our beaches and wildlife since they are so economically and ecologically important to our island. Trash on the beaches not only degrades the beach cosmetically, but it harms wildlife when it is ingested.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 10:34:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 3:05:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB367 SD1.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 7:55:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 8:01:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 10:41:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 10:57:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tabatha Aiko Knudson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:17:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:15:28 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:07:05 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:53:18 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 4:48:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:18:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:32:58 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:55:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:44:24 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 2:46:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jillian Parel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

One day a few years ago while diving on the North Shore of O‘ahu, I noticed the sheer amount of debris in our waters. Soda cans, sunscreen bottles, plastic utensils, plastic bottles, suji and so much more. I immediately swam to shore, got my dive bag and jumped back in the water to clean up what I could. *How can people be so careless with their ‘Ā• pala? Look what it's all doing to our ocean,* I thought.

Soon thereafter, I vowed to myself that I would one day be single-use plastic free and begun on my journey to phase it out. I stopped using Keurig pods, one of the largest single-use plastics in the world. I bought glass straws and stashed them everywhere I might need a straw - in my purse, at work and in my car so I would always have one at hand. I bought reusable utensils so I would no longer need to ask for some while getting takeout. And I made a concerted effort to bring a glass bottle to work for water.

I was sure phasing out single-use plastics in my life would somehow make a difference; even a small one. While I may have made sure one less plastic straw is entering our environment every time I have a drink, there are still a million people adding a million straws to our environment and that's just in O‘ahu alone. There are still a million people who are using one or more reusable utensils at potentially, every meal. There are still a million people contributing other single-use plastics to our landfills.

So how will one person's stoppage of single-use plastic usage help? It won't. As much as I want to stop using plastic, I can't. Every time I order food to-go on my lunch break or when I'm stopping for dinner on the way home, I'm given styrofoam take-out containers and I can't request an alternative.

When talking to a friend who works in a small, mom & pop run restaurant, I said, "*You guys should stop serving plastic straws.*" The response I received was, "*People get mad when they ask for a straw and we don't have them.*" People got mad when they had to start paying 15 cents for a plastic bag, but guess what? They started bringing their own.

The convenience of single-use plastics is not worth the harm to our environment. We figured out how to do without plastic bags, we can figure out how to go without other single-use plastics too.

**I don't know if one person can make a difference in helping our environment if they stop consuming single-use plastics, but I guarantee that a million people can.**

I am 100% for the ban of single-use plastics and truly hope to see this ban pass.

Testimony of  
ELENA ZUCCHINI  
Hawai'i resident

Before the House Committees on  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

08:30 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 367, SD1  
RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Aloha Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Tina Wildberger and Members of the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection.

My name is Elena Zucchini and I am an international student at the Hawaii Pacific University. I am here today in order to give my support to the bill SB 367, SD1, which seeks to prohibit food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

I decided to come to Hawaii in order to graduate in Environmental Studies. I thought it would be the best location to study about sustainability and the environment. However, when I first came to Hawaii, I saw several things that showed me that there is still a lot of progress to do in

order to achieve a sustainable way of living. Styrofoam and plastic pollution are one of the reasons why I think that. Indeed, I do not understand how foam, plastic straws and plastic bags can still exist knowing that they have environmental and human health impacts as well as cleanup costs. This weekend, I had the opportunity to go help the Surfrider foundation during a beach cleanup and it stroke me to see how much plastic and foam were present along the beach. According to me, the reason is that people are not enough educated about the environment and its impacts. And because of that, predictions show that by 2050 there will be more plastic by weight in the ocean than fish. However, there are alternatives to foam and plastic utensils. For instance, in France and other European countries we do not use foam and plastic but bio-composite materials as cardboard. These recycled materials do not have any environmental impact and can even provide savings over Styrofoam materials in the long-run.

Hence, Styrofoam and plastic are affecting our environment, and it is our responsibility to change this trend. I do think that each step that we will make in order to ban these products will result in a positive impact on the environment and a chance to resolve our mistakes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 367, SD1.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:36:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear EEP Committee Members,

Please support this bill to decrease styrofoam in our environment, our landfills, my life and tragic consequences to wildlife, especially birds and aquatic life that end up eating it.

i have pledged to cut back on these unnecessary contaminants in my life and feel my health is also at risk. There are many products I no longer buy because they are packaged in non compostables, polluting fossil fuel based plastics and foams.

we must deal with this as well as climate change now for the health of the planet and life on it.

respectfully,

Diane Ware

99-7815 Kapoha

Volcano, HI 96785



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:45:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I moved to Oahu in 2010. Throughout my time here I have noticed the steep increase in pollution related to polystyrene foam containers, especially when conducting beach cleanup activities.

"Polystyrene contains the toxic substances Styrene and Benzene, suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins that are hazardous to humans. Hot foods and liquids actually start a partial breakdown of the Styrofoam, causing some toxins to be absorbed into our bloodstream and tissue." I dont want to be served food for my consumption with the potential to ingest these chemical byproducts. More importantly, I will speak for the habitants of the ocean that they dont want to be mistaken and eat broken down pieces of this either. This bill will only better our environment and food chain.

We have a choice here to do the environmentally conscience thing and protect one of our most valuable resources to Hawaii. While this may take some time to commit, we can not put a price on protecting these islands and its water habitants, especially when we already know other communities have successfully made similar steps forward.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:59:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Sometimes we have to make choices between the lesser of two evils. As an environmentalist and a conservationist, I encourage recycling as an alternative to banning objects that serve a useful purpose. Dictatorial policies, such as bans, often have unintended consequences. The unintended consequences of SB367 suggest that the costs of a styrofoam ban outweigh the benefits. For every \$1 spent on foam containers, alternative packaging will cost food vendors \$1.94. This will have one of two effects. Either the cost will be passed on to consumers, or the business will fail. Hawai'i already has a business-unfriendly reputation and SB367 will make it even worse. The implementation cost will be the equivalent of a 94% tax added to food products to satisfy an environmental fantasy of "progressive" democrats. The actual cost might be even higher because Styrofoam is light, easy to pack, leak resistant, and safe for food. The available alternatives are less likely to be as effective and convenient as foam containers. Paper products can leak and make messes, whereas glass containers are fragile and prone to breakage, which is a safety hazard. The alternatives to Styrofoam also pose environmental challenges.

For the FDA to approve new alternatives, business will incur an additional expense for testing of newly proposed materials. This would be another source of cost increase for consumer products. Until a better, safer, and less costly alternative to plastic foam is identified, recycling programs aimed at mitigating the environmental costs of Styrofoam are a better option than the enactment of SB367. SB367 does not represent real progress - it denies the use of established technology that makes our lives better. Vote NO on SB367.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:24:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Vote NO on SB 367 DS1. This type of bill is unnecessary and not in the best interest of people who live in Hawaii. Stop banning useful products that have minimal negative impact on the environment. Hawaii waste products are not the primary source of trash on the beaches or in the seas. If Hawaii banned all products, there were still be trash in the ocean. There are problems in Hawaii that urgently need resolution. This bill does not address any of those problems. This is just one more bill that makes it difficult to do business in Hawaii -- and raises the cost of living.

Vote NO.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:29:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracey Clay-Whitehurst	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

I OPPOSE SB367. Stop micromanaging every aspect of our lives. Hawaii is not a big contributor to pollution, on land or in the water. This will raise prices for us the consumers, yet again, just like the plastic bag ban has done. Start making laws that will help the people of Hawaii instead of raising our taxes, raising our cost of living, and putting undue burdens on small businesses, like this ridiculous bill.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 3:09:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katherine T. Kupukaa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 1:07:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Justin Kunimune	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I agree with the sentiment of this bill, but would suggest an ammendment that allows businesses to distribute plastic straws upon request, to accomodate those who cannot drink beverages without them.

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 9<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
PHONE: (808) 768-2277 • EMAIL: [resilientoahu@honolulu.gov](mailto:resilientoahu@honolulu.gov) • INTERNET: [www.resilientoahu.org](http://www.resilientoahu.org)

**LATE**

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



JOSHUA W. STANBRO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &  
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019 8:30AM

STATE OF HAWAII  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 367 SD1  
A BILL RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

BY,

JOSHUA STANBRO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER  
OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

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

The City and County of Honolulu (City) Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (Resilience Office) supports the intent of and provides a comment on Senate Bill 367 SD1, which proposes to prohibit the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

Plastics in the waste stream pose threats to human and environmental health as their decomposition and incineration release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, a greenhouse gas with the largest contribution to global climate change. In conjunction with climate change goals, the City is working towards multiple solid waste goals and supports the intent of this measure to decrease the amount of plastics in O'ahu's waste stream.

The Resilience Office suggests the measure's definition of "plastic bag" be amended to include a bag made from "plastic film," which could be defined as bag made from thin sheets of plastic with a thickness under 10 mils.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:39:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Souza	Strawai'i Bamboo Straws Made in Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

We have an opportunity to be an example to the rest of the world on how to protect the ocean, sealife, birds, sea food supply, beaches, and our own health by voting to do away with single use plastics and any petroleum based products. There are many examples of sealife and birds being adversely affected by the plastics and micro-plastics already in our beautiful Moana. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is not getting any smaller already much bigger than Texas, but already our Hawaiian shores feel the affects everyday from the plastics that makes it's way from Asia and the Continental US. Recent scientific studies have confirmed that every living creature in the ocean has micro-plastics in its system which means that we are now consuming plastics everytime we eat sea food. Our simplest and most critical contribution to slowing the continued contamination of our precious Pacific would be to disallow the continued use of single-use plastics such as straws, lids, coffee stirrers, all plastic bottles and caps, utensils, shopping bags, polystyrene foam containers, etc...

Mā• lama Ā•ina (Care for the Land) also carries our responsibility into taking care of the sea. We cannot mā• lama one thing without the other. They are inseparable. If we neglect one then we neglect the whole. We owe it to our precious resources to bring our ocean and land back to health. It starts with us!

Passing SB367 will be an incredible start to doing our part to bring our "culture" back into balance with nature.

Thank you,

Ryan Souza



**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:00:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anicea Campanale	the nook neighborhood bostro	Support	No

Comments:

I am a part of the small business minority. Although my restaurant “the nook neighborhood bistro” is small we do make a large impact. We have up to 200 guests in a day. And we don’t give them single use plastics. We have plenty of take out and we do not give them styrofoam, or plastic bags, straws or plastic anything! At the restaurant or to go! Our business doesn’t rise and fall because of the material our take out containers are in. We have had thousands of customers each year we’ve been open, and to think that each of those customers could have contributed in the tons of plastic that is produced for Hawaii alone...? I do my part. Will t the government do theirs? Stop advocating in the destruction of our planet, claiming it will destabilize local economy. No! I’m a small business owner and I support the ban on single use plastics and styrofoam. Stop

hiding behind the the “romanticism of struggling mom and pop shops” as a means of destroying our planet.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:19:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie Aczon	Mahina and Suns	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:42:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wes	Sustainable coastlines hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:57:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
gary kewley	--Surf News Network	Support	No

Comments:

The Ocean has given us so much. It's time to give back by protecting. It's not just the Ocean, of course. The Goal: Simple to understand, hard to accomplish. But, this is how we 'get there'...one step at a time. Thank You so much for moving forward with and for us. Aloha, Gary Kewley

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:19:18 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gregory Martin	Sail Hawaii International LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Representatives of the State of Hawaii,

I urge you to please pass SB 367 without delay and show the country and the world the meaning of the word kuleana and how much we value the future of our world for our keiki. Not only is our state's identity and soul tied one and the same with our treasured environment, but our tourist economy is vitally dependent on having clean healthy beaches and land. It is morally unacceptable that the short sighted interests of certain businesses would short change our people's health and our environment by choosing cheaper products that harm our environment when better alternatives are available. We accept the government's role in passing laws and regulating our choices- if it's in our best interest, which SB 367 clearly is.

Respectfully,

Gregory Martin

Sail Hawaii International, LLC



**LATE**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

March 12, 2019      8:30 a.m.      Room 325

**In STRONG SUPPORT of SB367 SD1: Relating to Environmental Protection**

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Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee,

The HAWAII REEF AND OCEAN COALITION –HIROC– was formed in 2017 by coral reef scientists, educators, local Hawai‘i environmental organizations, elected officials, and others to address a crisis facing Hawai‘i’s coral reefs and ocean, including harms from plastics.

**We strongly support passage of SB367 SD1.**

Polystyrene foam containers are ultra-light, produce litter on land, and often are blown into the ocean, where they harm marine life, including sea birds, fish, mammals and even our precious corals that protect Hawai‘i’s shorelines. Single-use plastics (straws, bags, bottles, utensils) similarly break into smaller and smaller pieces that choke sea birds and other marine life and carry bacteria that harms many forms of sea life. There are more sustainable alternatives to plastics that would involve only a small increase for consumers, with far less impact on our pristine environment. We must act now to protect our environment by reducing plastic use!

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support of SB367 SD1.**

Kimiko LaHaela Walter on behalf of the Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Mar. 11, 2019

In Support of SB367 SD1 Relating to Environmental Protection  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Mar. 12, 2019, 8:30am, Room 325

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

As the Hawaii Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I am writing in strong support of SB367 SD1 to prohibit the use of polystyrene food containers, plastic straws and plastic bags. With the support of Surfrider's five Chapters and thousands of members across Hawaii, we are committed to reducing the litter and environmental hazards of foam and other single-use plastics as part of our popular Rise Above Plastics campaign. We are also part of the Hawaii Reef & Ocean Coalition (HIROC), a group of coral reef scientists, environmental groups, businesses and educational groups, and this bill is one of our top priorities this session.

Polystyrene food containers are one of the most littered items in our Islands. They are also one of the most toxic forms of plastic, and Hawaii has one of the highest per capita uses in the country. Opponents will say it's recyclable, but the fact is that 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 actually 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 110 cities and counties across the country have enacted EPS foam bans with dramatic decreases in litter. For an extensive list see: <http://www.surfrider.org/pages/polystyrene-ordinances>.

Industry lobbyists 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 registered more than 200 restaurants that are free of polystyrene foam and plastic bags in the last two years. They have greatly reduced their use of straws & other plastics! Here's a list of our restaurants in Hawaii: [www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org](http://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org).

During our monthly beach cleanups around the state, EPS foam products are among the top items we find every single time. In fact, as part of International Coastal Cleanup Day, 17,383 cups, plates and pieces of EPS foam were removed from Hawaii's beaches in a single day on Sat., Sept. 19, 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. There are many compostable or non-toxic plastic alternatives that can be recycled. Although foam products may be cheaper to buy, they have a hidden cost that counties and citizens have to pay to clean them up. A recent Hawaii Dept. of Transportation (HDOT) report stated that banning plastic bags and styrofoam would save millions of dollars for the state and help save the County millions as well.

Although the FDA approved EPS foam products in 1958, the science since then has shown that these are toxic products. Here are some 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. 660 marine species are known to ingest 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 & the environment.

6. A recent study in *Science* showed that plastics are a major cause of coral reef disease and decline, and our Islands are dependent on our coral reefs for seafood, ocean recreation and tourism.

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, and both Maui and Hawaii Counties passed bills earlier this year to ban polystyrene food products.

The amount of testimony for these bills was overwhelmingly in favor of reducing polystyrene food containers. Though it's tempting to be swayed by the exaggerated claims of lobbyists for a few local foam producers and distributors, 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 foam products, and more than 110 cities and counties have already enacted successful foam bans. Polls show that most people in Hawaii support banning foam food products.

We appreciate that Hawaii's legislators have been environmental leaders in moving forward policies like the bills 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 affordable alternatives that are non-toxic, biodegradable and pose no threats to the environment or human health and will cost the counties less to clean up.

Finally, with the bans in Maui and the Big Island, the state needs a consistent policy of eliminating these products. 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 leadership on this issue and consideration of this bill.

Aloha,

**Stuart Coleman**

Stuart H. Coleman, Hawaii Manager



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:34:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doorae Shin	Surfrider Foundation	Support	Yes

Comments:

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

My name is Doorae Shin, and I am testifying in support of SB367 on behalf of the Surfrider Foundation O’ahu Chapter.

I first got engaged with plastic/waste issues in 2012 as a college student at UH Manoa, where we passed a policy to phase out polystyrene foam from campus foodservice operations. As a campus made up of both small and big food establishments that are all required to have affordable prices for students, there was no impact on the many vendors serving food at UH Manoa and the switch from foam to the many other alternatives was smooth.

With recent Maui & Hawai’i County ordinances that ban polystyrene foam, and with over 200 counties in California, and many more areas around the country and world passing effective policies to reduce single-use plastics, there is a global movement gaining unprecedented momentum to address single-use plastics and transition to more sustainable materials. Even the plastics industry is preparing for the switch, and policies like this are inevitable in the wake of recent science and consumer awareness about the great issue of plastic pollution and overconsumption.

**Our Goals**

This bill will help the State of Hawaii reach its goals of waste reduction and help us align with at least 5 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (#11, #12, #13, #14, #15).



As an island community, we have an important responsibility to take care of our lands and our oceans. This is the essence of kuleana and of mālama that makes Hawai’i the pristine and special place that it is. With the mass culture of convenience depending upon single-use plastics for foodservice and packaging, we see large consequences to our land and our economy that will only worsen if we take no action.

## **The Problem With Plastics**

Plastics are made from petroleum, never truly breaking down and instead becoming increasingly pervasive in the environment over time, entering our food chain and harming animals. So, the environmental impacts of plastics are clear and require no debate, but the impact on our local tourist industry is one that is not discussed. With plastics being so lightweight, easily blowing out of trash cans and into the environment, and lasting forever in our environment, our ability to showcase our pristine environment to visitors becomes threatened. Even when disposed of properly, plastics pose more harm than its eco-friendly alternatives both in the extraction/production processes as well as in the disposal processes.

## **Alternatives are Abundant!**

The good news is that myriad alternatives exist to single-use plastics, with every major distributor in Hawaii offering equivalent paper, compostable, and bio-compostable alternatives to traditional plastic-ware and with a wave of foodservice establishments voluntarily choosing to go plastic free in their operations. This bill affords ample time for businesses to prepare with a diverse working group to plan and assist in the next 3 years to make the implementation of this bill successful.

## **Protecting Small Businesses**

With one concern being the potential impact on small businesses, we can include a financial hardship exemption to ensure any businesses that cannot make the switch without undue hardship, can be exempt from compliance. Additionally, alternatives to plastic are just a small percentage more if at all, and they are becoming increasingly available and affordable, with Costco now even selling compostable to-go ware on multiple island locations.

The Ocean Friendly Restaurants Hawai'i Program has over 200 restaurants certified across the State of Hawai'i that have no polystyrene foam on site, straws upon request, no plastic bags, and reusable tableware for those dining in, to name just some of the requirements they fulfill. This in itself shows that a whole wave of restaurants of all sizes are voluntarily making the switch and finding that instead of hurting their businesses, it actually helps, because of the consumer trend towards eco-friendly choices.

Having worked with restaurants, hotels, businesses, and events that have gone plastic free, we are happy to act as resources for the State and for businesses to have a smooth transition.

Mahalo,

Doora Shin

O'ahu Chapter Coordinator

Surfrider Foundation

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:47:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
stacey garmshausen	stacey g jewelry	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:42:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Spencer Reemelin	Surfrider	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha leaders of Hawaii,

I support SB367 because I see with my eyes how our islands have been impacted by styrofoam and plastic over the years. I regularly clean up rubbish on the beach and at Surfrider and Sustainable Coastlines events with my family and friends. The amount of just styrofoam we cleanup makes my head spin. With your leadership I know we can pass this bill and make a difference for these beautiful islands.

Mahalo,

Spencer Reemelin

Surfrider member

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:19:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Devin Thomas Moody	Kailua Beach Adventures	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of Kailua Beach Adventures and a large voting body of our employees, I wish to support and encourage the passing of SB 367. Our company sees the constant berage of plastics, ever increasing on our windward beaches. Within 10 years the problem has gone from neerly invisible to in-your-face. We have elected to only sell boxed water and use compostable containers for lunches, but the cure cannot be only from volunteers but from legislative action. Our only regret in seeing this bill passed is that it didn't come 10 years earlier. Please support the responsible businesses and citizens of Hawaii.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:27:10 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brett Kulbis	Honolulu County Republican Party	Oppose	No

Comments:

Overall, banning polystyrene might seem like a good idea, but the impacts and unintended consequences suggests that the costs outweigh the benefits. For every \$1 spent on foam containers, alternative packaging will cost food vendors \$1.94 that will be passed on to consumers. That's effectively a 94% tax added to food products to satisfy the environmental desires of progressive democrats. The actual cost could be even higher because Styrofoam is light, easy to pack, and safe for food; the available alternatives are less likely to be as effective and convenient as foam containers. Until a better, less-costly alternative to plastic foam is created, recycling programs aimed at mitigating the environmental costs of Styrofoam are a better option.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:27:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John & Rita Shockley	FREE ACCESS COALITION	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

Plastic pollution in our ocean is not a trivial issue. Do you realize that in only 50 years, our oceans and shorelines have become a dumping area for plastic pollution. This affects the sea life and the ocean in general.

We need to stop polluting. There are other solutions and different roads we can take, especially because we are islands.

Mahalo for. your time.

John & Rita Shockley

Free Access Coalition [www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com](http://www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com)



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:30:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dexter Mar	Hongwanji Betsuin Buddhist Temple	Support	No

Comments:

As President of the Hongwanji Betsuin Buddhist Temple, we fully endorse SB367 to help protect our precious environment and become better stewards of our island home. Buddhist teachings acknowledge the foolishness of people as they continue to foul the beaches, streams, parks, trails and sacred lands that are our legacy. Public policy needs to better guide behavior and limit damage when environmentally friendly alternatives are available.

Thank you for your consideration.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:04:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
robert brower	surfrider foundation kauai	Support	No

Comments:

we strongly support this Bill. We have 1500 Members and Followers

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:26:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

As a Hawaii resident, I strongly support SB522 so that we can strengthen our path towards zero waste on the islands. The plastic epidemic is getting out of control and the time to stop and reverse it is now, before it's too late. I don't want plastic floating on our oceans, killing our coral reefs, fish, turtles. We are paying the consequences of all the plastic that was ever produced, but we can change that if we work together towards zero waste.

Just yesterday, I was swimming in gorgeous Lanikai (undoubtedly one of the most beautiful beaches on Oahu), water was clear until the tide started coming in and I found myself surrounded by pieces of plastic - some were from commercial fishing broken-down plastic tools, nets, etc, but a lot of it was single-use plastic: containers, bottles, plastic lids, plastic utensils. In five minutes, I picked up at least 30 pieces, some of which had been clearly floating in the ocean for a long while and even had bite marks from turtles or fish. Heartbreaking. We have to stop this now. I want my future children to enjoy a pristine ocean, not one covered in floating plastic.

Mahalo,

Mariana Chinellato, Kailua 96734

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:27:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

As a member of Hawai'i's youth, born and raised on the island of Oahu, I am testifying in support of SB 367 because it is an important step to take towards a healthier and more—ecologically, economically, and socially—sustainable future. I have seen the devastating effects of polystyrene foam containers on marine ecosystems. Polystyrene foam is made of toxic chemicals, polluting our waters, leaching toxins into our food, and entering our food system through marine animals and seabirds. We are not immune to the toxic effects of this material, and it is essential that transition away from this harmful material. There are more ecologically friendly, economically viable, and socially acceptable alternatives to polystyrene containers.

Through Surfrider Foundation's Ocean Friendly Restaurants program, volunteers have certified over 90 different restaurants across the islands in Hawai'i for being Ocean Friendly. One of the criteria of this program is to be free of styrofoam. Getting rid of polystyrene is necessary and these companies are thriving without it!

I urge you to pass SB 367 for the health and overall well-being of our community. Mahalo for your time and consideration. Aloha.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:31:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am a professional diver and photographer. Over the years we have seen an increase in near shore pollution due to one time use plastics. Not a day goes by without seeing styrofoam or plastic in the ocean. Just today on our way to go dive we saw a plastic bag blowing around on top of the water, we collected a takeout box, plastic bag and plastic water bottle. At dinner the night before, they didn't understand why every drink came with a plastic straw. "Aren't they bad for sealife?" They asked. At 12 straws per table per hour and 25 tables, we estimated this one restaurant averages a waste of 300 straws per hour. My visiting friends commented that they expected Hawaii to be so much cleaner, they were confused as to why we weren't better stewards of our paradise. With other states so eagerly and easily embracing a change towards a cleaner world, a sustainable and plastic free world it is clear that we too should be at the fore front of change. This bill would be a wonderful step towards a Hawaii that takes care of it's ocean and land. There are people that are eager to make the necessary changes towards a healthier world but we need help on a larger scale to support it.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:36:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The earth cannot sustain the rate at which we are polluting it with plastic. There's a common clique "save the Earth", but realistically, this is a matter of saving our selves, our race, humans. Because when we have long gone, the earth would set about through natural processes to return to homostatis. When no humans are left to pollution our air, land and water, the earth has a chance to abide by phsical and natural laws to bring itself back to equilibrium. The reason for taking environmental action is to save us! to Save this world for use for ourselves and our children, and our children's childrens. We can start by with the simpliest, easiest solution, which is to ban SINGLE-USE plastics. I understand plastics plays a crucial part in our daily lives. A great example is the medical industry needing to save lives. But that is a use of plastic for crucial means. SINGLE-USE plastic is the most gluttonous, obnoxious use of plastic and an insult to our dear planet. We need to start with legislation that ban SINGLE-USE plastic so that people are forced to make lifestyle changes for the betterment of the the entire society. Let's not pollute this beautiful earth for the sake of a small "convenience" (i.e., using a styrofoam box to hold your lunch for 30 MINUTES only to have it live as toxic, discarded, trash on this earth for 400 YEARS until it biodegrades).

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:52:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Former food service industry professional, current wildlife biologist/natural resources specialist in support of this bill for protection of wildlife and a sustainable future.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:54:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:56:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:19:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

I am a marine biologist and spend a lot of time in and on the water. It is a rare day when I go diving and don't see some kind of single use plastic floating around in the water and most days I see multiple items. Let's not ruin a beautiful day on the water or stroll down the beach by allowing wasteful consumption of plastics that are only used once and then remain in the environment forever. In addition to being an eyesore these plastics are directly harmful to our ecosystem. I've see turtles trying to eat plastic bags and corals being smothered by them.

In this beautiful state I can't think of anything that's more important than trying our best to protect our environment. Unfortunately despite most people's best efforts to throw away these items into rubbish bins many end up in the ocean. Bags blow out of rubbish containers and out of the back of garbage trucks. Straws wash into the sewers and float downstream into the ocean. If we make these items out of non plastics and biodegradable (which isn't a lot to ask) then the harm they can do to the environment is much more limited and they will eventually dissappear. Please support this bill for a greener Hawaii!

