

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

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB3084  
RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

SENATOR CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND  
MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: 2/4/2020

Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undefined sums of State of Hawaii general revenues shall be appropriated  
2 to assist the counties with implementation. This measure may impact the priorities identified in  
3 the Governor's Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department)  
4 appropriations and personnel priorities.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department respectfully offers the following comments on  
6 SB3084, which requires residential and commercial solid waste be separated by source, requires  
7 counties to update their integrated solid waste management plans, establishes a new waste stream  
8 reduction goal, and provides general revenue appropriations to the counties to implement this  
9 proposal.

10 Separating solid waste into appropriate, identifiable containers based on source may  
11 facilitate recycling by reducing contamination and expediting waste processing. However, each  
12 county manages its own solid waste based on local infrastructure, availability of funds,  
13 availability of land, and other factors. Currently, residential waste collection varies greatly by  
14 county – from no curbside collection in the County of Hawaii to automated three-bin curbside  
15 collection in the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, no county conducts commercial  
16 waste collection, which is managed exclusively by private haulers.

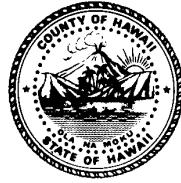
1           Each county is updating, or has recently updated, its Integrated Solid Waste Management  
2 (ISWM) plan. The purpose of the ISWM plan is to identify priorities, approaches, and costs for  
3 the entire waste management process.

4           The proposed legislation presents a universal solution that impacts each county's solid  
5 waste management program, although each county faces its own discrete challenges. The  
6 Department respectfully requests that the Legislature consider each county's capacity and  
7 priorities as identified in their ISWM plans.

8   **Offered Amendments:** None.

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

Harry Kim  
Mayor



William A. Kucharski  
Director

Roy Takemoto  
Managing Director

Diane A. Noda  
Deputy Director

# County of Hawai'i

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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February 3, 2020

Senator Mike Gabbard  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: SB 3084: OPPOSITION (Relating to Solid Waste Management – Source Separation)**  
Hearing: February 4, 2020  
Time: 1:20 p.m.

Dear Senator Gabbard and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

Businesses on the island of Hawai'i are required to self-haul to the East Hawai'i Regional Sort Station in Hilo or to the West Hawai'i Sanitary Landfill in Pu'uana'hulu, or to contract with a commercial trash/recycle hauler.

If the County of Hawai'i were mandated to provide containers to all residential and commercial properties for source separation of green waste, compostables, recyclables, and trash, it would create an unreasonable financial burden on the taxpayers. Utilizing taxpayer funds to provide containers to all residential and commercial properties offers no benefit and is not compatible with our solid waste management system.

The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management therefore does **not** support SB 3084.

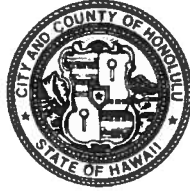
Sincerely,

William A. Kucharski  
Director

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

1000 ULUOHIA STREET, SUITE 308, KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707  
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3486 • FAX: (808) 768-3487 • WEBSITE: <http://envhonolulu.org>

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



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

TIMOTHY A. HOUGHTON  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
WAS 20-42

February 3, 2020

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair  
The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
The Honorable Glen Wakai, Vice-Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military  
Affairs  
Senate  
State Capitol, Room 229  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Gabbard, Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Ruderman, Vice-Chair Wakai and  
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment, and the Committee on  
Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

**SUBJECT: SB 3084 - Relating to Solid Waste Management**

The Department of Environmental Services (ENV) of the City and County of  
Honolulu opposes SB 3084 and offers the following comments.

As stated in SB 3084, the purpose of this Act is to: (1) Require that residential  
and commercial solid waste be separated by source to be processed at appropriate  
facilities; (2) Require counties to update their integrated solid waste management plans;  
(3) Establish a new waste stream reduction goal by 2030; and (4) Appropriate funds to  
each county to help subsidize their waste management programs.

