

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committees on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Thursday, March 14, 2019
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 522, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO PLASTIC

Senate Bill 522, Senate Draft 2 proposes to prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022; bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023; creates the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging; and appropriates funds. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following concerns, comments, and proposed amendments.**

The Department recognizes the deleterious impacts of plastic debris on wildlife and their habitats as a primary natural resource issue throughout the State. Plastic debris degrade land and ocean-based habitat and impact a variety of wildlife (aquatic and terrestrial) through ingestion and entanglement. Senate Bill 522, Senate Draft 2 would help reduce the plastic debris load entering Hawaii's environment and contribute to the improved health of our wildlife and their habitats.

The Department however has concerns that the Bill, as written, would adversely affect critical departmental operations, where bottled water is the only practical option in emergency situations. For example, the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) is statutorily mandated by the Land Fire Protection Law, Chapter 185, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be the primary responder for wildfires on lands managed by DOFAW, which accounts for 26% of the land statewide. DOFAW co-responds with county fire departments and federal agencies to an additional 32%. Other emergency response agencies would be affected as well.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

The Department requests that an exception be added to the bill to allow for agencies to purchase and use single-use plastic beverage bottles in situations of emergency response and public safety. The Department suggests adding a new subsection (e)¹ to the proposed new statutory section in Part II, SECTION 2 of the bill to read as follows:

(e) This section shall not apply to the purchase and use of single-use plastic beverage bottles in the following circumstances:

- (1) Public health and safety preparedness, emergencies, investigations, and extended deployments or activations of the office of hazard evaluation and emergency response of the department of health, the department of defense, or the department of land and natural resources;
- (2) Situations where there is high risk of cross-contamination with non-potable or contaminated water; and
- (3) Situations where there are no reasonable alternatives to beverages in plastic bottles or rigid plastic containers, such as when large quantities of beverages may need to be distributed for health and safety reasons.

Finally, the Department recognizes that this sweeping initiative would fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, and shares their concerns regarding implementation and enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

¹ The proposed subsection (e) is similar to language in Senate Bill 1543, Senate Draft 1



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 SB0522 SD2
RELATING TO PLASTIC**

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

REPRESENTATIVE ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Hearing Date: March 14, 2019

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** \$25,000 General fund appropriation for FY 20 & FY 21 for administration
2 of the Plastic Source Reduction Working Group, and an estimated \$1,000,000 annually to
3 re-establish the Litter Control Office.

4 **Department Testimony:** This bill proposes to prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of
5 plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state
6 and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after
7 July 1, 2022. This bill also bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023 and
8 creates the Plastic Source Reduction Working Group to make recommendations for eliminating
9 single-use plastic packaging.

10 The Department of Health (Department) offers the following comments. First, Hawaii
11 Revised Statutes, Ch. 342H is not the appropriate placement for the proposed state and county
12 purchasing ban.

13 Second, the measure does not provide accommodations for emergency preparedness or
14 emergency response. The measure prohibits any state or county agency from purchasing, using,
15 or distributing single use plastic beverage bottles, including bottled water. At a minimum, this
16 allowance should be provided.

1 Third, the measure doesn't limit single-use plastic beverage containers to only water.
2 Thus, it would suggest that any imported single-serve beverage would need to be in another
3 material type which may create a new waste material that may not be recyclable or require
4 changes to existing waste collection and management infrastructure. These changes will likely
5 increase costs for counties and private entities.

6 Fourth, the proposed bans for plastic bags and polystyrene containers duplicates existing
7 county bans on these materials. Hawaii County, Maui County, the City and County of Honolulu,
8 and Kauai County each have a plastic bag ban in place; while polystyrene food container bans
9 are active or about to begin in Maui County and Hawaii County.

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

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

18 **Offered Amendments:** None

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

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Director of Council Services
Maria E. Zielinski

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 13, 2019

TO: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
The Honorable Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development and Business

FROM: Kelly T. King
Council Chair

Handwritten signature of Kelly T. King in black ink.

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 14, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH REVISIONS OF SB 522, SD2, RELATING TO PLASTIC**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support with revisions** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022. The bill also aims to ban the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023 and create the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

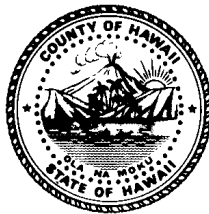
I support this measure with revisions for the following reasons:

1. Since the 1950s, plastic production has outpaced that of almost all other materials, but most plastic is designed to be thrown away after a single use.
2. Single-use disposable food ware and packaging are major contributors to street and beach litter, ocean pollution, marine and other wildlife harm, and greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Even when recycling markets were open, only nine percent of the 9,000,000,000 tons of plastic produced has been recycled.
4. I would suggest moving up the applicable dates and allowing counties to support their own legislation regarding this matter.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure **with revisions**.

ocs:proj:legis:19testimony:sb522_sd2_paf19-134a_kmat

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



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FAX: (808) 323-4786
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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 12, 2019

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
ON SB 522 SD 2, RELATING TO PLASTIC
Committee on Energy & Environment Protection
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Thursday, March 14, 2019
8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Aloha Chair Lowen, Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committees:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support on SB 522 SD 2, relating to plastic. My testimony is submitted by my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council.

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022 and ban the distribution of sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023.

Though SB 522 SD 2 has been amended to reflect that the effective date will be March 15, 2050 to encourage further discussion on this matter I believe we need to be more proactive. It has been reported that most polystyrene foam and plastic bags are the top two contributors to the local waste stream and must be regularly removed from storm drains. These pollutants are in the seawater and freshwater as well, and can and is being transferred to fish, other seafood, and salt that is eventually being consumed by humans. Prohibiting the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws is in the environmental, financial, and public welfare interests of the State of Hawai'i.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, and the Committee on Economic Development & Business to support this measure and to enact these provisions utilizing the effective dates as July 1, 2021 for government agencies, July 1, 2022 for businesses, and July 1, 2023 for banning of plastic bags. 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

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To: Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair
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Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of Committee on Economic Development & Business

From: Victor Lim, Legislative Lead
Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj: SB 522 SD 2 Relating to Plastic

Date: March 11, 2019

The Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,600 restaurants here oppose SB 522 SD1 that prohibits Plastic food packaging, Plastic bags, single use beverage containers, and creates a Plastic Source Reduction Working Group. The current timelines in the bill is extremely aggressive.

Many major chains like McDonald's and Starbucks have made announcements in 2018 on their Commitment that by 2025 all of the guest packaging in their restaurants will be fiber based and will come from renewable, recycled or certified sources with a preference for Forest Stewardship Council (FRC) certification. The food industry and their supply chains are working but the 2023 deadline is not reasonable and achievable.

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 we are not sure if they 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.

The alternate industry is in its infancy and that why we at the Hawaii Restaurant Association urges Senators to be patient with these aggressive deadlines for implementation.

We do agree with the creation of a Plastic Source Reduction Group and look forward to participating.

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



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*

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Laura Ramirez

L. Ramirez

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Brian Tahnke

Brian Tahnke

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William Yane

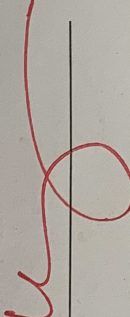
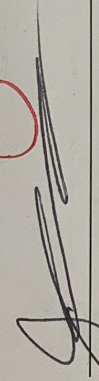
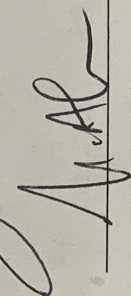
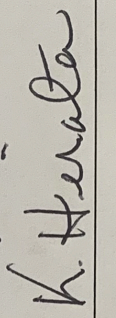
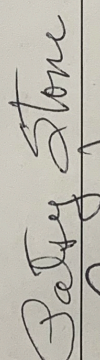
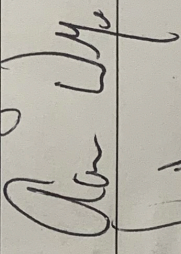
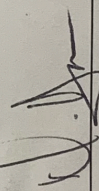
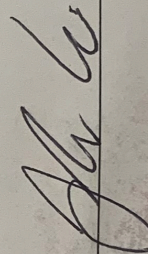
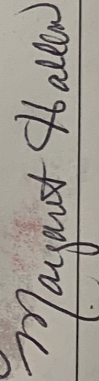
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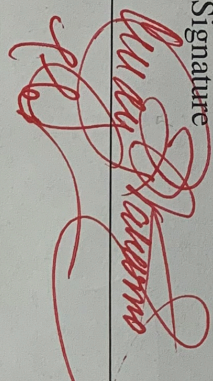
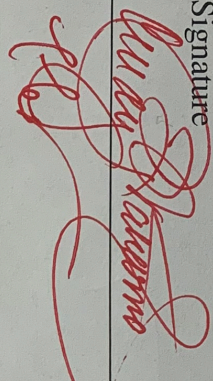
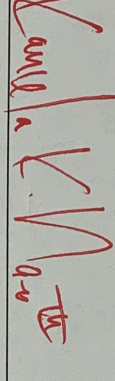
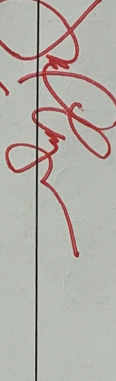
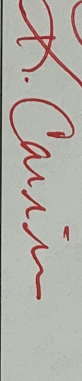
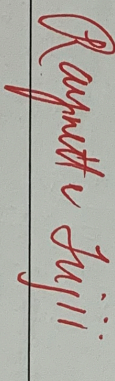
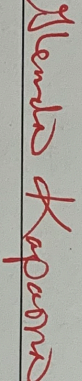
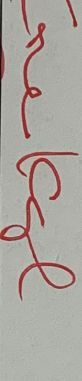
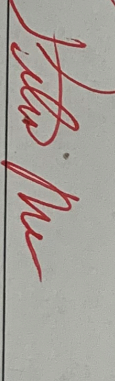
Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

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, samin 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 HUSITANG ST.</u>	<u>Keitral@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 ZABALA</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> usuij001
<u>Margaret Hallam</u>		<u>1720 Huna St. #405</u>	<u>marghallam@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

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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 HI 96812	X
Kanoe Carrero		914-800 Muna St.	
Raynith Nijii		5064 Kuliouou Rd Hon HI 96821	—
Estelena Kapama		91-344 Ewa Beach Rd.	
Kaue 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

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 10:44:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Re: Foam Foodservice Container Bans, SB 522 - OPPOSE!!

Aloha Senators:

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

Senate EEP Hearing

SB522 - 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

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!

Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

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 _____

Allyn Adverdeade Allyn Adverdeade _____

Aaron Nishimura Aaron Nishimura _____

Allyn Vasquez-Delta Cerma Allyn Vasquez-Delta Cerma _____

Karen Scheiber Karen Scheiber _____

Tasha Sheldon Tasha Sheldon _____

91-1753 Kikiwa St _____

1439 Howe Dr. _____

99-122 Kihewa Pl. _____

2319 Ahiki St. _____

91204 Umao Pl _____

allynade@yahoo.com _____

bushidoth@hotmail.com _____

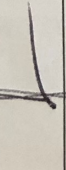
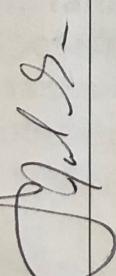
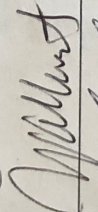
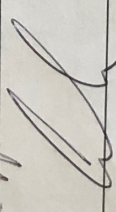
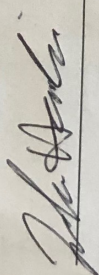
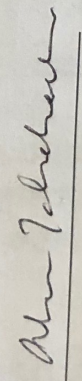
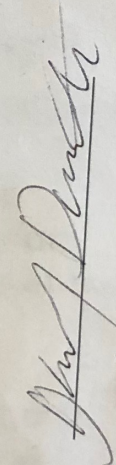
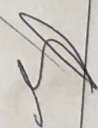
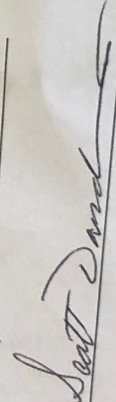
lynn.vasquez@fuel.com _____

868-799-8777 _____

nsheldon03@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
MAKY MARIE		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

We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local 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 make sure you are not a mess. Bag your trash and make sure our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We want to keep it clean. Bag your trash and make sure our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean.

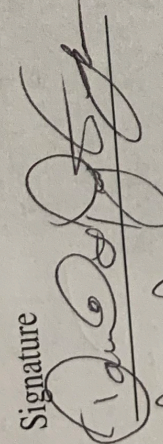
Email /Phone Number

Home Address

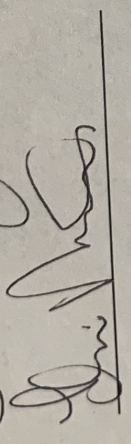
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

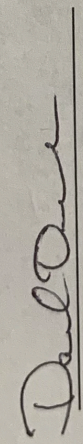
David Payton



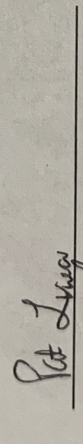
Leslie Mendenhall



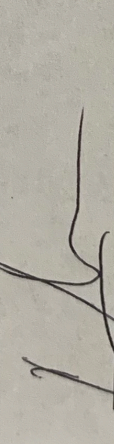
Daniel Ornelles



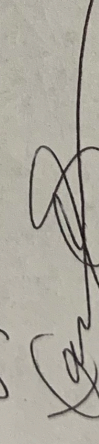
PATRICK LUCAS



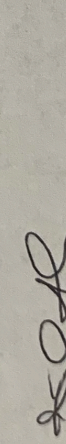
Chris A. Alvarez



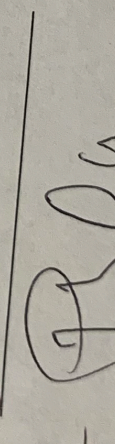
Xavier Swain



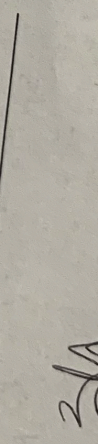
Kyu Akao



Phil Urekhanit



Breneta Yamada



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bkyamada@gmail.com

Oppose Plastics and Foam Food Container Ban, SB 522
Mar. 14, 2019

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



1700 Diagonal Road
Alexandria, VA 22314
Ph: 703-683-5213
Fax 703-683-4074
Web: www.bottledwater.org

**Hawaii State Legislature
House Committee on Economic Development and Business
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Public Hearing on Senate Bill 522
March 14, 2019**

Written Testimony

**James P. Toner, Jr.
Director of Government Relations
International Bottled Water Association**

Chair McKelvey, Chair Lowen, and members of the Committees, thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony on Senate Bill 522, which would, among other things, prohibit the sale, distribution, use, and purchase of single-serve plastic beverage containers by state and county agencies and prohibit the sale, use, and distribution of similar containers by restaurants, bars, hotels, and other businesses.

The International Bottled Water Association (IBWA)¹ strongly opposes SB 522. This legislation is not in the public interest and IBWA would urge the committees not to support it. IBWA opposes this legislation because:

- efforts to ban or restrict access to bottled water hinder individuals searching for a healthier beverage alternative
- bottled water has the lowest environmental footprint of any packaged beverage
- being strictly regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a food product makes bottled water a safe choice for consumers
- it puts citizens at extreme high risk should there be a failure of a public water system
- it would greatly impact existing recycling streams in the state since polyethylene terephthalate (PET) is one of the most sought after materials in resource recovery markets
- the bottled water industry has a strong presence and commitment to Hawaii

¹ IBWA is the trade association representing all segments of the bottled water industry, including spring, artesian, mineral, sparkling, well, groundwater and purified bottled waters. IBWA represents bottled water bottlers, distributors and suppliers throughout the United States, including several small, medium and large-size companies doing business in Hawaii. IBWA's stated mission is to serve the members and the public, by championing bottled water as an important choice for healthy hydration and lifestyle, and promoting an environmentally responsible and sustainable industry.

Bottled Water's Role in Healthy Hydration

For those who want to eliminate or moderate calories, sugar, caffeine, artificial flavors or colors, and other ingredients from their diet, or simply wish to opt for a convenient beverage with refreshing taste, reliable quality, and zero calories, choosing water is the right choice – no matter what the delivery method. Bottled water is a smart decision and a healthy choice when it comes to beverage options. Efforts to eliminate or reduce access to bottled water, such as this legislation, only hinder attempts to encourage people to choose healthier drink options.

In fact, since 1998, approximately 73% of the growth in bottled water consumption has come from people switching from carbonated soft drinks, juices, and milk to bottled water. It is the major factor that has made bottled water the number one packaged beverage in the United States. One of the simplest changes a person can make is to switch to drinking water instead of other beverages that are heavy with sugar and calories. According to the Institute of Medicine and the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, two-thirds of American adults are overweight with one-third of those individuals being obese, and over the last 30 years, children's obesity rates have climbed from 5% to 17%. Drinking zero-calorie beverages, such as water, instead of sugary drinks is regularly cited as a key component of a more healthful lifestyle, and promoting greater consumption of water from all sources, including from bottled water, can only benefit those efforts.

In today's on-the-go society, most of what we drink comes in a package. Attacks on bottled water only help to promote less healthy options among other beverages. Research shows that if bottled water isn't available, 52% of people will choose soda or another sugared drink – not tap water.

Bottled Water Industry is a Very Good Environmental Steward

Just like the bottled water industry, Hawaii prides itself on being proactive when it comes to environmental stewardship and recycling. The state's mandatory bottle deposit program (Act 176 - Deposit Beverage Container Law), in effect for 14 years, was specifically implemented to address the recycling of a wide array of beverage containers, including those for bottled water. According to the Hawaii Office of Solid Waste Management, the 2017 overall redemption rate for the program was 65%, while PET containers, most commonly used for single-serve beverages, including bottled water, achieved a 57% redemption rate.

Bottled water has the smallest environmental footprint of all packaged beverages. All bottled water containers are 100% recyclable, and, as an industry, we support strong community recycling initiatives and recognize that a continued focus on increased recycling is important for everyone. In addition, bottled water containers are the most common item in curbside recycling programs, recycled at a rate of 53.9 percent. The industry is always looking for ways to strengthen existing recycling programs and help to expand recycling efforts ever further. However, even when they are not properly recycled, bottled water containers make up only 3.3 percent of all drink packaging in U.S. landfills. By comparison, aluminum cans make up 7.9 percent. Bottled water also has the lowest water- and energy-use ratios of all packaged beverages. On average, it takes only 1.39 liters of water to produce 1 liter of finished bottled

water (including the liter of water consumed), which is the lowest water-use ratio of any packaged beverage product. And on average, only 0.21 mega joules of energy are used to produce 1 liter of bottle of water.

Continual light-weighting of PET plastic packaging for bottled water has seen the average weight drop to 9.25 grams per 16.9 ounce single-serve container. According to the Beverage Marketing Corporation, between 2000 and 2014, the average weight of a 16.9-ounce (half-liter) PET plastic bottled water container declined 51 percent. This resulted in a savings of 6.2 billion pounds of PET resin since 2000.

While bottled water is just one of thousands of consumer items packaged in plastic, the bottled water industry has also gone to great lengths to reduce the environmental impact of its packaging, including developing new technologies in product packaging such as the use of recycled content, reduction of plastic used in caps and shrink-wrapping, and reduction of paper used in labels and shipping cardboard. IBWA member companies are increasing their use of recycled PET (rPET) and many bottled water companies already use bottles made from 50, 75, and, in some cases, 100 percent rPET. Furthermore, the bottled water industry is continually developing additional ways to reduce its environmental footprint, from production to distribution to consumption. This includes development of “green” bottling facilities, as well as utilization of more fuel-efficient means of producing and transporting product to market.

In 2017, IBWA published a life cycle inventory (LCI) by Quantis to determine the environmental footprint of the United States bottled water industry. The results indicate that bottled water has a very small environmental footprint. In fact, the PET small pack and Home Office Delivery (HOD) bottled water industries combined emit 7.49 million metric tonnes of CO₂-eq., which is equivalent to 0.1 percent of total United States emissions. In 2015, the total non-renewable energy consumption by the bottled water industry was 0.247 trillion MJ. The energy used by the bottled water industry (considering only direct energy use by the industry – i.e., bottling plant operations and distribution of bottled water) compared to the U.S. total energy use is 0.3 percent. The LCI also states that the total bottled water industry generated 0.288 million metric tonnes of solid waste. The amount of solid waste generated by the bottled water industry compared to the U.S. total solid waste generation is 0.1 percent.

We ask the committee members to consider that there are thousands of products made with plastic and PET offered to consumers each day. Singling out bottled water or beverage containers, a very small part of the larger family of products using plastic and PET, would seem unfair and would have little impact on overall plastic waste management.

Bottled Water is a Safe Choice

Bottled water companies produce a safe, healthy, and convenient packaged food product that is comprehensively and stringently regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq., and applicable sections of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Bottled water must meet the FDA’s general food regulations, as well as standards of identity, standards of quality, good manufacturing practices and labeling requirements specifically promulgated for bottled

water. By federal law, the FDA regulations governing the safety and quality of bottled water must be as stringent as the EPA regulations governing tap water. And, in some very important cases like coliform bacteria and E. coli, bottled water regulations are substantially more stringent.

All bottled water products – whether from groundwater or public water sources – are produced utilizing a multi-barrier approach. From source to finished product, a multi-barrier approach helps prevent possible harmful contamination to the finished product as well as storage, production, and transportation equipment. Measures in a multi-barrier approach may include one or more of the following: source protection, source monitoring, reverse osmosis, distillation, micro-filtration, carbon filtration, ozonation, and ultraviolet (UV) light.

Claims regarding chemicals leaching from plastic water bottles are inaccurate, misleading and only serve to create unnecessary alarm among consumers. Bottled water containers, as with all food packaging materials, must be made from substances approved by the FDA for food contact. Plastic containers that are used for bottled water products (which are made from the same materials used in other food product containers) have undergone FDA scrutiny prior to being available for use in the market place. The FDA has determined that the containers used by the bottled water industry are safe for use and do not pose a health risk to consumers.

Bottled Water is Always There When You Need It

The bottled water industry has always been at the forefront of relief efforts during natural disasters and other catastrophic events. Clean, safe water is a critical need for citizens and first responders immediately following a natural disaster or other catastrophic event. Unfortunately, the availability of water from public water systems is often compromised in the aftermath of such an event (e.g., hurricanes, floods, wildfires, boil alerts). During these times, bottled water is the best option to deliver clean safe drinking water quickly into affected areas.

Removing all access to bottled water during times of need could result in an extremely dangerous situation for citizens at need and have a drastic effect on the state's ability to respond in a timely and efficient manner. The bottled water industry would not be able to provide safe, clean drinking water to Hawaii citizens when their public water systems are compromised without a viable commercial market. This provides the industry with the capital and resources to respond quickly when needed. The bottled industry cannot, and should not, exist only for disaster responses – something some critics of the bottled water industry desire. We urge committee members to remember that the bottled water industry is called upon every year to provide drinking water during critical times throughout Hawaii.

Bottled Water is an Important Economic Force in Hawaii

Companies in Hawaii that manufacture, distribute and sell bottled water employ as many as 1,231 people in the state and generate an additional 2,211 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries. These include jobs in companies supplying goods and services to manufacturers, distributors and retailers, as well as those that depend on sales to workers in the bottled water industry. The jobs currently generated by the bottled water industry in Hawaii are good jobs,

paying an average of \$49,664 in wages and benefits. These jobs would be at risk should SB 522 pass as it may force bottlers in the state to shutter their doors.

Not only does the manufacture and sale of bottled water create good jobs in Hawaii, but the industry also contributes to the economy as a whole. In fact, the bottled water industry is responsible for as much as \$691.06 million in total economic activity in the state. The bottled water industry generates sizeable tax revenues in the state. In Hawaii, the industry and its employees pay over \$33.2 million in taxes including property, income, and sales-based levies.

On top of these everyday economic numbers, the state receives a large sum of dollars from the existing bottle deposit program. And this money goes beyond what the state takes from unclaimed deposits but impacts money generated and received by businesses through the handling fee and the non-refundable container fee. With a substantial amount of that money being produced by the purchase and return on single-use plastic beverage containers, the state and businesses tied to the deposit program can expect a significant reduction in monies delivered.

Thank you for your consideration of IBWA's opposition to SB 522, and please do not hesitate to contact IBWA with any concerns or questions.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:50:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB 522 — Oppose Ban Relating to Plastics and Foam Food Container

Senate Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and Economic Development and Business

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

galejoherring@gmail.com



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813
P: 808-533-1292 | e: info@hawaiiifood.com

Executive Officers

Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Chair*
Joe Carter, Coca-Cola Bottling of Hawaii, *Vice Chair*
Charlie Gustafson, Tamura Super Market, *Secretary/Treas.*
Lauren Zirbel, HFIA, *Executive Director*
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Stan Brown, Acosta Sales & Marketing, *Advisor*
Paul Kosasa, ABC Stores, *Advisor*
Barry Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*
Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

TO:

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and the Committee on Economic Development & Business

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen and Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chairs

Rep. Tina Wildberger and Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chairs

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: March 14, 2019

TIME: 8:30am

PLACE: Conference Room 325

RE: SB522 SD2 Relating to Plastic

Position: Oppose

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.

HFIA is in opposition to this measure.

This bill would ban most beverages including a large number of locally made, and locally bottled products. As such, it would result in a loss of employment for many local people. This bill would ban most bottled water, which can have serious negative consequences for health and for disaster preparedness.

Solutions are being developed to address issues relating to plastic. However, at the current time the quantity of alternative packaging available is not enough to cover the demand set in this bill.

Our businesses that are trying to transition to alternatives like paper straws are finding that the demand outpaces the supply.

Businesses seek packaging that is affordable but most importantly that is safe. That means keeping food and drinks clean and protected from bacteria, keeping food at safe temperatures,

and protecting food workers and customers from hot food and drinks. The industry needs more time to develop more alternative packaging that meets these requirements.

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.

This measure is not the right vehicle to make progress on this issue at this time, and for these reasons we ask that it be held. We thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
March 14, 2019
Re: SB 522 SD2 Relating to Plastics**

Good morning Chairperson Lowen and Chairperson McKelvey and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and the Committee on Economic Development & Business. 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 522 SD1 Relating to Plastics. This measure would prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022. Bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023. Creates the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging, appropriates funds and takes effect 3/15/2050.

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 also look for cost effective products that protect items from breakage such as eggs Styrofoam cartons and present appetizing products like meats on Styrofoam trays.

We have been in support of environmental measures like the call for the customer to request the use of a single use plastic straw. We also recognize that a state law would be more uniform for business operations and maybe more beneficial than a diverse array of county 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. 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 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 agree that a plastic reduction working group that has a fair balance of government, business and the community is a step in the right direction.

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

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 3:33:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 owner 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.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 3:39:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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



To
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Representative Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair
And
House Committee on Economic Development & Business
Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
March 14, 2019; 8:30 am
Conference Room 325

From:

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

Testimony in opposition to SB522 SD2

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.

The vast majority of beverage containers are 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 while the currently proposed bill would allow that usage, we would not be able to buy bags locally. We are currently having these bags made especially for us here on Oahu. This bill if implemented would cause that business to all flow out of the state, not strengthen the local economy, would cause a huge lack of flexibility to our company, and an impairment to our operations in Hawaii.

Please remember that Recycling, is the "right thing to do", and almost everything is recycled one way or another in Hawaii at this time.

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.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:48:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 well as other plastics.

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-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:47:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Lee	Cooke Street Diner	Oppose	No

Comments:

Senate Committees of EEP and EDB,

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 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.

A ban on styrofoam and plastic utensils will be very expensive for us.

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

(808) 597-8080

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:46:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Ngyuen	Pho Tri Restaurant	Oppose	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State Senate

Energy and Environmental Protection and Economic Development and Business Committees

From: George Nguyen

1307 Kalakaua Ave

Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Date: March 14, 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.

Also, compostable utensils are nice, but they are more expensive too.

George Nguyen

Pho Tri Vietnamese Restaurant

1307 Kalakaua Ave

808-341-6012

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

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

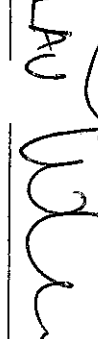
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Miranda Castel M. Abundo 

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Jan Abundo 

16 Lili'inoe St HIL 96730

janabundo@gmail.com

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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
Anne Okada	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-143 Pelanaki 96792	808-753-2987
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
Zenaida	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-128 Kulaokani	96 96792-3361
Naomi Kuba	<i>[Signature]</i>	85-120 A. Alkene St. ⁹⁶⁷⁹²	808 206-0268
LETICIA GUERRERO	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-121 ST. John's Rd.	808 384-0003
BOU ALA SHIHARATH BOUALA Siharath	<i>[Signature]</i>	86-341 B KUMUKE RD WAIKANE HI 96792	808-782-8565
Lolita Kurokawa	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-1073 Hokino St	(808)-734-3926
Machina	<i>[Signature]</i>	87-158 Maipela St.	808 620-4979

We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

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Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

(Print Clearly)

86081 EAWING BL HAWAII 96809

808 216 2142

WILLIS MARLIS

WILLIS MARLIS

87-248 Heleuna & Waiaruae

608 - 9659

JOHN DAQUIRIGAN

JOHN DAQUIRIGAN

86-900 Lanika Pl. Waianae

541-6309

Juan Yoshima

Juan Yoshima

87-889 HAKEREA ST. WAIANAЕ

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MARKETA P. OKUAWO

MARKETA P. OKUAWO

87-148 Auwong Homestead

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Phillip Gabbato

Phillip Gabbato

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LEA MARIE ADOS

LEA MARIE ADOS

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REYJUELEN BAPT

43 PEARCE ST Honolulu HI 96813

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MARCEL PERAIN

MARCEL PERAIN

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
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KAREN KALAHIA		84-1026 Home Street Waiwae HI	kowaspam@hawaii.rr.com 808 782-9853

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
LOPEZ DELEON	<i>[Signature]</i>	99-713 OHEKANI LOOP	931-9367
DEY RAMOS	<i>[Signature]</i>	2433-A MAUNUETH ST	728-0966
ERIC YAMMOS	<i>[Signature]</i>	91-1176 Beyond St 96106	eye kyd-line.com
JOSSEPH GARCIA	<i>[Signature]</i>	94-077 AKAMOU ST	678-2018 352
Cherlyn Calaway	<i>[Signature]</i>	985 Leonele Pt	389 - 9420
Rollan Montesini	<i>[Signature]</i>	1060 Kona Hwy Pearl City	389-6336
CARLOS MANCANO	<i>[Signature]</i>	1807A BECKLEY ST, 96819	753-2363
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 PITON	<i>[Signature]</i>	99-009 KAUAI ST. 96791	808-989-0300
Val Morales	<i>[Signature]</i>	941 Popple 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. Waiparua HI 96797	mla
Juanito Estrangue	<i>Juanito Estrangue</i>	94-972 Lumino St. Kapaolu HI 96797	(808) 671-2551
Zelda Estrangue	<i>Zelda Estrangue</i>	94-932 Lumino St. Kapaolu HI 96797	(808) 671-2551
ANGELICA RIVERA	<i>ANGELICA RIVERA</i>	94-305 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 219-6864
ROSENE OLIVAS	<i>ROSENE OLIVAS</i>	94-305 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 476-6034
JOHN PABLO RIVERA	<i>JOHN PABLO RIVERA</i>	94-905 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 219-6865
ARVAY RIVERA	<i>ARVAY RIVERA</i>	94-905 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	
EMILIA RIVERA	<i>EMILIA RIVERA</i>	94-305 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 219-6868
ARMANDO RIVERA	<i>ARMANDO RIVERA</i>	94-305 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 219-6867
CARLOS RIVERA	<i>CARLOS RIVERA</i>	94-701 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(810) 256-9820
MAR RIVERA	<i>MAR RIVERA</i>	94-701 KAHUKAUAHI ST. WAIPARUA HI 96797	(808) 782-89-05

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
Jane Mendoza	<i>Jane Mendoza</i>	94-309 KAHUANANI ST	(808) 726-0807
Reah Ribao	<i>Reah Ribao</i>	94-456 Liapu Place	(808) 398-0464
NORMA PAET	<i>Norma Paet</i>	94-1067 KAHUAMOKU	(808) 397-4722
Ginohyn Loynagan	<i>Ginohyn Loynagan</i>	94-1098 Nalii St.	(808) 398-8936
JENIKESHA GEE GUE	<i>Jenikesha Gue Gue</i>	724 PUNAHLE RD, HONOLULU, HI	(808) 498-1848
LELA PALAISO	<i>Lela Palaiso</i>	1815 KALANI ST APT, 2-4 HON	(808) 679-6190
SAMANTHA ESTRADA	<i>Samanta Estrada</i>	91-992 PAHUNA ST. EWA BEACH	(808) 342-3570
Rosita Ramos	<i>Rosita Ramos</i>	94-1159 Nalii St. Waipahu	(808) 4987303
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 NOHOIOEWA HWY. EWA BEACH	(808) 450-1057

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
LEONORA DUPRA	<i>Leonora Dupra</i>	1823-AHANUIA ST 96819	349-8641
CLEBERIND DUPRA	<i>Cleberind Dupra</i>	1823-AHANUIA ST 96819	NONE
JULIETA DUIDUIAO	<i>Julieta Duiduiao</i>	1823-AHANUIA ST. 96819	845-2116
JONG RIO	<i>Jong Rio</i>	1823 AHUOLA ST. 96819	7251561
ELISSA DUIDUIAO	<i>Elissa Duiduiao</i>	1823-AHANUIA ST 96819	465-7518
LEILA SUPPIO	<i>Leila Suppio</i>	1823 AHUOLA ST 96819	272-41-22

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

BETTY SAHAWAN 808-232-3977
 1419 Auld Lane Hon. HI 96817
 808-232-3977

Wanglini Wanglini
 1419 Auld Lane Hon. HI 96817
 808-285-3641

Josie C. Martin Josie C Martin
 1419 Auld Lane Hon. HI 96817
 808-517-9298

Michael Genova
 1418 KEO LN Hon. HI 96817
 808-7286958

Lisa Surtain Lisa Surtain
 2014-A Honore St
 808-680-4128

Edith Murphy Edith Murphy
 2014-A Honore St
 808-737-5241

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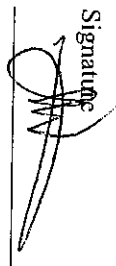
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Amari Dale



91-1031-Honolulu, Leona Blvd, HI

808-842-0390

BIENVINIDO ABRAHAM Puellos

94-926 Puukahi St. Waiipahu HI.

808-428-3537

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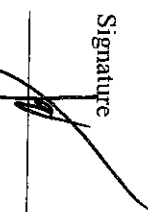
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

John Panix



1315 Akua Dr. #11-96818

johnpanix@gmail.com

Glennelle Garcia



1315 Halea Dr. HNL HI 96811

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BINA PERALTA



1315 Halea Dr. HNL HI 96818

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Gabrielle Garcia



1315 Halea Dr. HNL HI 96818

(714) 722-7527

Inocenci Peralta




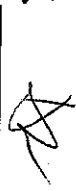





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286 8892

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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MARELYN CO		2888 Ala Ilima St. 96818	marelynco24@gmail.com
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DANIELA GIL		51-252 HIRAKAIIKE PL 91797	D.gil@kyd-iuc.com

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
ESPIRANTE BARTI		85-046 ARMY ST. DANAE HI 96742	ESPIBARTI62@GMAIL.COM
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FERDINAND ALMAZAN		8464 ALIAMANU ST. HONOLULU HI 96818	(808) 256-1282
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IDITD AGUSTIN		90-114 PULUKANI ST, MAIHAUHI HI 96771	(808) 852-2312
LEONARDO RUIZ		1823 K - ATHULA ST. HONOLULU, HI. 96819	(808) 940-8740
LAURENCE ARAENA		3139 ALA IULUA ST HI 96741	(808) 361-3748
ANGELIC B. ANSIL		41-1104 EA ST EWA BEACH HI 96704	(813) 758-6646
ROSE-GIOVANNI SAKYKMON		2377A ROSE ST KPT. X HONOLULU HI 96819	(808) 388-4472
NISSUN W. GONZALEZ		1266 RICHARD LANE B-906 HONOLULU HI	808 724 8069

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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Angel A. Ponce Adg		1719 A Owana St.	ST H 0808 - 841-3355
Jodelle Miyamoto		1719-A OWANA ST.	(808) 722-3917
Justin Josse		1719-A OWANA ST.	779 808 7792840
Jessamine Miyamoto		1719-A OWANA ST.	(808) 469-7832
Adelle Ponce		1719-A OWANA ST.	664-1894
JENNIFER PITOC		911081 IWIKUANAO ST #900	384-3340
JUSTINA CABACANG		1719-A OWANA ST.	808 286 3057
Bart Cabacang		1719-A OWANA ST.	808 286 3075

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Rosalinda Calumsao		985 Leonele St. Pearl City HI 96782	808-348-1505
Laciawo Sanico		985 Leone St. Pearl City HI 96782	808-232-7445
Arlene Radona		1109 Aracua Rd. 119 Pearl City, HI. 96782	208-285-4100
Allysah Magboo		1245 Puu Kipa Street Pearl City HI, 96782	magbo0allysah@gmail.com
Yaya Nishizawa		1351 Noelani St Pearl city HI 96782	808-271-6240.
Erma Pomosao		1117 Jung Place Pearl City, HI 96782	400-8337
Snow Valyn		44-245 Woodbine St 10102 Waipana HI 96794	808-778-5391
Mylinda Lamson		1147 Ima Place Pearl City HI, 96782	808-454-3917

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Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

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SMulvinC@opt-online.com

Sean Omer



2046 Kapaemahu St Hm

Diana Omer Jensen

2119 Kapaemahu St Hm

Kelley Omer Kelley O

2046 Kapaemahu St Hm

Kevin Wang



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wangkwanin@yahoo.com

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Michael Nakato



94-870 Lomianua St. 96797

1111713@gmail.com

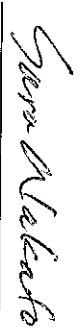
Yuka Nakato



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yukanina33@gmail.com

Sara Nakato



94-870 Lomianua St. 96797

None

Kristine Nakato



94-870 Lomianua St. 96797

None

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Gary Simons



150 Pawin Rd. Ste 17

gsl@gsd-inc.com

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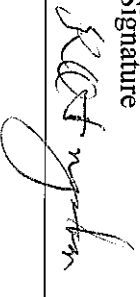
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

REXNA D. FUGABARI



94-389 Kapiolani St., Honolulu HI

836-7337

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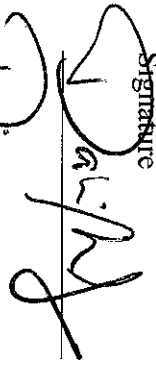
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

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Email/Phone Number

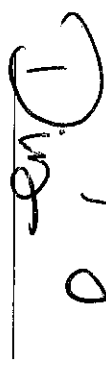
Dani Mendoza



4324D Orion Dr. 96107

Rydersmani@gmail

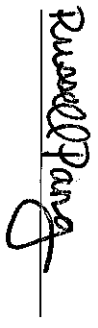
Dina Ali-Bang



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Russell Pang



4324D Orion Dr. 96107

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Blank lined area for additional entries.

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Michelle Kalahiki Michelle Kalahiki

1404 Kewalo St. #403, 96822

mimi7088@aol.com

Michelle Kalahiki Michelle Kalahiki

same as above

mkalahiki@kyd-inc.com

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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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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Daniel Lee



111 Saad Island Access Rd.

753 2513

CHONG Taeli



98-1090 Kemo MHI

488-1090

Lisa Lee



753 3776

Kyong Hinds



808-389-0845

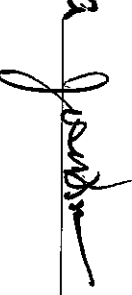
Annie Knock



KAUHI BARBARA

808-847-3398

Joseph Maiana



Papa C/O

293-2292

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Name (Print Clearly)

Jenny Rio

Signature

Jenny Rio

Home Address/Zip Code

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Email/Phone Number

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Ronel Menor

R Menor

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rmenor@kyd-inc.com

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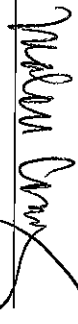
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

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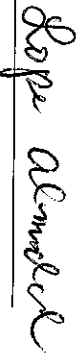
Melina Almeda



2503 Dake Street Honolulu HI 96826

808-352-3898

Lope Almeda



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 Haealea HI 96701

Email/Phone Number

macHOS HI @CSpan 8367514

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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

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Email/Phone Number

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Rosanna Pascoal

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rp@kqd-inc.com

Rose Bosse

Rose Bosse

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Juan Pascoal

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Juan Pascoal

Juan Pascoal

1577 Haha Dr. Hon. HI 96818

741-3942

Matthew Bosse

Matthew Bosse

1577 Haha Dr. Hon. HI 96818

Don't Have

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

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Signature

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Email/Phone Number

Lance H. Nitta

Lance H. Nitta

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DONNA M. NITTA

Donna Nitta

45-160 EKEPAU PL 96744

nitta.donna@yahoo.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

Shijie Huang

Shijie Huang

1102 Spreckels St. 202 Apt

shijie.h@hawaii.edu

Zhenhua Huang

Zhenhua Huang

2085 Ala Wai Blvd #143

zhenhua@hawaii.edu

Lixia Zhang

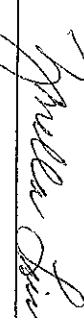






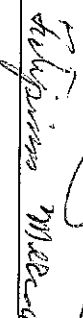


Lixia Zhang

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lixia_z@yahoo.com






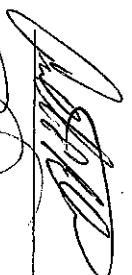





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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
YONELA Liu		46-3995 KAHUHA PAKE #3 96744	calhou@hawaii.nv.com
MARGARITA DAYAO		4370 OIALOA ST Honolulu HI 96818	
Annne Lou		2040 Niuanu Ave #1901 Honolulu, HI 96817	anne@hawaii.edu
TOTAL Mc CARTHY		885 KAWAUA RD, HOOE HI 96825 / 396 8471	
PHYLLIS DAYAO		47-703 KALEMANUI ST KANEOTE 96744	
MANNY DAYAO		47-703 KALEMANUI ST. KANEOTE 96744	MANNYDAYAO@YMAIL.COM
Rosa Dayao		47-703 KALEMANUI ST. KANEOTE HI 96744	rosacda24@yahoo.com
FILIPINAS MERCADO		47-703 KALEMANUI ST KANEOTE HI 96744	
Hilary Andaya			handaya@yahoo.com
CARHELLA PHILLIPS		43 PROSPECT ST Honolulu 96813	cdp@ekyd-inc.com

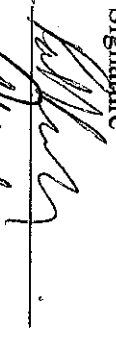

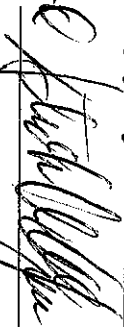









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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Kayla		921026 NORTON ST 96707	NOVILLANI-27@Yahoo.com
Richard Weber		3056 Aiki St 96819	Pickweb88@gmail.com
Evelyn Say		1616 Alaneo 96817	dragon-lady 2009@ hotmail.com
John W. Parker		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 com
Bob Sappara		1415 Victoria St. 96822	Bob Sappara @ yahoo.com
Kaliko Lane		92-1266 Kikaha St #35 96707	kaliko@yahoo.com / 343-4894
Ethan Panti		1733 Dillingham Blvd.	Heingzafafishing@Hawaii.RR.com
Richard Aikint		1040 Lumlills St # 713	Leewardsoul@gmail.com
Angelal. Tamara		1007 N. King St # 200	FHS

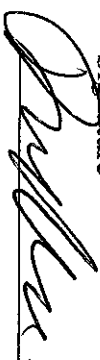



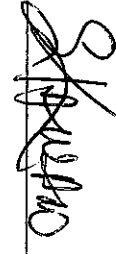
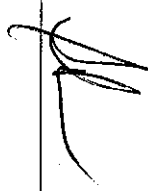


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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Patrick Brady		1611 Uaiki Circle 96821	pbrady1967@gmail.com
Ally Walker		1671 Ohia St Honolulu HI 96819	
Shawn Moore		1277 S. Beretania St Honolulu HI 96814	
JK CARNO		94-095 Poialani Circle	349-5521
Paul Fletcher		7002 Kawaiki 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 Puukaa 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 Ukali 57196818	808-778-9582
		981198 Hopyland	—
Dawn G. Madsen		1612 Waioli 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
ROGER HERRERIA		99-264 OHIANNIA LOOP	
Jared Santos		4367 Keolu Dr.	
Harjanto Pullana		91-1008 Kulwin ST EWAIBANI HI 96706	
		94-1170 Aiana ST 96797	
Ms. M. C. Nino		94-247 HANA ST. Waikeolu HI 96797	
Nathan Nino		1822 Beckley St.	
LAURELLE FAMILIA		99-1079 LAMMADA ST. WAIKANAHI HI 96797	
Jaime Leon		95-1032 Kalapu St. 96704	
FRANK		94-1111 KULANANI ST 96797	

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

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

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Aiden Ramos



2044 Kapaeka St Honolulu HI

Carlyssa Perrin



2044 Kapaeka St. Honolulu HI

Jonathan Hyslop



2044 Kapaeka St. Hon

Tom Kubie



2044 Kapaeka St Hon

TKubie@K410.com

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:44:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Ushijima	the Hibachi	Oppose	No

Comments:

Thurs. March 14, 2019 - Hearing

Senate Committees Energy and Environmental Protection and Economic Development and Business

SB 522 - 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

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

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 522 SD2 RELATING TO PLASTIC

POSITION: STRONGLY OPPOSE

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of SB 522 SD2. My name is Adrian Hong and I am the president of Island Plastic Bags Inc., a second-generation, family business in Halawa Valley that manufactures plastic trash liners and food grade bags. If passed SB 522 SD2 would create a public health crisis, increase pollution in the state, and lead to loss of many jobs on the island.

This bill would prohibit the sale of any plastic bags. That means my company would no longer be able to sell biohazard bags and trash bags to nursing homes and hospitals across Hawaii. We would no longer be able to sell our trash liners and food grade bags to restaurants, janitorial cleaning services, hotels, bars, bakeries, etc. In addition, grocery stores would be prohibited from selling trash liners, Ziplocs, and other plastic bags to consumers. This would create a public health crisis.

The chances of patients in nursing homes and hospitals catching infectious diseases would dramatically increase if the nursing homes and hospitals could not purchase biohazard bags and trash liners. This would put the most vulnerable people in Hawaii at risk. Restaurants, bakeries, and other food establishments will become much more unsanitary places as there would be no easy way of containing trash carrying food borne illnesses like salmonella. Without food grade bags, chefs would be hard pressed to prevent food from coming into contact with all forms of contaminants. The same thing would happen in consumers' homes. Without trash liners, people won't have any easy way of containing trash that could make them sick. They would be forced to continually clean their trash cans. The water and chemicals used to do so would go down our storm drains, increasing water pollution.

Not only would water pollution increase but without the trash liners we sell to the State of Hawaii and the counties used for collecting trash at state parks, beaches, airports, etc., the beaches and other parks would be covered with litter. This would have a detrimental environmental impact. Instead of decreasing pollution, you would be increasing pollution by getting rid of trash liners and food grade bags.

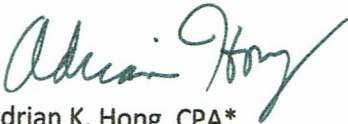
Without the ability to sell our products to our customers, we would have to shut down our business and lay off our fifteen workers. This bill would most likely trigger layoffs in other local manufactures as well (ex. other trash liner manufacturers, plastic bottle manufacturers, and expanded polystyrene

Island Plastic Bags Inc.

manufacturers) and layoffs in companies that depend on the sales of those manufacturers. These employees depend on their pay and benefits to provide for their families.

Given the great economic and social harm this bill could do, I oppose SB522 SD2 as written. I recommend section 2(c) be removed from the legislation. 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 or by phone at 808-484-4046.

Sincerely,



Adrian K. Hong, CPA*

President

Island Plastic Bags, Inc.

www.islandplasticbags.com

Email: ahong@islandplasticbags.com | Phone: 808-484-4046 | Fax: 808-488-8505

*Not in public practice



March 14, 2019

To: The Honorable Chair Nicole Lowen (Energy & Environmental Protection) and
Chair Angus McKelvey (Economic Development & Business)

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

RE: SB 522 SD2; Relating to Plastic; **In Support**
March 14, 2019; Room 325

Kona Brewing Company offers our **support** of SB 522 SD2, which prohibits the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies. 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. For 25 years Kona Brewing Company has been 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-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 2:04:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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.

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. We aren't finished yet, but we've come a long way and keep moving faster in the right direction!

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 friendly 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 perspective 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.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:17:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
leah gartner	cheeseburger restaurants inc	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm writing on behalf of my family's restaurant business. We own and operate six restaurants in Hawaii, spanning over the last 30 years. We serve over one million visitors to the islands, annually.

Last year we made the transition to eco-friendly products and invested time in training and educating our staff. We have incurred costs and faced challenges. Eco-friendly products are often in limited supply and are more expensive. We have struggled with compostable products vs. paper (straws) and the appropriate place to dispose of compostable products.

Additionally, we question how to adhere to health codes stating that food servers not handle straws-- this has left us with no option except plastic when a straw is requested-- as they are wrapped in paper.

Despite these obstacles, we continue to work towards more sustainable practices to care for the Aina.

We support this measure that would outline a plan and we ask that the state support restaurant businesses by including laws that outline the supply of products to the islands at costs we can maintain as well as methods of disposal that are accessible.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Leah M. Gartner

Cheeseburger Restaurants, Inc.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:03:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

HOUSE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (EEP)/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS (EDB)

Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in Conference Room 325

IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB522 SD2: RELATING TO PLASTIC

Aloha EEP Chair Lowen, EDP Chair Mckelvey, EEP Vice-Chair Wildberger, EDP Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committees:

Friends of Hanauma Bay strongly supports this bill. Single-use plastic products and polystyrene containers are a clearly documented existential threat to marine life and birds in our near-shore marine, as well as mauka environments. State and County agencies are the single biggest consumers of these products, so it's appropriate to start with them. And it's critical to start now.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB522 SD2.

Please pass SB522 SD2. Mahalo!

Lisa Bishop

President

Friends of Hanauma Bay



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

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
House Committee on Economic Development & Business

Re: STRONG SUPPORT of SB 522, SD2 – RELATING TO PLASTIC

Aloha Chair Lowen, Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Wildberger, Vice Chair Kitagawa and members of House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection, and Economic Development & Business,

Dolphin Quest strongly supports SB 522, SD2, and SB 367, SD1 as these bills have 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 522, SD2.

Respectfully yours,

L. Rae Stone, DVM
Dolphin Quest

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:52:37 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Vidovich	Dolphin Quest	Support	No

Comments:

As a long time resident of California, 55 years, I first visited Hawaii in 1975 with my mother & sister, and now have a daughter, 12 that travels to Hawaii with me for her school vacations and participates in Dolphin Quest. She has saved up catsitting & her petting zoo at the farmer's market to do Trainer for the Day at Dolphin Quest. We cherish the marine life of Hawaii & would like it be preserved for future generations. We support the ban on plastics that marine animals ingest that can harm the ecosystem. We trust that you will do the right thing and ban these harmful plastics that get into our Pacific Ocean. We here in California are working hard to help clean up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and are all in this together.



March 14, 2019 at 8:30 am
Conference Room 325

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
House Committee on Economic Development and Business

To: Chair Nicole E. Lowen
Vice Chair Tina Wildberger

Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey
Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa

From: Paige Heckathorn Choy
Director of Government Affairs
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: Submitting Comments
SB 522 SD 2, Relating to Plastic

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments** on this measure. While we appreciate the intent of this legislation, we have concerns that this bill could cause serious patient and environmental safety issues. In particular, we are concerned with subsection (c) on page 2, lines 6-7, which would prohibit any company from distributing, selling, or otherwise providing any form of plastic bag after July 1, 2023. As written, this legislation would likely prohibit any medical supply provider from selling plastic bags to hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, assisted living facilities, urgent care centers, free standing ambulatory surgical centers, physician offices, or any other patient care setting where medical or other hazardous waste is disposed of. Any prohibition on the sale of bags to medical providers could create serious patient and environmental safety concerns for the disposal of critical waste, with no clear remedy. The lack of safe disposal equipment would also result in penalties from state and federal regulators, who set high standards of cleanliness in facilities to ensure patients receive safe, effective care.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 1:47:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 SB522!

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 .

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-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:35:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 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 SB522 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-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:23:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Moran	Kihei Community Association (KCA)	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs Lowen and McKelvey and committees members,

We support any action that can reduce the amount of single or limited use plastics

Mahalo,

Mike Moran for KCA

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:26:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natsuko Takeda	831 inc.	Support	Yes

Comments:

Hi there, I am Natsuko Takeda, a local small business owner. I run a coffee shop cafe.

My restaurant officially became an ocean friendly restaurant June 5th, 2018 by the Surfrider Foundation. This means I have been actively using sustainable products including glass cups, wooden dishes, and stainless steel straws for those eating in at the restaurant. For those taking food to-go, I use paper straws and only compostable take-away material. In addition, I also take measures to reduce garbage waste, always recycle when plastic ever has to be used, and we never use plastic bags or styrofoam.

I began this shop with a dream to be not only sustainable, but also to live in harmony with Mother Nature. We need to recognize that we rely upon this earth and the earth relies upon us or both parties will not be able to survive. I saw the importance of this fact while I was raised on my father's sweet potato farm as a child. We relied on the land and he even later opened a restaurant in which he used his own vegetables he harvested in his dishes (I hope to myself use this same method to reduce waste used for shipping of produce from outside sources).

To stay on point, I saw the importance of opening a shop like mine, using sustainable products, when I first moved to Hawaii. I was shocked at the amount of plastic and waste that were being used all over, from the use of plastic bags to the lack of recycling and definitely including all the restaurants that use non-sustainable products. I immediately wanted to make a difference, however small it may have seemed with my small business, in order to hopefully make an example for other business owners and of course to care for the environment. This bill would make my dream and small impact become a more large scale impact. But most importantly, it can help restore our very own Hawaiian beaches.

kōkua hawai'i foundation



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB522 SD2, RELATING TO PLASTIC

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

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

Committee on Economic Development

Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

March 14, 2019, 8:30 a.m., Conference Room 325

Aloha Representatives,

Mahalo for your consideration of SB522 SD2. 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. With 99% of plastic coming from fossil fuels, this is also a climate change issue. 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 natalie@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org.

Jack Johnson,
Co-Founder, Vice-President

Kim Johnson,
Co-Founder, President

Natalie McKinney,
Executive Director

www.kokuahawaiiifoundation.org

P.O. Box 866, Hale'iwa, HI 96712 • Tel: (808) 638-5145 • Fax: (808) 638-0757 • 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





**HOUSE JOINT COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS**

March 14, 2019 8:30 a.m. Room 325

In STRONG SUPPORT of SB522 SD2: Relating to Plastic

Aloha Chairs Lowen and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Wildberger and Kitagawa, and members of the committees,

The HAWAI'I 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 the passage of SB522 SD2.

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 seabirds 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 and even eliminating plastic use!

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support of SB522 SD2.**

Kimiko LaHaela Walter on behalf of the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:11:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ezekiel Straw	Clean Reefs	Support	No

Comments:

I, Ezekiel Straw, strongly support SB522. As a recent graduate from the Natural Resource Environmental Management Department from the University of Hawaii, this bill could be a major contribution to the future of Hawaii. Hawaii could be an example of what the rest of the world is capable of. I would like to thank the committee for taking the time to read my testimony.



Nicole Chatterson
Director, Zero Waste O'ahu
oahu.zerowaste@gmail.com
808.561.7730

March 13, 2019

Aloha Chairs Lowen and McKelvey and EEP/EDB Committee Members:

My name is Nicole Chatterson, and I am Mānoa resident and Director of Zero Waste O'ahu. I am writing in **strong support of SB 522**, the plan to phase out single-use plastics by July 2025. 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.

In Hawai'i we have over **200 businesses through the Ocean Friendly Restaurants** program that have already voluntarily made many of the changes required by this bill. These restaurants have not gone out of business, but are instead thriving as they meet the demand from consumers to use products with a lower environmental impact. It is important to remember that the design of our economy is such that consumers are supposed to drive the market—it is the job of our business sector to respond. It is really exciting to see that taking place.

If single-use plastic consumption maintains on the current trajectory, **plastic use will account of 20% of our fossil fuel use by 2050¹**. 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.²

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.³** 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.

¹ UNEP (2018). SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: A Roadmap for Sustainability

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

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



According to the U.S. EPA, **about 42% of the U.S. greenhouse gas footprint results from this production-disposal chain⁴.**

Lastly, in response to the claims made in previous testimony by Dexter Yamada (President of KYD, Inc. dba: K. Yamada Distributors) 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
Single-Use Carryout Plastic Bag Ordinances	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%
Polystyrene Foam Food Service Ware Ordinances	Tier 1 – Prohibit Distribution at DOT-HWYS-sponsored Events and DOT-HWYS-owned Property	2%
	Tier 2 – Prohibit Distribution by Food Service Vendors	8%
Uncovered Loads Enforcement	Require Municipal Trash Haulers to Cover Loads	1%
	Enhanced Enforcement Program	4%
Anti-Littering and Dumping Enforcement	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%

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Nicole Chatterson, Director of Zero Waste O'ahu

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

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:12:23 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chandra Bertsch	Holo Holo Charters	Support	No

Comments:

I support bill SB522 SD2 as the General Manager of Holo Holo Charters. We are one of the only activity companies to be certified as an Ocean Friendly Restaurant by the Surfrider Foundation. We operate boat tours and rely on the health of our oceans and ecosystems, it is our kuleana then to do our part in protecting these natural resources. With a few investments in reusable equipment instead of disposable, we were easily able to make our operation more eco-friendly. The costs balance out in time and the benefits are clear; sustainability must be the foundation of a business, if you want a business to sustain itself for years, then you must focus on long-term success, which means doing the right thing for the people, planet, and profits will follow.



sustainable coastlines Hawaii

SB 522: Strong Support
Hearing: March 14, 2019 8:30 AM
Committee on EEP/EDB

Dear Members of the House EEP & EDB Committees,

I am writing as the Executive Director of Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i and on behalf of our thousands of dedicated volunteers who spend their lives caring for our coastlines. 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 livelihoods in Hawai'i. **We are in strong support of SB522** – a phase out plan for single-use plastics and mechanism to continue to find solutions for other forms of plastic packaging pollution. While many similar bills exist this session, we believe this to be one of the most comprehensive. The problem is dire as the story and data that follow illustrate.

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. Over the past decade our community has cleaned almost half a million pounds of debris from our shorelines. That number is staggering and each year the onslaught of plastic to our shores increases exponentially. While we devote many of our resources to education & outreach, having reached thousands of students statewide with in-class presentations, the situation has become dire and action to curb our plastic production at its source is necessary immediately.

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 has 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 522, creating a phase out plan for detrimental single-use plastics and beginning the deeper look into our problems surrounding packaging.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Rafael Bergstrom
Executive Director, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i

Images from Hawai'i



Figure 1: Ala Moana Beach - while marine debris has traditionally been limited to the windward shores, changes in wind direction now are bringing the microplastic soup to our most used south shore beaches



Figure 2: Polystyrene foam collected from one cleanup in just 2 hours in Kewalo Basin. Polystyrene breaks easily into smaller and smaller pieces before becoming unrecognizable in microplastic form in our oceans and streams



Figure 3: Microplastics infecting the shorelines of Molokai



Figure 4: Small sample of Straws collected in a waste audit at UH Manoa - from only 3 buildings in 2 days of trash.

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Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection,
and Economic Development and Business
Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 8:30 A.M.
Conference Room 325, State Capitol**

RE: SB 522 SD2, RELATING TO PLASTIC

Chairs Lowen and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Wildberger and Kitagawa, and Members of the Committees:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **opposes** SB 522 SD2, which prohibits the use of plastic bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state agencies by July 1, 2021 and by businesses selling food or beverages by July 1, 2022. Additionally, this bill would ban the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023. SB 522 SD1 would also create the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

We oppose SB 522 SD2 because it will raise the cost for both business and consumers and will impact jobs in the local manufacturing industry of FDA approved, food-grade food service containers. Creating a mandate for the use of compostable and other plastic containers stifles the free market place, where businesses and consumers have the right to choose among the various types of safe, FDA approved food service containers.

However, the Chamber is not opposed to the section in this bill that would create a plastic source reduction working group and bring in all sides of this issue to begin discussions. Businesses across the State have already begun to voluntarily ban polystyrene containers and recently the Counties have begun to introduce and pass legislation. Through this working group, we can look at the results of these legislative actions to see how we can help to support a coordinated and comprehensive litter reduction program that is not just focused on plastic, but other forms of waste as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

March 13, 2019

Before the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and Economic Development & Business
Rep. Nicole Lowen, Chair
Rep. Angus McKelvey, Chair

March 14, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

RE: Opposition to SB 522 SD2 - Relating to Plastic

Chair Nicole Lowen, Chair Angus McKelvey and members of the committees. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to SB 522 SD2 – relating to plastic.

My name is Leighton Horiuchi, and I am Vice Chairman of ITO EN (Hawaii) LLC. We are a local beverage manufacturer and distributor of soft drinks doing business in Kalihi since 1987. We currently employ 85 local workers. Our product line includes Aloha Maid fruit drinks and iced teas and Royal Mills iced coffees. We also distribute many other soft drinks throughout the state, including our Aloha Wai brand bottled water which is manufactured out in Kapolei.

I strongly oppose SB 522 SD2. The beverage industry is a very important part of Hawaii's economy – and one of the few remaining industries still manufacturing in the Islands. Unlike most consumer products, many of our beverages, aluminum cans and plastic bottles are manufactured and distributed in Hawaii by local employees.

Plastic beverage bottles are not “single-use” products. Like aluminum cans, plastic beverage bottles are 100% recyclable, and can be collected, recycled, and made into new plastic containers or used in the manufacturing of other consumer goods such as carpets and clothing. For the past 14 years, the state Department of Health has operated Hawaii's Deposit Beverage Container program which has assisted businesses and residences to recycle over 7 billion beverage containers, including plastic bottles. Our industry businesses and community residences continue to support the state's recycling program whether through recycling centers or curbside recycling.

Our beverage industry is working with recyclers, governments, and environmental groups nationally and globally to reduce the amount of virgin plastic used to make beverage bottles, recycle more and recover more plastic for manufacturing, reduce our carbon footprint and keep the world litter free. This innovation and investment continues, and more leaders need to support and foster a positive recycling approach to overcome this worldwide issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,
Leighton Horiuchi



**Written Testimony of
David Thorp
American Beverage Association**

**Before the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection
and Economic Development & Business
Opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2– Relating to Plastic
March 14, 2019 – 8:30 a.m.**

Good morning Chair Lowen and Chair McKelvey and members of the committees. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2 – relating to plastic.

I am David Thorp, senior director of government affairs for the American Beverage Association (ABA). The American Beverage Association is the trade association representing the non-alcoholic beverage industry. ABA represents hundreds of beverage producers, distributors, franchise companies and supporting businesses that employ more than 239,000 people across the country.

Beverage industry’s local impact on Hawaii’s economy

The beverage industry is an important part of Hawaii’s economy – and one of the few remaining industries still manufacturing on the Islands. Unlike most consumer products, many of our beverages, aluminum cans and plastic bottles are manufactured and distributed in Hawaii by local workers.

Non-alcoholic beverage companies in Hawaii provide more than 1,050 good-paying jobs across our state. The industry helps to support thousands more workers in businesses that rely in part on beverage sales for their livelihoods and, such as grocery stores, restaurants and theaters.

Plastic beverage bottles are not single-use products

S.B. 522 S.D. 2 seeks to address the environmental concerns about the increased use of “single-use” food ware and packaging such as plastic straws, plastic bags, plastic stirrers, plastic utensils and polystyrene food containers. However, S.B. 522 S.D. 2 incorrectly defines plastic beverage bottles as a “single-use” consumer product. Taken together with aluminum cans, our packaging portfolio represents the most recyclable and highest value recyclable material of arguably any consumer product.

The beverage industry produces aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers that are 100% recyclable – even the plastic caps are recyclable. All of these beverage containers can be collected, recycled and made into new beverage containers – and the plastic beverage bottles can be recycled and used in the manufacturing of other consumer goods such as carpets and clothing.

The recycled PET (rPET) from our bottles is in great demand all over the world. Global markets for these high-value plastics remain robust as companies as diverse as Nike and Ford Motor compete with our members for use of this material as an input to production.

Beverage containers – including plastic bottles – are recycled in Hawaii

Hawaii residents have various opportunities to recycle their beverage containers, including their plastic beverage bottles. Since January 2005, the state Department of Health has operated Hawaii’s Deposit Beverage Container program (HI5) which has assisted residents to recycle over 7 billion beverage containers, including plastic bottles. Also, Honolulu offers many of its residents with curbside recycling which provides an easy way to recycle plastic bottles while other counties offer community recycling drop-off centers.

Conclusion

The beverage industry is working with recyclers, governments, and environmental groups nationally and globally to reduce the amount of virgin plastic used to make our bottles, recover more valuable plastic for remanufacturing, cut our carbon footprint in packaging and transportation, and keep the places we live and work litter-free. Our member companies will continue to innovate and invest to lessen our environmental impact.

Plastic beverage bottles are 100% recyclable, should not be defined as a “single-use” product nor prohibited for purchase by Hawaii consumers.

Sincerely,
David Thorp

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:26:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Vote no. This bill is a waste of time, totally unnecessary, and bans useful products that are doing minimal harm to the environment. If you wanted to improve the environment you wouldn't allow all the trash to accumulate in homeless encampments. Solve the homeless trash problem first and when you have nothing better to do, you can consider banning products your constituents find very useful.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:16:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Changing from our plastic habit won't be easy, but for the sake of the planet, which should be the overarching concern, it must be done.

SB 522
Relating to Plastic
In Strong Support

Hearing Date: Thursday, March 14th, 2019 , 8:30am
Room: House Conference Room 325
Committees: EEP, EDB

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP committee,
Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the EDB committee,

my name is Natalie Wohner, I am from Germany and a low-income graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa getting my Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering.

I strongly support SB 522, prohibiting the distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

Single-use plastics are made from fossil fuels, used once and persist in our environment more than our lifetime threatening our ecosystem and human health (please refer to the following paragraphs for more information). Due to these facts many countries and cities across the world are taking responsibility and adopting bans on single-use plastic items. I hope Hawai'i will do the same, step up as a leader in sustainability, and work on source reduction rather than continuing to create more waste that we have no capacity to deal with on our island in an environmental friendly way.

Impact of Polystyrene on Human Health - Expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) is the most unsustainable and unhealthy material I can think of as a scientist.

Evidence of cancer from studies in humans shows lymphohematopoietic cancer and genetic damage in the white blood cells, of workers exposed to high doses of styrene¹ on a daily basis. EPS food containers leach chemicals (styrene) into the food.

The amount of styrene that migrates into foods and liquids strongly depends on fat content and temperature, being highest for hot and fatty foods², which are served daily in Hawaii's take-out culture. The monomer styrene (or vinyl benzene), that leaches into the food when in contact with PS food containers, is listed as a hazardous chemical and categorized as a carcinogen.³

¹ The Report on Carcinogens, Twelfth Edition, prepared by National Toxicology Program (2011)

² M. S. Tawfik & A. Huyghebaert (1998) Polystyrene cups and containers: Styrene migration, Food Additives & Contaminants.

³ [New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Hazardous Substance Fact Sheet, 2011](#)

EPS does not compost in our landfills or in the ocean, and when burnt at H-Power it emits chemicals, such as benzaldehyde, acetophenone, styrene oxide, which are classified as hazardous substances or carcinogens by US EPA.

Impact of Single-use plastics on Ecosystem and Marine Life - We are swamped every day by reminders that plastics are a threat to our ecosystem (please see pictures below), and yet, every day there is more plastic produced, most everyday items are made or wrapped in plastics, and we have no solution in sight on how to deal with the huge amount of plastic we produce other than burning it or dumping into the landfill.

This is a collective global problem with no one in particular to blame for, but Hawai'i contributes to this problem, and we can change our throw-away culture by choosing more sustainable options that are readily available.



Mumbai, Juhu beach covered in plastics. (Credits: @haram_khor_ Instagram, Ganesh Vanare)



Researchers removing 4-inch plastic straw from a sea turtle's nose (Credit: Nathan J. Robinson)



Laysan albatross found dead in Midway Atoll - stomach filled with plastics (Credit: Chris Jordan).

Ocean Friendly Restaurants in Hawai'i - Polystyrene is leaching toxic chemicals into our food, we are not able to recycle it, it is littering our environment and yet, polystyrene is still being used as a material for food containers simply due to its low cost.

The main argument that this bill has not passed in the past decade was usually that it would be a financial burden for the business owners that provide take-out containers. The Surfrider Foundation Oahu, a non-profit organization, has a program that highlights

restaurants in Hawai'i that have sustainable business practices and do not use PS containers, and other single-use plastics. This program, the Ocean Friendly Restaurants program, shows that small and big local restaurants are thriving without the use of polystyrene or single-use plastics. There are more than 200 Ocean Friendly Restaurants (OFR) in Hawai'i⁴ and at least another 100 restaurants that are not part of the OFR program but do not use polystyrene containers. We have experienced a decrease in cost of paper clamshells in the past two years due to a higher demand and more distributors and companies switching to sustainable options.

Active Bans on Single-Use plastics - The University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Maui and the Big Island have already passed a ban on polystyrene containers, as well as many other cities, countries, such as New York City, Seattle, Takoma Park, Miami Beach, Portland (Maine), Nantucket County, Minneapolis, Portland (Oregon), Los Angeles, San Francisco, even Zimbabwe in Africa!

The European Union has banned all single-use plastics, together with New Delhi, Taiwan, Bali, UK, and plastic bag bans in Washington, Australia, Rwanda, Morocco, just to name a few.

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to testify and mahalo for your time.

Aloha nui loa,
Natalie Wohner

⁴ <https://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org/>

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 1:18:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I have spent a lot of time on University of Hawaii campus as well as working in restuarants, and it saddens me to witness the amount of plastic waste produced. As a member of the restuarant community, it was noticeable that employees grow accustomed to the lifestyle. I study Materials Science and have seen firsthand the effects of plastic in products. It is imperitive that change takes place.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:38:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Everett Jellinek	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is our chance to set an example for not just the rest of our country, but the world. Even with the most robust waste disposal and recycling programs, literally tons of plastic is lost into the ocean or the neighboring landscape. The plastic that makes its way to the ocean will go one of 3 ways. A) it will remain largely whole and join the rest of the Texas + sized garbage island in the Pacific. B) will get consumed whole by sea life which one way or another will get back to us as consumers at the top of the food chain. C) break down into microplastics, also working their way up the food chain consumed by even smaller sea life. One study of a large sample size of various sea creatures, 100% had some level of plastic in their digestive system.

Please, like many other areas of progress, let's take this step towards eliminating this cancer on our ecosystem that is single use plastic containers.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 5:08:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly Oppose.

Research has shown that China and Indonesia are the top sources of plastic bottles, bags and other rubbish clogging up global sea lanes. Together, both nations account for more than a third of plastic waste in global waters. A Ban will not fix this problem. Proper education and management of all waste will do better than any ban.

Thank you.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:15:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Gilda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill to phase out single-use plastics over 5 years (or Less!) (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.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:55:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Krista Hiser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii has the opportunity for this HISTORIC epic legislation to inspire the rest of the world. This bill will inspire our young people that "the system" can still represent people and aina. All young people want this. As a college professor my students are in extreme distress about this and other environmental issues. Without our beaches we have no economy. We have to stop this plastic madness and if we can't do it HERE, then where? Please do this. we need this. (Now, not in 2021, but successfully passing this bill will create a ripple of creativity and innovation that will be GOOD for hawaii, for tourism, for youth, and for aina.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:04:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Price	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Plastic marine debris is deadly to wildlife. It is one of the most common types of marine debris found on the beaches in Hawaii. Restricting the sale of plastic to consumers is a great step in the right direction of addressing this critical issue.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:34:18 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsey Kramer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is time to phase-out single use plastics. We must reduce our contributions to floating and suspended plastics in the ocean surrounding the islands. This bill will also result in a reduction in non-biodegradable litter on beaches and roadways.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:22:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Representatives Lowen and McKelvey,

My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17-year-old high schooler living in Ala Moana. I am in support of SB522. I am extremely passionate about protecting and preserving our precious environment for generations to come. I have always been an ocean person, and, in short period of time I have been alive, I have seen the changes on our beaches. I can no longer go to the beach and not expect to see some form of plastic rubbish, whether it be plastic straws, polystyrene containers, or single-use water bottles. Because of this, I recently created a project, called Project O.C.E.A.N., which tackles the issue of plastic pollution. As a part of this project, I conducted a survey of 1,250 people living here in Hawaii, and their opinions on single-use plastic straws. I started this survey on June 16, 2018.

As of March 12, 2019, the following are the results of my project's survey:

Reducing mankind's consumption of single-use plastic straws is important.

3.7% disagree, **87.6% agree**, 8.7% unsure.

The Hawaii State Legislature should implement a ban on single-use plastic straws in the food industry (still available for personal purchase and use).

9.3% disagree, **77.9% agree**, 12.8% unsure

The Hawaii State Legislature should completely ban the sale of single-use plastic straws, in the State of Hawaii, if there are suitable and reusable alternatives to replace them.

8.2% disagree, **82.9% agree**, 8.9% unsure.

It is obvious that the majority of those surveyed are in support of legislative action against plastic straws. I would also like to point out that I was doing my best not to be biased in my survey, and approached people of all ages and professions. Around 17% of people I surveyed were youth, and 24% were middle aged adults. Seniors made up 9.5% of those surveyed. Professions varied from accountants to nurses to scientists. Also, several food establishment managers and owners took up the survey, and **28 out of 34** of them **supported** a complete ban on single-use plastic straws. Therefore, I implore you to pass SB522. Community members, experts in the field, and local businesses are in support of effective legislation against straws.

If you would like to see more of the raw or processed data and information, or have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at projectoceanhawaii@gmail.com.

Also, I have a challenge which encourages people in Hawaii to stop using single-use plastic straws. Whoever takes up this challenge also receives a reusable stainless-steel straw. So far, I have distributed nearly 1,000 stainless-steel straws. This shows that there is a demand for reusable alternatives and that many people are willing to use an alternative to plastic straws.

Mahalo for your consideration, and for taking the time to read my testimony in support of SB522.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:58:34 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a 7th grader at SEEQS public charter school in Kaimuki. I am supporting SB522. If we do not stop using single-use plastics, we are sabotaging ourselves internally because we are polluting our resources.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:00:55 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mio Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a mother who cares about future generations and the only planet we have, I strongly support SB522. "We don't inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children." We all know that plastic pollution is a massive problem in Hawaii. The Earth covered by plastics is not the kind of planet that our children deserve.

Mahalo for reading my tesimony.

Mio Chee

Ala Moana

Testimony of
ELENA ZUCCHINI
Hawai'i resident

Before the House Committees on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Thursday, March 14, 2019

08:30 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 522, SD2
RELATING TO PLASTIC

Aloha Chairs Nicole E. Lowen and Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chairs Tina Wildberger and Lisa Kitagawa and Members of the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Economic Development & Business.

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 522, SD2, which seeks to prohibit the use of plastic bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state

agencies as well as the distribution or sale of plastic bags and the sale or distribution of single-use plastic beverage containers.

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 utensils, straws and plastic bags can still exist knowing that they have environmental and human health impacts as well as cleanup costs. As the president of the Surfrider HPU Club, I often have the opportunity to go to beach cleanups and it always strikes me to see how much plastic and foam are present along the beach as well as in the ocean. 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. 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 522, SD2.

Denise Boisvert
225 Kaiulani Ave #1604
Honolulu, HI 96815

March 12, 2019

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Committee on Economic Development & Business

Re: SB522 SD2 March 14, 2019

Dear Representatives,

There are many reasons that I strongly support Bill SB522 SD2, this is one of them.



I hope you will support it as well. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Denise Boisvert
Waikiki

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 3:11:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marissa Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Marissa and I'm 19 years old and I'm writing in support of SB522 for the economic, environmental, and social benefits that it would bring to our islands. As an island nation, we see direct impacts of the wasteful consumer culture that our society has inherited, and as a member of Hawaii's youth I must say that it is time for us to change our ways. Moving towards zero waste is not only the right thing to do but our only option for creating changes to our system that will truly protect the well-being of our human and environmental systems for the next generations. Please support this bill. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

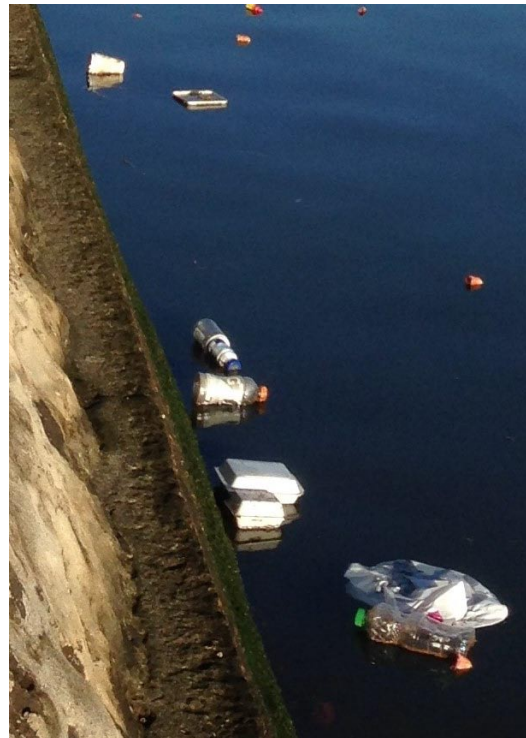
Mr. Kim Jorgensen
225 Kaiulani Ave #1604
Honolulu, HI 96815
March 12, 2019

Re: Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Committee on Economic Development & Business
SB522 SD2 March 14, 2019

Dear Representatives:

I strongly support Bill SB522 SD2.

Please look at a typical view and close-up of the Ala Wai Canal that I see each day on my morning walk.



The number of plastic bottles and wrappers, and polystyrene food containers always seen in the canal as well as flying around in the wind at beach parks is staggering.

Please support SB522 SD2. Let's join the other cities and states and countries that have enacted such bans to protect humans, wild and marine life, and the environment.

Sincerely,
Kim Jorgensen

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:07:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosanna Salois	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please protect our land and oceans by prohibiting the use of single use plastics!

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:22:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

It is important to keep Hawaii sustainable by stop using plastic!

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:57:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caitlin Carrington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this Bill for the health of our land and ocean resources.

Subject: SB522 SD2 related to plastics, EEP/EDB hearing 3/14/19 8:30am

Aloha, Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and committee members.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider SB522 SD2. My name is Jennifer Milholen, and I work for Kōkua 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 Hawai'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, convenience-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. SB522, of all of the plastic pollution bills, is the most comprehensive and realistic (read, phased) approach to addressing systemic change. With an issue of this magnitude, we will not succeed without a plan, and that's what SB522 SD2 offers us.

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 following amendments:

1) Inclusion of a medical necessity (ADA) exemption for the offer of straws, though this bill still allows for providing straws as long as they are not petrochemical-derived.

2) Consider an exemption on plastic water bottles for natural disaster related emergencies, as requested by DOFAW Fire Management.

3) Under the definition of "plastic," please consider this amendment to ensure the integrity of the definitions used, avoiding technical language grey areas around the term "biodegradable"

"Plastic" means any material made of petrochemical polymeric compounds and additives that can be shaped by flow, including plastic bags of any thickness, but not bioplastics that are biodegradable, certified compostable, ~~and~~ bioactive and are made from biomass or renewable sources such as sugarcane, cornstarch, or cassava root, chips, or starch.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please support SB522 SD2.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 5:37:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alice Hedensjoe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hawai'i is becoming a plastic island in the great garbage path. It's heart breaking to realize a cheap grab and go lunch is equal to single use plastic containers and cutlery. Our daily living is building an island of trash. Change is just crucial, please pass bill SB522.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 5:49:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chloe Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe this bill is very important and I am in full support of it. Hawaii needs to lead the plastic reduction charge in the US and continue to pass bills like SB 522 because this state doesn't have an alternative. Due to the state of Hawaii's limited options for trash disposal, reduction in waste is necessary and this bill proposes to significantly reduce plastic products. This will not only cause a decrease in waste generated, but a decrease in plastic pollution as well which is so clearly evident on the beaches and other locations around the islands.

There are many reasons to be in support of this bill, but the way I see it is if it is not passed, Hawaii will stay in a perpetual cycle ultimately leading to many negative and irreversible changes. These changes are optional as the passage of this bill will slow or stop them. I just recently turned nineteen years old and I'm asking for your help to preserve the islands for my kids and the rest of the generations to come.

Thanks for your time,

Chloe Moore

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 5:50:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steve Ward	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Just want to add my voice to those in support. We as citizens need to be more proactive on this issue. As a certified scuba diver and avid snorkler and explorer of the Big Island I've seen what a toll plastic is taking on our environment. We as a state can make a difference, and it starts with you.

Mahalo for listening!

Steven M. Ward

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:24:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christina Comfort	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am Christina Comfort, a resident of Pupukea on the north shore of O'ahu. I'm also an oceanographer at UH. I support SB 522. This is a comprehensive and forward-looking bill that will enable Hawaii to decrease our unnecessary stream of single-use plastics.

I've worked for years in the ocean, and I see the effects of wasteful plastic throwaway culture everywhere. In our coastal oceans and on our beaches, we can easily spot polystyrene foam containers that haven't made it to the trash, plastic utensils, and plastic bag. I pulled a "reuable" (i.e. thicker) plastic bag from the water at a recent beach cleanup. Recently on a west side beach, I spent a morning cleaning up a small area littered with polystyrene and other single use plastic products that had apparently blown out of a nearby trashcan and straight towards the ocean. As a community, with just a bit of effort and care for our environment over convenience, we can use reusable items and reduce this strain on our environment. Plastic in the ocean breaks up into smaller and smaller pieces but remains in the system for hundreds to thousands of years, and eventually is ingested by fish, seabirds, and even coral if the particles are small enough.

I no longer eat at restaurants on island that use polystyrene, and try to avoid places that still disitribute straws and plastic silverware. However, I still have lots of places to eat delicious, fresh food since many restaurants have already stopped using these items and are doing fine! I think that all restaurants in Hawaii should follow this lead and this bill would help speed the transition.

Again, I support this bill. Mahalo for your consideration.

With aloha,

Christina Comfort

Pupukea, HI

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:25:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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.

Almost every time I go to the beach or even go out for a walk around my neighborhood, I find myself picking up plastic and microplastics - from water bottles to styrofoam cups or to-go containers to plastic utensils or straws. This has to stop and in order to do that we need to stop the distribution of single-use plastic objects. I want my future children to enjoy a pristine ocean and clean beach, not one covered in floating plastic.

Mahalo,

Mariana Chinellato, Kailua 96734

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:37:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K Elizabeth Matthews	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill for our children and their children.

According to Alexander Kwiatowski of Bloomberg.org, it's estimated that ~100 million metric tons of plastic waste has already "leaked" into oceans, an amount that's increasing annually by 5 million to 15 million tons. This information is based on his research cited by the Paris organization, International Environment Agency (IEA). In their report, IEA informs the total amount of oceanic plastic is due to double by 2030. The time to act is now. We need to make the change. It might not be easy at first, but it will be worth it.

I was cleaning up trash on the beach this past week. Most of the plastic was newly dropped or picked up by the wind and brought to the ocean. It was not washed up old plastic. We need to work from the shore/island. We need to apply pressure to ensure companies are obligated to make good decisions based on demand. If we demand non-plastic, companies will supply more. We need to do this for the future of our planet and all living things.

References:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-10-05/plastic-waste-in-the-world-s-oceans-could-double-by-2030>

<https://www.iea.org/energy/data/energy-data-and-statistics/energy-statistics/>

Mahalo,

Elizabeth Matthews

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:41:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tulia Ferguson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SB 522. Plastic is one of the most common types of marine debris found in Hawaii, and it can be deadly to wildlife. Plastics and polystyrene products never truly degrade, they just break up into smaller and smaller pieces that animals, including even corals, often mistaken as food. Ingested plastic can leach toxins which can bioaccumulate within an individual animal and biomagnify up the food chain threatening multiple animal species including humans. Ingested plastics can cause suffocation and/or blocked digestive tracts leading to starvation. Single-use plastics like utensils, straws, and bags are unnecessary and since there are a multitude of environmentally friendly alternatives.

Please promote the change in our culture to end the use of single-use plastics.

Thank you,

Tulia Ferguson

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:01:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christy Bray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I think this is a great bill. Though it may cost more, ultimately it will be worth it because it will lessen our negative impact on the earth. Hawaii is such a beautiful place, and it needs to be left for future generations even better than we found it. I believe reduciing plastic is the first step in the right direction to improve our oceans, atmospheres, and street cleanliness.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:35:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SB522 SD2. As a longtime resident of Waikiki I have seen an intolerable increase in plastic pollution over the years from single use plastic items littering our beaches and walkways. I've also participated in beach cleanups and seen firsthand the devastating effects the gradual breaking down of these unnatural items reaks on our waterways, sea animals and land. It's heartbreaking. It gives me tremendous hope, however, when I see a bill such as this introduced at session. It helps me believe Hawaii can be the first plastic utensil, water bottle, straw and bag free state in the US. Please lend your support and help make this happen. Plastics are made from fossil fuels and discarded after one use, in the process contributing significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. As an island nation, Hawaii is at the front lines of the resulting change in our climate and already seeing disturbing events that have impacted communities such as the excessive flooding last year on Kauai and the increase in activity during this past hurricane season. The State of Hawaii has set out to be a leader in climate change, supporting this bill is helping our state government achieve those goals. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:42:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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 incorporated 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 privilege 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 ignite change this state desperately needs- and it is possible with your help.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:52:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniela Casillas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I find it critically important that Hawaii move toward zero waste. With the alternatives more readily available than ever, there is no reason to continue using single-use plastics.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 10:49:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Single use plastics are so bad for the environment!!! Please get rid of them! When I look around at our beaches I see things like straws and water bottles littering the island! I live here and love my home and I don't want to see this anymore! This is so important!!

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 11:50:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carla Gimpel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha dear all. My name is Carla Gimpel, and as a human, scientist, woman, sister, worker, farmer, teacher, musician and dancer i strongly support the ban of all single use plastics & wraps in all commerce & private instances. Our islands, our planet is not a garbage can of disposable convenience. We know better by now. Please keep listening to the people who live, love and care for the state and will persue every step to recover the madness that has become the abuse of plastic. Have a nice day and thanks for listenins and acting impecably. Carla.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:04:07 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

"It is never too late to start doing the right thing." Nicholas Sparks

Do the right thing for the environment and those who inhabit it. Vote to support SB522

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:19:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

This is imperative to the health of our islands and planet.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 1:43:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 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 522.

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-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 12:11:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laverne Salas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. My experience at Dolphin Quest inspires me to become even more actively involved in environmental stewardship and the preservation of marine wildlife.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 1:56:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Hanson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Polystyrene and other single-use plastics distributed by the food industry (as well as retail and others) are destroying our oceans, and are detrimental to the environment and human/ecosystem health. A bill banning their use is long overdue in in Hawai'i, where ocean and reef ecosystems are essential to the state's economy and the health of residents, and where wildlife scientists have long observed negative impacts relating directly to plastic waste in oceans.

I support this bill and urge our elected representatives to do the same.

Thank you for your consideration,

Natalie Hanson

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 2:24:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louise Sper	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please help our state remain the most beautiful of all! We need to eliminate single use plastics from our islands....we do not have unlimited space in our landfill, and single use plastics are taking up this space....additionally, I always see the residual of single use plastics on the beach and in the ocean and am tired of seeing this. This is the right step to help everyone become more mindful of the trash and waste we all create...and bills like this can encourage us all to take small steps. Help our community and our keiki maintain the beauty our nature holds now and forever!

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 2:36:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorraine Garnier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in Full Support of SB522 SD2

I am in strong support of this bill protecting the environment by banning plastic bottles, utensils, foam, and straws.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 6:35:37 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaliko Amona	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:00:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 7:37:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Dohm	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 8:45:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Evelyne Randles	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:36:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 3:13:55 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James T Lovell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:14:19 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyron Terazono	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 8:38:15 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith Perino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 9:38:58 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hideki Kimukai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:40:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
KASI NUNES	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 12:18:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tenaiya Brookfield	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 6:54:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 2:20:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 2:23:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
june chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 2:43:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Nagasawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

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

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Haruka Watanabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:47:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 5:23:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danny Skinz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 1:38:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kari Yang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing today in regards to proposed bill S.B. 522 SD2, Relating to Plastic.

I wholeheartedly agree that we should all do our part to be more sustainable. Hawaii, with its beauty and uniqueness should be the front-runner for sustainable management. While this proposal is a great way to get the conversation going, that is all it is. In the legislatures attempt to be "at the forefront of this movement," I find this bill to be reactionary versus solution based.

There are many things that I find lacking and concerning in the proposed bill. For the sake of brevity, I will focus on the most concerning.

As currently written, Part II, Section 2c states "No individual or business shall distribute, sell or otherwise provide any form of plastic bag after July 1, 2023." This language is too broad. It could possibly ban the sale of any plastic bag including ziplock type bags used for food storage as well as trash liners. This section needs to make clear that the ban would be on carryout bags only. There is no current alternative to plastic trash liners. Plastic trash liners are used in homes, businesses and parks. Without a sturdy, liquid-proof liner, I fear that there is a greater risk of contamination and bacterial transmission. This is highly concerning. If the intent is to ban single use carryout bags, please reword this section accordingly.

Respectfully,

Kari Yang

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 2:04:52 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 2:07:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maureen Ruh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 3:33:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Ishida	ABC Stores	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairperson Lowen and Chairperson McKelvey and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection and the Committee on economic Development and Business.

ABC Stores opposes SB 522 Relating to Plastics. This measure would prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022., and bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023.

We have been in support of environmental measures like the call for the customer to request the use of single use plastic straws. We also recognize that a state law would be more uniformed for business operations and maybe more beneficial than a diverse array of county 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. The alternative products often creates more waste in volume and energy as well as increased air and water pollution – in the manufacturing of and in the transportation of these alternative products to businesses. We need to be looking into comprehensive solutions like public trash cans that are designed to keep its contents from flying out. We agree that a plastic reduction working group that has a fair balance of government, business, and the community is a step in the right direction. We urge you to hold this measure. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:37:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:01:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
david campbell	aloha beer co.	Support	No

Comments:

My name is David Campbell, and I am a partner and Director of Operations at Aloha Beer Co. in Kakaako, and I wholeheartedly support this bill. We adopted a no plastic policy at our brewery/restaurant over two years ago and have had no adverse effects as a result. If anything, we have gained much kudos from our customers. As a lifelong resident of O'ahu, ocean sports have always been my number one release and sanctuary. Anything that I can do to keep plastics from making their way into the ocean is very worthwhile. It was easy to make the switch at our place, and I think it wouldn't be that hard or inconvenient for all of Hawaii to do the same.

Aloha Dave



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

March 14, 2019 8:30 a.m. Room 325

LATE

In SUPPORT of SB 522 SD2: Relating to plastic

Aloha Chair Lowen, Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Wildberger, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of both committees,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 522 SD2**, which seeks to prohibit the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022. Bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023. Creates the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging. Appropriates funds.

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 large 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. The toxins and heavy chemicals found in plastics are not compostable or biodegradable and can take 500 years or more to decompose. They create an overabundance of waste that continually overflows local landfills and overflows our



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

beaches. This is particularly concerning for our economy being that tourists don't want to visit beaches engulfed in plastic pollution.

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 this transition as they have had many years to understand the movement away from plastic and polystyrene is happening and that they need to adapt as well. 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. The European Union just approve a ban on single-use plastics by 2021. There are numerous municipalities 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. These alternatives may cost a little more, but 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 522 SD2.***

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

**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT TOYOFUKU ON BEHALF OF TEKNI-PLEX, INC.
REGARDING S.B. NO. 522, S.D. 2**

DATE: March 14, 2019
TIME: 8:30 a.m.



To: Chairperson Nicole Lowen and Chairman Angus McKelvey and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection and the House Committee on Economic Development and Business:

My name is Bob Toyofuku and I am presenting this testimony on behalf of Tekni-Plex, Inc. regarding S.B. No. 522, S.D. 2, Relating to Plastic.

One of the purposes of this measure is to prohibit a business where food or beverages are sold to use, sell, or distribute polystyrene foam containers. Tekni-Plex is a globally-integrated company focused on developing and manufacturing innovative packaging materials for some of the most well-known names in the medical, personal care, household & industrial, and food & beverage markets. Headquartered in Wayne, Pa., Tekni-Plex employs 2,500 people throughout its operations in the United States as well as other countries around the world.

The company manufactures foam packaging containers and closure liner products that protect your food and beverage products from breakage and that minimize product contamination and leakage. It produces polystyrene foam packaging used to contain raw and uncooked foods and produce such as eggs. We feel that these products do not become a source of litter which is one of the concerns that has been put forth in support of this bill. In order to clarify the type of products it produces Tekni-plex respectfully requests that the provision on page 7, lines 8 & 9 be amended to include the following language:

" Polystyrene foam container" means a container that is made using polystyrene except for those containers used to package raw, uncooked, or butchered meat, fish, poultry, seafood, eggs or produce for off-premises consumption. *amended language underlined.*

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 9:32:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tiffany Golden	Kula Shave Ice	Support	No

Comments:

Our business, Kula Shave Ice, has been using compostable products for 2 years. Our “plastics” are made from corn fiber and we use paper straws, bowls and cups, spoons and gloves. We do not feel that plastic alternatives hinder our business in any way. We feel it helps bring us more business as we hear many customers say they appreciate our anti-plastic stance and come to our business because of it. We have also been able to use Compost Hawaii to haul our rubbish and turn it into compost, which they use to grow food for the community. Compostable plastic alternatives are the future here!



To: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Economic Development and Business

From: Paula Yoshioka, Vice President, Government Relations and External Affairs, The
Queen's Health Systems

Date: March 13, 2019

Hrg: House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection and Committee on Economic
Development and Business Joint Hearing; Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 8:30 AM in
Room 325

Re: Comments on S.B. 522, S.D.2 Relating to Plastic

The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) is a not-for-profit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen's hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, 66 health care centers and labs, and more than 1,600 physicians statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai'i, Queen's strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen's appreciates the opportunity to comments on S.B. 522, S.D.2, relating to plastic. While we appreciate the intent of this measure, we have serious concerns with regards to the potential impacts on patient and environmental safety. Subsection (c) on page 2, lines 6-7, would prohibit any business from distributing, selling, or otherwise providing any form of plastic bag after July 1, 2023. As written, this measure could prohibit our ability to acquire plastic bags for trash disposal, ziplock bags for containment of medical supplies, and bags for containment of biohazardous waste. The Federal and State government regulate many aspects of medical and infectious waste, including management of sharps, requirements for containers that hold or store medical/infectious waste, labeling of medical/infectious waste bags/containers, and employee training. The prohibition of distributing, selling, or otherwise providing plastic bags on health care providers puts our patients and community at risk. We respectfully request exclusion of health care facilities, providers, and suppliers from these prohibitions to ensure that our patients and community continue to have access to a safe care environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



LATE

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 522 SD2 - OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose SB 522 SD2, which would ban the use of single-use plastic beverage bottles, bags, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam foodservice containers and straws in Hawaii. ACC and its members certainly support efforts to reduce litter and marine debris; however, SB 522 SD2 appears to be drafted under the false assumption that alternatives to these products 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 including 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 522 SD2 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"¹.

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 stream². For this reason the California State Water Resources Control Board rejected the use of bans as a compliance mechanism for waterborne trash reduction³.

¹ http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf

² https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/stormwater/MRP/02-2012/Comments/Dart/Staff_Exhibits.pdf

³ 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 products⁴.
- 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 products⁵.

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 to⁶.

Lastly, replacements for polystyrene products will likely result in higher operating costs for restaurants, food trucks, delis, schools and the host of other food providers covered under SB 522 SD2. 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.

Plastic Beverage Bottles

PET plastic beverage bottles are 100% recyclable and are the single most recycled item nationwide in curbside collection programs and make up only a small percentage of the waste stream. In fact, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) data shows that plastic water bottles make up less than one-third of one percent of the U.S. waste stream.

Additionally, manufacturers of plastic beverage bottles are continually looking for ways to lighten their environmental footprint by reducing the raw materials used in PET plastic through light weighting, redesign, and use of post-consumer recycled materials. Between 2000 and 2014, the average weight of a single-serve PET bottled water container dropped by 51% and bottled water companies are already using up to 50% recycled material in their plastic bottles. SB 522 SD2 will shift consumption to other products that are not as widely recycled and use significantly more resources to manufacture.

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

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

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



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 522 SD2, we would instead encourage material suppliers, product makers, food/drink establishments and NGOs to work collaboratively to promote the responsible use of straws, such as adopting an "upon request" policy.

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 16th 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. You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551.



LATE

Mar. 13, 2019

In Support of SB367 SD1 Relating to Environmental Protection
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Mar. 14, 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 SB522 to phase out single-use straws, utensils, stirring sticks and polystyrene food containers. 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 polystyrene foam and other single-use plastics as part of our popular Rise Above Plastics campaign. We are also part of Zero Waste Oahu and the Hawaii Reef & Ocean Coalition (HIROC), a group of coral reef scientists, environmental groups, businesses and educational groups, and this Zero Waste bill is one of our top priorities this session.

Polystyrene food containers are one of the most littered items in our Islands. 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 phasing out polystyrene food containers and other single-use plastics 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 foam-free in the last 24 months! They have also committed to only offering straws on request and not using plastic bags, plates, cups or utensils onsite. Here's a partial list of all the restaurants in Hawaii: 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! But plastic straws, utensils and stirring sticks are high on the list of the most littered items that we remove from our coastal areas. 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.

Hawaii has one of the highest per capita rates of take-out food in the country. Locals and visitors tell us they are shocked by the number of polystyrene food containers they see in restaurants and later find on the beaches. The same goes for single-use plastic straws, stirrers and utensils. 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 polystyrene and plastic 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. 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.

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 and single-use plastic bags, straws, and utensils are toxic to the environment, their use should be phased out gradually. There are many affordable alternatives that are non-toxic, biodegradable and not damaging to the environment or human health. On top of that, it will cost the counties less to clean up.

The state needs a consistent policy of eliminating these and other single-use 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 consideration and leadership on this issue.

Aloha,

Stuart Coleman

Stuart H. Coleman, Hawaii Manager

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:56:25 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacey Gray	No Single-Use Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and honorable members of the joint committee,

We urge you to support this bill. The economic driver of our state is tourism and the plastics that litter our beaches are not just blown here from far away places. Foam plate lunch containers, plastic cutlry, plastic straws and plastic bags litter the shoreline come from residents and tourists and make Hawaii less desirable. There are sustainable and affordable options to get rid of these convenient but often eternal items.

Numerous cities have banned plastic bags outright and many have banned foam. These are changes that are in the best interest of us and our children that are going to inherit these precious resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony.

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:36:25 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimberly	EMCC Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Kimberly De Souza, Sustainability Specialist, testifying on behalf of EMCC Hawaii. Being an energy efficiency company, EMCC is committed to sustainability in the Hawaiian islands.

We SUPPORT this bill which

"Prohibits the purchase, use, sale, or distribution of plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and straws by state and county agencies after July 1, 2021, and by businesses selling food and beverages after July 1, 2022. Bans the distribution or sale of plastic bags after July 1, 2023. Creates the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging."

Hawaii needs to move forward along with all the other states and countries which are banning single use plastics and foam to nip pollution at its source. With more and more microplastics washing up on Hawaii's shores, our oceans' are overwhelmed with the plastic and styrofoam which was used and thrown away decades ago. Our beach clean up groups can only do so much - without banning plastic and styrofoam, it will be endless and soon there will be more plastic than fish in the sea.

On top of that Hawaii has limited landfills and will continue to bear the burden of shipping waste to somewhere else (the mainland) if we continue to utilize materials which cannot biodegrade. Hawaii and the world cannot continue in this wasteful path. We need to put policy into place to encourage more innovative biodegradable technologies and move away from what we know is the old and wrong path that is single use plastics and foam.

Hawaii's main source of income is tourism which means we need to keep our beautiful islands clean and pollution free so people will keep visiting. The millions of tourists that visit our islands are also contributors to this single use plastic and styrofoam pollution. With this ban in place, restaurants will be forced to source biodegradable packaging which will help our oceans and reduce the pollution on our beaches.

Please pass this bill and ban the use of single use plastics and styrofoam ASAP.

Mahalo!

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 4:47:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Pence	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I support the comments of Jason Donovan as a solutionary

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 5:18:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The evidence demonstrating that we need to drastically curb our use of plastics is all around us. Plastics litter our beautiful beaches. Plastics clog up the intestines of marine animals, killing them. We cannot continue to produce and dispose of tons of plastics with the knowledge that the substance will stick around, harming our environment, for thousands of years. As a marine biologist and an educator, I put my full support behind this bill.

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 6:46:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB522, which would take steps to limit plastic pollution.

Many plastics leach suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins as they degrade into smaller and smaller pieces, and studies show some of these toxins are slowly accumulating in the fatty tissues of humans and other animals.

Whales, sea turtles, fish and birds commonly mistake plastic for food. The "Great Garbage Patch" circulating between Hawaii and California is steadily growing. Plastic is not biodegradable and only degrades into smaller and smaller pieces, thereby contaminating the lowest levels of the food web.

Additionally, many plastics are made with petroleum, the manufacture of which is a great contributor to the heat-trapping gases responsible for the greenhouse effect we are now seeing.

For these reasons, cities in the US and around the world are banning certain types of plastics such as polystyrene, or instituting measures to cut down on plastic pollution.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 7:59:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tabatha Aiko Knudson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2019 10:13:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

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

Comments:

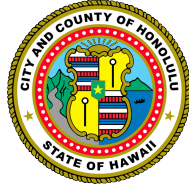
OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 9TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-2277 • EMAIL: resilientoahu@honolulu.gov • INTERNET: www.resilientoahu.org

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



JOSHUA W. STANBRO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019 8:30AM

STATE OF HAWAII
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 522 SD2
A BILL RELATING TO PLASTIC**

BY,

JOSHUA STANBRO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

Dear Chairs Lowen and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Wildberger and Kitagawa, and
Committee Members:

The City and County of Honolulu (City) Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency **supports** Senate Bill 522 SD2, which proposes to prohibit the purchase, sale, use, or distribution of single-use plastic service items and create the plastic source reduction working group to make recommendations for eliminating single-use plastic packaging.

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 this measure to decrease the amount of plastics in O'ahu's waste stream.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:45:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

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

Comments:

I support this bill because there has been many enviromental difficulties happening with the world already.

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 9:59:54 AM
Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalamakahi Crabbe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Kalamakahi Crabbe,

I am a 7th grader at SEEQS public charter school and in STRONG SUPPORT for SB 522 because this would reduce plastic waste and prevent plastic containers rolling into the stream, washing up on shore, flying around the streets, and most importantly cleaning up the homes for our native animals. We as people and citizens who impact our home and wildlife the most need to take a step back and see the bigger picture. How we affect the community, how we affect the environment most importantly. If we keep on producing plastic waste, we destroy our home and tourist (our main money intake) will not like to come to Hawai'i to see trash. I would like to see my home in it's best state and now it is not and that brings me great sadness to see my home I am growing up in deteriorating right before my eyes.

Sincerely,

Kalamakahi Crabbe

LATE

SB-522-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 10:29:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/14/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Single use plastics should be banned. We can use reusable containers.

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LATE

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Starbucks and McDonald's are testing these radical cups of the future

A coalition of some of the biggest brands on the planet just awarded \$1 million to 12 companies trying to build a cup that's easy to recycle. Here are the finalists.



[Source Image: vinap/iStock]

BY MARK WILSON

6 MINUTE READ

[McDonald's and Starbucks](#). Yum brands. [Nestlé](#). Coca-Cola. Wendy's.

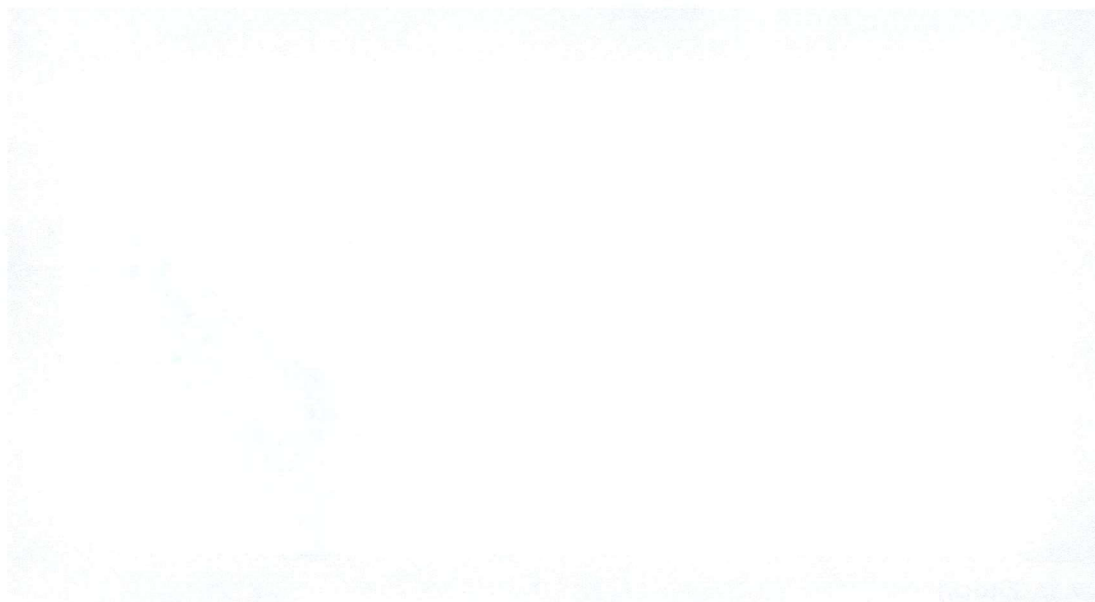
They're some of the most powerful food and beverage companies in the world, and they're all throwing their weight behind a collective effort to tackle a big problem: the 250 billion fiber cups that pile up in landfills each year, most of which will need 1,000 years to biodegrade since they're actually coated in a micro layer of polyethylene. The goal? To create the ultimate disposable paper cup—one that can both be composted and recycled, anywhere in the world.

I covered the project, called the [Next Gen Cup Challenge](#), when it was announced last July. At that point, Closed Loop Partners—an investment firm that focuses on sustainability and is running the competition—was inviting startups around the world to pitch their cup designs and new materials. Now, we're finally getting a look at some of the best.

CupClub—what the company calls “bike sharing but for cups” [Photo: courtesy NextGen Cup Challenge]

Since then, Closed Loop, with the assistance of the collaborative design platform OpenIdeo, has collected 500 submissions from 50 countries, and representatives from the food companies involved have picked the most promising 12 ideas to move on.

ADVERTISING



These winners will share a \$1 million grant and enter a virtual accelerator, working with factories and industry partners to both test and mass-produce their cups. Then, they'll begin real-world beta testing in September. There may be one winner, but it's quite likely that a few of these finalist companies will combine their technologies to produce one final cup.

Solublue—a plant-based clear plastic alternative [Photo: courtesy NextGen Cup Challenge]

All of the shortlisted technologies take one of three basic approaches. A few propose replacements to the aforementioned polyethylene liner in paper cups. While polyethylene keeps paper waterproof, insulates a drink to keep it hot or cold, and can prevent sweaty condensation from building outside the cup, it's also the primary component that keeps most paper cups from being recycled or composted.

A second group of finalists proposes radical new paper composites that need no liner at all, allowing them to biodegrade or be recycled easily. And a third category proposes another direction entirely: reusable cups that can be collected after being used, through either a subscription or scout's honor system at your local Starbucks. One startup goes so far as to detail a high-tech cup with an RFID lid for managing its inventory inside a complicated venue like a stadium (which is an idea [that's been experimented with](#) before).

"The opportunity for the most immediate solution is the liner," admits Bridget Croke, vice president of external affairs at Closed Loop Partners. "It doesn't completely prohibit recycling in some markets, but it's the biggest barrier to scaling recycling. If we can remove that barrier . . . it's the quickest solution to get recyclable. And if the cup's material is compostable, too, it gives flexibility market by market."

Revolv, which uses RFID for recollection [Photo: courtesy NextGen Cup Challenge]

Over the next few months the finalists will find out if their cups can be made by the traditional cup supply chain, by working directly with factories that partner with companies like McDonald's to produce their current cups. This is crucial; their designs need to be able to scale within the current manufacturing infrastructure rather than requiring completely bespoke production methods. Along the same lines, the cups will also need to fit inside the existing waste management system—ideally, they will need to be something any recycler is happy to take, because recycling is ecologically preferable to composting.

"[Composting] is not a great environmental solution," says Rebecca Zimmer, global director of environment at Starbucks. "We don't want everyone throwing their packaging in their backyard. There will always be a greater environmental benefit to recovering the material [and using it to] develop more packaging, because it's offsetting virgin resources. There's not as much value in soil."

And then there's the most pressing challenge that contestants' designs will face when they're beta tested in September in pilots at restaurants, universities, and stadiums: Do they actually work?

"On a basic level, can it hold hot boiling liquids without the seam falling apart—without saturation into the seams and collapse of the cup?" Zimmer asks. "Those are some of the things that would happen if a liner was unable to handle the temperature of the fluids."

Material validation will happen through a combination of factory partners and formalized, internal testing at companies that are part of the Next Gen Cup Challenge. One major potential problem that companies will be looking for is whether the cups change a product's flavor.

“At Coca-Cola, we'd take a cup out of the challenge and do sensory testing and make sure it doesn't change the taste. We do that with every cup or container,” says Bruce Karas, who leads sustainability and environment for Coca-Cola North America. “Think of with coffee, if you stir up coffee and you go to a place with the wooden stirring stick, people will taste it. The sensory perception with a piece of wood in your mouth is different than plastic or metal. It's typical in the food [for that to happen]. We have scientists, that's all they do—scientists who do R&D on packaging.”

Coca-Cola isn't really in the business of selling disposable cups—and will likely take a back seat in Next Gen Cup testing—but McDonald's does buy cups. Lots of cups. Alongside Starbucks, it distributes 4% of all cups worldwide each year, and the experience of using those cups is key to each brand. It will be putting Next Gen cups through the paces in the coming year.

“There's a whole host of things we would be looking at from a performance standpoint, and we'd be using our existing standards and cups as a baseline, and understand if any of these innovations meet the current standard we have or beat those standards,” says Marion Gross, the McDonald's chief supply chain officer for the United States. Gross explains that beyond taste tests, “we'd also be looking for things like, does the cup have proper rigidity? Is it strong enough to withstand a period of time sitting in someone's drink holder in the summer, in the winter when it's cold? Does it keep the beverage hot for a reasonable amount of time, or does it keep a beverage cold? How does the ice melt? Does it water down the beverage sooner than customers would expect?”

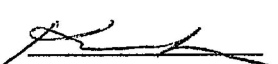
Gross says it's too early to know if one cup design will be able to handle both the cold sodas and hot coffees at McDonald's, or if it will actually require two cups of the future to handle all its products.

It's also worth noting that even the perfect paper cup won't fix everything for all of these companies (or the planet). Starbucks admits that it will likely need to find an alternative solution for its iced beverages, which feature rich hues you can only see through transparent plastic. However, it is possible that Next Gen Cup technologies, which range from new materials to new recycling standards, could provide *some* part of an iced drink solution for Starbucks to implement down the line. Indeed, one finalist is actually a transparent plastic alternative developed from plants that could theoretically be used in straws or cups.

For now, developing the perfect paper cup is a daunting task unto itself. Assuming the Next Gen Cup winners can figure out how to attain proper performance, source the right materials, produce cups at scale, and make it all recyclable, the final big question facing the challenge—and the companies behind it—will simply be, do consumers *actually like* using the new cup?

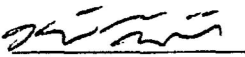

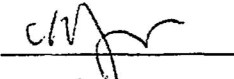

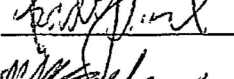
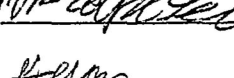
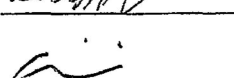
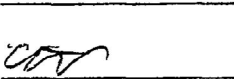
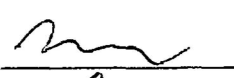
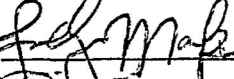
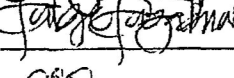


“My first reaction is, what does the customer think? And what does the customer want? We're obsessed with what the customer wants and expects from McDonald's,” says Gross. “Regardless of what the substrate is, if it's not appealing to the customer, or they say this is too weird, it's probably not going to rate very high.”

Aloha! My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17 year-old high schooler who cares about protecting our precious beaches. Right now, SB522 is the only bill that would phase out single-use plastics, including plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and more. This bill would make a difference, and one we really need. Please sign my petition in support of SB522 and a healthy Hawaii. If not for me, please support a sustainable Hawaii for the sake of future generations!

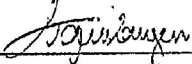
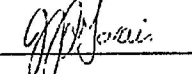
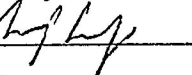
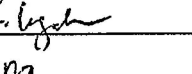
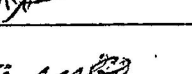
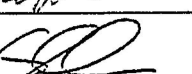
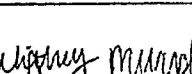
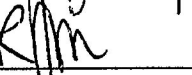
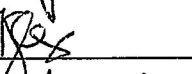

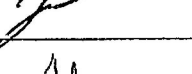


Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
Kebun Kebun		45-262 Lilipuna Rd Kaneohe Hi. 96744	Kebun
Māhealani Yamaguchi	Māhealani	96795	tyamaguchi

LATE

Aloha! My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17 year-old high schooler who cares about protecting our precious beaches. Right now, plastic is the problem that would phase out single-use plastics, including plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and more. This would make a difference, and one we really need. Please sign my petition in support of SB522 and a healthy Hawaii. If not for me, please support a sustainable Hawaii for the sake of future generations!

Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
Kyle Tamaribuchi		98-1877 Piki St,	Kyle 20
Sophie Tabas		84-461 Makaha Villy Rd	stabas
Makayla Yano		2342 Kio Pl. Hon. HI 96819	msyano
Terence Freeman		84-871 Hanalei St 96732	tfreem@
Kady Pasovait		91-4103 ^{Laauvu St} Laauvu St Apt. 309 96706	Kady.snp@
Mikayla Lee		1025 Napoakale	meil413@
Gaelyn Flores		91-585 Hikalimika Rd	gfloresk@
Carina Nagaiishi		1355 Moanaluapl	carinan@
Emilee Stallings		41-1061 Kanolu St	estallings
James Jus		92 886 Pilihon	989j@
Jarlyza Marcho		87-145 Helema St. 4	jarlyza@
Paige Pagaduan		87-215 Maalaa St	paigep@
Connie Casili		94-1449 Wehina Lp Bx 96797	ccasili

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Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
BORIS QUIBOYEN		2001 N DILLINGHAM BLVD 96719	(808) 281-1111
JIDEE GARCIA		950 Robello Lane	(808) 422-1111
ALAN PEREZ		2228 SUSAN LN Apt 6-6	(808) 462-1111
Lizbeth Ugalde		104A WALKER AVE	lizbeth.ugalde@gmail.com
Carly Oliva		PO Box 971733	(808) 962-1111
Shayna Okare		94-240 Monolua Ct 2 96781	solamini@gmail.com
Shaughn Holloway Hill		34-127 Kiapa Pl.	shaughn@icloud.com
Whitney Murphy		91-6514 Kapolei Pkwy 96706	wamurphy@gmail.com
Renee Velasco		91-803 Olaniani St. Kapolei 96707	reneelvelasco@gmail.com
Katrina Abes		724 Kakaia St. #1502 Kapolei 96707	missguerrero@gmail.com
Rebecca Canino		91-525 Hikianala Loop Waipahu, HI 96797	caninorebecca@gmail.com
Jessica Watawai		95-1012 Healani St Milani HI, 96789	jwatawai@gmail.com
Tiana Henderson		580 Farrington Hwy, Kapolei, HI 96707	tiana.henderson@gmail.com

Aloha! My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17 year-old high schooler who cares about protecting our precious beaches. Right now, SB522 is the only bill that would phase out single-use plastics, including plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and more. This bill would make a difference, and one we really need. Please sign my petition in support of SB522 and a healthy Hawaii. If not for me, please support a sustainable Hawaii for the sake of future generations!

Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
Kales Kahambii		55-067C LANIKUHI STREET 96762	(808) 3
Sherryl Brown		191 Koko Ct #101	405 5
Janet Duke		95-707 Lanikuhana Ave #2006	48
Taimane Pwaka		91-1651 Fahika St. Apt 210	96706 (323)
Shanmish Fernandez		91-929 Heiwa Pkwy, Ewa Beach, HI 96706	808-783
Luana Visitation		91-1043 Anauau St. Ewa Beach HI 96706	8
Ian Blackley		92-1486 Kulihl Street	lanth216
Alyssa Calangos		94-934 Hiapo St	408 79
JOCELYN BANKS		81-1720 FARRINGTON HWY #19 WAIHANA HI 96792	
Margan Fagaran		94-1075 Heahe St. / 96797	808 30
Kathleen Acaris		108 Keniko Pl Waihala HI 96786	808 39-
Leatrice Berardo		10 Kaliponi St. 96786	808 200
Leilani Ulu		87-1000 Kaihobulu	646

Aloha! My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17 year-old high schooler who cares about protecting our precious beaches. Right now that would phase out single-use plastics, including plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers would make a difference, and one we really need. Please sign my petition in support of SB522 and a healthy Hawaii. If not for support a sustainable Hawaii for the sake of future generations!

Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
Megan Ayala	Megan Ayala	265 Palm St / 96786	ayalamega@
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Jillian Panganiban	Jillian Panganiban	94-966 Anaikei St. Naipahu, HI 96797	jpanganib
Mam Rasang	Mam Rasang	41-1670 Humuakula Ln	mrasang
Cory Tom	Cory Tom	98-485 Kaonohi St, HI 96701	Corytom
KATRINA LANUA	Katrina Lanua	01-1030 WAINOHU ST. KAPOLEI, HI 96707	KRLANUA
Symantha Arcala	Symantha Arcala	85-1229 Kaneilio St. Waianae, HI 96792	arcala
Pua Bingo	Pua Bingo	07-381 Kuluae St. Waianae, HI 96792	pua bingo k
Sharmaine Aquino	Sharmaine Aquino	91-1017 KAMAHA AVE UNIT #105 KAPOLEI, HI 96707	aquino
Cathy Newman	Cathy Newman	3709 Mahina Ave. Hon. HI. 96816	CNewman
Jaret Leong	Jaret Leong	UH M	Jaret L
Dawn Nishida	Dawn Nishida	UH M	nishida

Aloha! My name is Dyson Chee and I am a 17 year-old high schooler who cares about protecting our precious beaches. Right now we need laws that would phase out single-use plastics, including plastic beverage bottles, utensils, stirring sticks, polystyrene foam containers, and more. These would make a difference, and one we really need. Please sign my petition in support of SB522 and a healthy Hawaii. If not for me, please support a sustainable Hawaii for the sake of future generations!

Name (Print)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone
Fhamela		86-540 Puuhulu Rd. / 96792	fjagmata@
Wendy	W.h	94-333 Makua St. / 96797	lehanc@
Arz		94-1171 Hiopo St. / 96797	artizam@
Macie		1520 Hochuku St.	macier@
Bryanne		67-334 Kaiea Place 96791	bryanne@
Ariana		6236 B Ibis Ave. 96706	braine@
Tazsharae		87-512 Manuahiue St. 96792	twillis2@
Ajholie		89-1020 Hookuikahi St. 96792	atafiti@
Tatiana		90-162 Leihoku St. 96797	tkhamit@
Jada		85-106 Ala Waiua St. 96792	jada.ja
Cecilia		2914 B Lanoha 96813	cc@
Sydney Barde		8771 Old Mokuapu Rd 96734	sydbur@
Ashley Enanoria		91-214 Loululelo Pl 96707	ashley@

LATE

**Written Testimony of
Fred Sylva, Operations Manager
Pacific Allied Products**

**Before the House Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection
and Economic Development & Business
Opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2– Relating to Plastic
March 14, 2019 – 8:30 a.m.**

Good morning Chair Lowen and Chair McKelvey and members of the committees. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2 – relating to plastic.

My name is Fred Sylva I am the Operations Manager for Pacific Allied Products. We are a small manufacturing company located in Kapolei, Hawai'i. We manufacture Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) into single serve containers and is used for both water production and carbonated soft drink production (CSD).

We are one of the very few remaining manufacturing companies in the state of Hawai'i. I oversee 70 employees most with local roots and families. I myself am a local boy born and raised on the Island of Oahu and live on the Westside.

Our industry helps create jobs for many of Hawai'i residents and is an economic contributor that does not rely 100% on tourism. Pacific Allied, Hawaiian Isles, Menhune Water and Aloha Water are our Oahu's main water manufacturers that have provided the state of Hawai'i with clean drinking water for the people of Hawai'i not only on an everyday basis but during some of Hawai'i's most tragic times dealing with hurricanes and other natural disastrous events.

In many cases I have started up our plants within eight hours after a major storm because we knew how important it is for our state. Many of my employees will leave their families during these times to run the plant. Coca-Cola Hawai'i, PepsiCo Hawai'i are two major beverage industry giants. They too have done their part – instead of shipping product in from the mainland they have been manufacturing their products here in the state of Hawai'i creating job for Hawai'i's people. Aquafina is Pepsi's brand of water and Dasani is Coca-Cola's brand – both waters are manufactured here in Hawai'i.

All of us in the plastic manufacturing industry are environmental stewards that practice recycling method to minimize our impact to the environment. My company for example has a measurable objective of 3% or less of waste scrap as a target. We recycle 100% of our PET scrap to our local reclamation companies to be shipped off and recycled into new products avoiding contribution of PET scrap into our landfills.

We have a bottle redemption program that has put a value on another empty container that would normally end up in the trash is now recycled. Instead of a ban of single serve containers I would recommend an educational campaign launch to educate all of the people of Hawai'i on the environmental impacts that not only plastics, but all discarded items not disposed of properly. Perhaps, we should have stiffer fines and penalties for people who litter all over our beautiful island. We could look at expanding Hawai'i's ability to having a close loop system, remanufacturing plastic waste into new products creating more jobs for the people of Hawai'i.

In conclusion, I would like you to consider the effect of having this ban that would eliminate over 3,200 jobs state wide from one of Hawai'i's last industries and humbly ask that you do not pass this ban Senate Bill 522.

Mahalo,

Fred Sylva
PAP Operations Manager

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**Written Testimony of
Blaine Tasaka
Paradise Beverages Inc.**

**Before the House
Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection
and Economic Development & Business**

**Opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2- Relating to Plastic
March 14, 2019
8:30 a.m.**

Good morning Chair Lowen and Chair McKelvey and members of the committees. Thank you for the opportunity to comment in opposition to S.B. 522 S.D. 2 - relating to plastic.

I am Blaine Tasaka, Key Account Manager for Paradise Beverages.

Plastic Beverage bottles are a significant part of our overall business, and a ban would be devastating to not only our business but also hugely devastating for the retailers (both big and small) that we service.

Additionally, the consumer needs and demands a cost-effective packaging which there is currently really no substitute. Importing glass bottles is very cost prohibitive, and aluminum cans are not resealable. Many consumers find that resealable feature makes the plastic bottle more re-usable than other packages.

I hope that you will realize the result of the ban would be significantly less beverage offerings available, higher cost to consumers, and would severely hamper ability of retailers and beverage distributors to cover expenses.

If S.B. 522 S.D. 2 is passed, we will definitely need to cut employment positions in our company, and the effect would be so devastating that I would expect retailers to do the same.

Sincerely,
Blaine Tasaka

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