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:45:46 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a freediver, surfer, and beach goer, I see plastic/styrofoam waste debris both on shore and in water. I once saw a dolphin swimming with a plastic bag stuck on its tail.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:50:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:02:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please support SB367 banning polystyrene plastics takeout containers. My hope is that akamai vendors won't try to figure out another horrible plastic alternative to replace this as some noticeably did for the plastic bag ban (Safeway). Just think back about 30 years ago - we didn't likely have these materials and we all survived. We had other options then, and we continue to today. Polystyrene is sinister in the environment and persists. It finds its way to the ocean where unsuspecting birds, turtles, fish and marine mammals mistake it for food. Animals are dying of starvation because their guts are full of junk plastics humans produce. We need to Malama our aina and Malama our kai. Take care of our environment. Sure some businesses will need to come up with other alternatives, but people are willing to pay for environmentally friendly alternatives. Plus this problem is not getting any better, now is the time to begin the proper care we are supposed to offer for our environment. Plastic persists in the environment forever and has shown to cause chemical issues to the critters that eat it (even humans!) Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and please kokua and help our ohana and support SB 367. Aloha, Risa Oram

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:06:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

The time is NOW 3/11/2019 to ban plastics, styrofoam, and other products harmful to our planet. We live on an island, everything we do affects our health and future.

Governments around the world must take “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” to avoid catastrophic levels of global warming, according to the new IPCC report. It says the planet will reach the crucial threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels as early as 2030, precipitating the risk of extreme drought, wildfires, floods and food shortages for hundreds of millions of people. We cannot wait 27 years to achieve our 100% renewable energy goal. We are facing a global emergency and crisis. We must act now with urgency to fight climate change and accelerate our actions, setting a target of no later than 2030 for 100% clean, renewable energy. We’re depending on you.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:10:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:13:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill to eliminate polystyrene foam, plastic straws and plastic bags (including those terrible "reusable" ones that STILL end up in the ocean). The earth cannot sustain the rate at which we are polluting it with plastic. "Save the Earth" is a real and necessary purpose and action. This is a matter of saving ourselves, the human race and our planet. The planet and ecological systems cannot repair itself when we continually pollute it. The reason for taking environmental action is to save us, for our children, and our children's children. We can start by with the simplest, easiest solution, which is to ban SINGLE-USE plastics. I understand plastics plays a crucial part in our daily lives. A great example is the medical industry needing it to save lives. But that is a use of plastic for crucial means. SINGLE-USE plastic is the most gluttonous, obnoxious use of plastic and an insult to our planet. We need to start with legislation that bans SINGLE-USE plastic so that people are forced to make lifestyle changes for the betterment of the entire society. Let's not pollute this beautiful earth for the sake of a small "convenience". The time necessary to biodegrade is not worth the 15-minute transport of my lunch. I'll bring my own container or use quickly biodegrading/dissolvable containers.



**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:04:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a Hawaii Kai resident, I strongly support this bill to help protect our land and oceans! Please do the same!

Mahalo,

Joshua Thomas

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:23:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill 100 %. Plastic and styrofoam waste is out of control and we can put a stop to it. I bring my own containers when shopping and eating out. I do not take plastic or styrofoam. But others do use plastic and styrofoam daily. Please DO pass this bill for the sake of the environment and our children's future.

Mahalo,

Laura Margulies

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:34:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM



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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Wildberger, and Committee Members:

Friends of Hanauma Bay supports SB367 SD1 because it will measurably decrease the amount of single use plastic and polystyrene foam containers littering our already stressed near-shore marine environment, and reduce the cost to State and County agencies, and NGOs who clean it up.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB367 SD1.

Lisa Bishop

President

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:37:48 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Let's be a leader in protecting our environment for future generations!

We should also look at all other businesses that use plastic and polystyrene foam containers e.g. flower stands.

The ban should be total and not limited to those stores larger than 1,000 sqft.

Once the ban is enacted we will join others that have already done so and innovation will provide alternative solutions.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:03:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Hawai'i is a very special place, we have connections here. As such we have a duty to protect our place and the inhabitants here. This is why I solidly support SB 367 which will phase-out polystyrene foam, plastic straws and plastic bags. We are so far behind the curve here. These soon to be banned items are one of convenience and not by any means of necessity. They become part of our islands and our ecosystem, ending up in our sealife and never truly going away. Plastic straws, polystyrene cups/ containers and plastic bags all have viable alternatives that do not negatively impact our environment.

Let it be known that I support SB367 which will ban Polystyrene, Plastic Straws and Plastic Bags here in Hawai'i Nei.

Mahalo

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:33:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:36:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Hawaii, and all other 49 states do not need plastic and foam, or single use packaging for food or other items. As a Hawaii resident, PhD marine ecologist, and citizen that regularly enjoys our coastlines, it is clear that Hawaii-derived rubbish is ending up in our marine environment. It is also apparent to me that the chemical companies and their lobbyists make up the majority of the opposition to this and similar legislation. Please vote with the will of the residents of this beautiful state to keep our beaches and environments clear of trash. Mahalo nui –Daniel Amato

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:47:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

This bill is an opportunity to generate POSITIVE attention for Hawaii in groundbreaking address of the environmental crisis. I am a college professor and EVERY young person I know is distressed about this issue; they see it with their own eyes and it is demoralizing to their futures. This bill will be GOOD for tourism and for students. It will empower everyone in hawaii to malama aina.



**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:52:33 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

This feels like a no-brainer. I understand that it might cost a little more, or be slightly inconvenient, but the time for excuse making is over. We know these containers are horrible, not just kind of bad, but truly horrible for the environment. We should have done this 10 years ago. Let's not wait any longer. Thank you for your leadership on this issue!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:52:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

This is my first time testifying. I am very passionate about banning styrofoam. There is no need for the use of styrofoam in Hawaii. I'm tired of seeing it on the beaches, floating in the gutters, and in the digestive tracts of fish. This is a non recyclable material, there are myriad other substances such as paper or reusable containers. Please help preserve this island with more sustainable single-use packaging. Even if hotels, restaurants and convenience stores didn't have styrofoam to offer guests, the amount seen in nature and found on the beach would be greatly reduced. Thank you for taking the time to read.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:58:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Kari Goodbar. I am a resident of Palolo Valley and today I wish to voice my full support for SB 367 which would prohibit food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags

I am an animal care specialist at Dolphin Quest Oahu and secretary for the Executive Committee of Surfrider Foundation's Oahu chapter. I spend my weekends cleaning our beaches and attempting to quantify endless amounts of marine debris and I spend my work week caring for and studying marine mammals. In addition to animal care, the most important aspect of my job is educating people about marine animals and the threats they face in the wild. Amongst a myriad of human induced threats to our oceans, the biggest issue that we highlight and encourage our guests to take action on is plastic pollution. The problem with polystyrene and other single use plastics is that it isn't compostable and degrades into fragments. These fragments are impossible to clean up and easy for animals at all levels of the food chain to mistake as food and ingest. Dolphins and other marine mammals swallow their food whole, so ingestion of these materials is simple and instantaneous. This material is a plague on our ocean ecosystems because an item that is designed to be used once for mere minutes remains in the environment forever.

In my everyday job as an educator, I focus on plastic pollution because it is an area where small actions by a large number of individuals can actually have a huge impact. When I share this information with my guests who come to meet the dolphins or people who are joining a beach clean up for the first time, they are horrified at the impact our societal mentality of "disposable" convenience is having on our oceans. I share with

them ways that they can help make a positive difference, such as avoiding these single use plastics or choosing products with alternative materials such as glass or cardboard. These are simple actions people might not have considered before but they are actions that people are highly receptive to and eager to adopt.

My wish today is for our laws and legislation to emulate the personal responsibility our public is already taking. In Hawai'i, we are blessed to be constantly surrounded by and connected to nature. I hope that the state of Hawai'i can lead the example for the rest of the nation in protecting and preserving the fragile ecosystems that support our very existence. Please help stop a major source of pollution at its source by supporting SB 367 today. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Kari Goodbar

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:01:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:09:18 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

This long-needed legislation would phase-out and tne prohibit the use food service businesses and stores from the selling, using or distributing polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags. I do wish that the complete ban would take place before the 7/1/21 implementation date but I do appreciate the need for a transition period.

Mahalo for standing up and being counted for supporting SB367.

Scott Foster  
Communications Director  
Hawaii Advocates For Consumer Rights  
808-590-5880

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:17:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

As someone who spends a fair bit of time in the ocean, I find myself picking up pieces of plastic trash almost every time I go to the beach. Much of this wayward trash is obviously locally-generated and consists of plastic bags and "styrofoam" food containers. There are viable alternatives to these products that do not have disastrous results when they leave the legitimate waste stream and enter our sensitive natural environments. Things have gotten to the point where a ban on these products is the only solution to our pollution problem.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:45:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

My name is Ev, and it is not a question of what kind of planet do we leave our children, but what kind of children do we leave our planet. I think it is very important to do what we can in this state of the 6th mass extinction event and exelating climate change, that takes more than just turning off the lights when you leave the room. Rather than just pulling the bodies out of the river, stopping them from falling in the first place is what makes actual change, and this is a chance to do that. So we can stop from haveing beaches of styrofoam and plastic, like the ones we are trying to clean up now.



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:54:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Hello Congressmen and Congresswomen,

My name is Andie Sausser I am a 23 year old graduate of UH Manoa. I live in the 96826 area code and I would like to support SB367 SD1 to ban polystyrene. Polysterene is a single use take out item that contain toxic chemicals and contributes negatively to our environment and health. I personally avoid styrofoam actively and have tried to convince restaurants that I eat at and work at to end their distribution of styrofoam. In fact, I have refused to eat at certain establishments to avoid styrofoam.

Thank you for your time and consideration when hearing this bill.

Mahalo,

Andie Sausser

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:02:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM



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

Comments:

Dear Madams and Messrs:

I write in support of the spirit of Senate Bill 367, as amended. Banning single-use plastic —cutlery, plates, food containers—is a meaningful step in reducing the plastic entering the oceans. Such a ban is also an instructive way to remind our community to make purchasing decisions that consider the environment. Further, reducing the use of single-use plastics cuts into oil companies' profits, which may promote exploring greener means of generating profits.

A ban on single-use plastic will limit the plastic entering the oceans. By some estimates, single-use plastic comprises 40 percent of all plastic. And, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, plastic in the ocean can take hundreds of years to biodegrade.

Selling items in reusable containers, may cause individuals to make other earth-friendly choices. As sustainability authors have noted, the problem for many Americans is out-of-sight, out-of-mind. By providing consumers with plastic-free or more durable alternatives for some of their routine transactions, consumers are reminded of the impact of their purchasing decisions. Environmental awareness and environmental social consciousness have been identified as significant factors affecting environmental/green purchasing decisions.

Reducing plastic use will cut into oil companies' bottom lines and may incentivize oil companies to explore more green, alternative means of generating profits. According to the Financial Times, presently, although transportation accounts for half of all global oil consumption, the petrochemical industry, which converts crude oil into chemicals that form the basis of plastic—will account for half of all global oil consumption growth by

2040. In particular, within the petrochemical industry, plastics account for 2/3 of the crude oil used. The Financial Times reports that reducing the use of plastic bags and other plastics and an increase in recycled plastics could reduce oil demand by 20 percent by 2040. Such a dent in oil demand would exceed the projected oil decrease attributable to a rise in the use of electric cars. And, coupled together, cloudier profit projections might cause oil companies to consider alternative energy sources, thereby promoting a secondary, constructive environmental impact.

Consequently, I support the legislative intent behind Senate Bill 367, as amended. And, I encourage similar support for the Bill in order to reduce plastics in the ocean, encourage environmentally conscious decision-making, and transition away from an oil-centric energy sector. For these reasons, I hope you will adopt Senate Bill 367, as amended.

Best regards,

Stephen D. Atwell

Moiliili Resident

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:02:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Please ban single use plastics and styrofoam!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:11:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
M Iolani Castro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support Bill SB367. We are creating too much single use of polystyrene foam, plastic straws, and plastic bags. It is all taking a major toll on our planet and often winds up in our oceans.

Mahalo,

M. Iolani Castro

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:14:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elizabeth c McDermott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support the elimination of all single use plastic in our state. There are affordable alternatives. There is no excuse any longer to continue using these products that will continue to pollute our environment and endanger our health for years to come. I'm tired of walking beaches full of more plastic than sand, seeing our marine life tangled in and choking on it, and swimming through it myself. Hundreds of other cities all over the world have done it already. It's time for Hawai'i to join them!

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:15:59 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

My name is Daniel Good. I live in Manoa Valley and I support this bill.

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:16:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:



**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:21:17 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Ironically our oceans are drowning in plastic. We need to do all we can to stop feeding this travesty. Please do it for the future generations. Please Support SB 367.

Morgan Bonnet

DPH Chair of District 25

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:23:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalamakahi Crabbe	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha my name is Kalamakahi Crabbe,

I am a 7th grader at SEEQS public charter school and in STRONG SUPPORT for SB 367 because this would give business opportunities to do better for Hawai'i and it's consumers. It would do better for my home and school. This would do better for our wildlife especially. We see the polystyrene containers everywhere from the sidewalks, to the stream, to the ocean. We see the turtles and birds nibble at it to find food. I see my home that has turned to something completely different right in front of my eyes of 12 years of my life. I used to see clean beaches and sidewalks never has it crossed to me that I would see my home become a place that I would not enjoy to swim in or a sidewalk that is crowded with dirt and litter. I believe we need change now and not next year. Thank you and mahalo for your time!

Sincerely,

Kalamakahi Crabbe

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:24:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 10:32:43 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha

As a resident of Hawaii I have been cleaning beaches and picking up PLASTIC trash in parks, on streets and from the ocean on a daily basis for more than 20 years. There is simply NO upside for our ocean state to continue to allow single use plastics in any form any longer. The time is NOW to end our addiction to plastic water bottles, styrofoam take out containers and the like. Please pass this sensible, timely bill in favor of our over-burdened planet. Your grandchildren will be grateful.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:01:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:04:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Please help us to preserve our reefs, save our ocean wildlife and create less toxins in our ecosystem and food supply!

Hawaii can lead the change for the rest of the world by passing SB367

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:16:49 PM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Isaiah Feldman-Schwartz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:33:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM



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

Comments:

Committee Chair, Co-Chair and Committee Members,

Please support a cleaner environment and ocean by supporting SB367 which would reduce the amounts of styrofoam and plastic being used. Small business owners are opposed because it would raise the costs of take-out containers. The prices given are 11.5 CENTS per container for the current styrofoam type and 27.5 CENTS for a bio-friendly container. The customer could pay 25 CENTS more for protecting the environment and the business owner could pay 2 CENTS. Or the Business Owner could continue to pay the 11.5 cents and the consumer could pay 16 cents. Hardly worth quibbling about. This bill will create more benefits than any harms. Please pass it. Mahalo.

Wendy Gibson RN



**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:35:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Thank you for your time. Please support this very important bill to support future generations and to make Hawaii a leader. I work in food service and I know the profits can be tight. But I choose to support businesses that are eco friendly. I will pay a little more because doing the right thing is worth it. If just 1 establishment serves 100 styrofoam or plastic containers a day that's 36, 500 per year. Just one place. Now total all of the containers - there are so many takeout restaurants and food trucks. As the government, we look to you to set guidelines that are responsible for now and the future. We are taking the cheap and easy way out now and it will cost us in the future. Mahalo nui loa!

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:35:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please,

For the sake of our planet, our oceans, our marine life and our generations to come...  
Stop the overuse and abuse of single use plastics and styrofoam in the food industry.

Mahalo Nui

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:13:30 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha representatives,

Single use plastics are killing us and our planet in every way. From its production to the waste people leave behind using them. We have to be one of the first places to have a strong stance and swift action to stop plastics from being a part of our lives.

Mahalo,

Summer Yadao

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:45:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 3:11:52 AM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please do the right thing for our health, the environment, and future generations in Hawaii. We need you to act with integrity and foresight. Please support Bill SB367.

Aloha,

Joy

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 5:08:03 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill to phase out polystyrene foam, and plastics such as shopping bags and straws. These items are easily replaced with more sustainable items that would not harm our environment and switching it to the right thing to do to protect our oceans, wildlife and beauty.

thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ronny German

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:56:09 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a regular ocean goer, I come face to face with platics on a daily basis. The ocean is littered with debris along with our beaches and parks. It's up to Hawaii to set a standard for the Nation and the world as we are on the world stage given the amount of visitors who come to our beautiful state. It is discouraging to see the increase in debris after a heavy rain or after a BBQ in the park. We can't wait, our earth and oceans are at stake.

**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:56:45 AM  
Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**LATE**

**SB-367-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:17:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/12/2019 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ellen Manuel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I believe SB367 SD1 will not have that much impact on the purpose of the ban. It will create loss of businesses and jobs, increase in prices even on the basic necessities, people will still dispose of their trash the way they are doing now.

Honolulu doesn't have a composting facility, what will you do with our trash? Everything still goes to the landfills, does this serve the purpose of banning foam and plastic products?

Why not the legislature put the necessary measures first on how we will dispose of or utilize our trash before they put SB367 into effect?