On the first point, requiring residential and commercial solid waste to be  
separated by source to be processed at appropriate facilities implies that these waste  
streams would need to be collected separately. This is impractical for two (2) reasons.  
First, for efficiency purposes, due to the close proximity of many residential and  
commercial waste generation points, both waste streams are often collected together in  
the same collection container and/or in the same collection vehicle. Requiring source  
separation of residential and commercial waste would mean the addition of collection  
containers at generation points and collection vehicles to service those containers,  
which is uneconomical and infeasible. Second, if the objective of this bill is for waste  
(regardless of source and recyclability) to be delivered to the appropriate processing

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Page 2

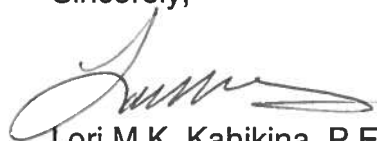
facility, the source separation of residential and commercial solid waste would not achieve that objective. Designating separate collection containers for recyclable and non-recyclable material, ensuring that residential and commercial waste generators are depositing waste in the appropriate container, and requiring the waste hauler to deliver the waste to the appropriate processor would achieve that objective.

On the second point, requiring counties to update their integrated solid waste management plans (ISWMP) appears to be redundant with HRS Section 342G-24, which requires the counties to submit their first ISWMP to the State Department of Health (DOH) by July 1, 1991, and requires counties to submit revised plans once every ten years; provided that an interim status report on the implementation of a revised plan shall be submitted five (5) years after every submission of a revised plan to the DOH. Moreover, the City and County of Honolulu published its most recent ISWMP revision in 2019.

On the third point, concerning the establishment of a new waste reduction goal, the State's Aloha + Challenge project, which has been endorsed by the governor and all four (4) county mayors, already contains an aggressive goal of 70% solid waste reduction by 2030. As of January 2019, the Aloha + Challenge online dashboard, which displays progress toward achieving the Challenge goals, shows that the counties are collectively on track to achieve this goal, although there is still a long way to go (about 17 more percent). Given that recycling is a significant factor in waste reduction, and in consideration of the major disruptions to the global recycling market caused by the enactment of China's National Sword policy at the beginning of 2018, we anticipate that it will become more difficult and costly to reduce waste through recycling in the coming years, so we are opposed to an increase in the 70% goal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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



Pono Hawai'i Initiative

Josh Frost - President • Patrick Shea - Treasurer • Kristin Hamada  
Nelson Ho • Summer Starr

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Relating to Solid Waste Management  
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Pono Hawai'i Initiative (PHI) **supports SB3084 Relating to Solid Waste Management**, which requires residential and commercial solid waste be separated by source to be processed at appropriate facilities, sets a 2030 goal and appropriates funds to help the counties with their solid waste management programs.

This measure will require and encourage businesses around the state to reduce waste and recycle more. By giving everyone, residential and commercial, the receptacles they need to separate their waste will increase the amount of materials recycled and lower the amount of waste being sent to our landfills.

For all these reasons, we urge you to move this bill forward.

Mahalo for the opportunity,  
Gary Hooser  
Executive Director  
Pono Hawai'i Initiative



TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
February 4, 2020

**Re: SB 3084 Relating to Solid Waste Management**

Good afternoon Chairperson Gabbard and Chairperson Nishihara and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, 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.

While the Retail Merchants of Hawaii appreciates the intent, we oppose SB 3084 Relating to Solid Waste Management. This measure requires residential and commercial solid waste be separated by source to be processed at appropriate facilities; establishes a 2030 waste stream reduction goal; and appropriates funds to the counties for solid waste management programs.

**Retailers space for trash can be very limited as older buildings and shopping malls did not plan for having to separate out their waste when they were designed and built decades ago.** To have to add additional receptacles to accommodate green waste, compostable and recyclables in addition to trash bins may be a hardship for many who lack the space, especially small businesses. Retailers would also have to secure these additional receptacles due to people dumpster diving, stealing the wood pallets, and dumping out trash onto the ground.

**We would like to point out that retailers are already implementing their own inhouse recycling for their cardboard shipping boxes and packing materials, and providing separate receptacles for plastic, paper and trash in the mall.** We are seeing many malls and shopping centers that already outsource their ground maintenance, who in turn hauls away the green waste when they leave the property at the end of the day.

It is also our understanding that there is NO composting facility in the state. We would like to suggest that the state focus their efforts on looking into creating a facility that addresses compostable waste.

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

**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 8:35:13 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 2/1/2020 3:20:23 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 4:00:54 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 8:12:35 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 3:31:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SB-3084**

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 9:26:47 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2020 1:20:00 PM

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

Comments: