



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR0027
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
DIVISION TO ENSURE THAT DESTINATIONS TO WHICH THE STATE'S
RECYCLABLE WASTE IS TRANSPORTED FOR OUT-OF-STATE PROCESSING
ABIDE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AS OUTLINED BY THE
BASEL CONVENTION

REPRESENTATIVE AARON LING JOHANSON, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Hearing Date: 3/29/2021 Room Number: Via Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) supports HCR0027 to ensure
3 that recyclable plastic waste collected by the Department's Deposit Beverage Container Program
4 redemption centers are transported in compliance with the 2021 amendments to the Basel
5 Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their
6 Disposal. The Department respectfully requests that HCR0027 be amended to acknowledge that
7 the Department does not have the enforcement authority to compel out-of-state recycling
8 destinations to which the State's recyclable waste may be transported to abide by the
9 environmental standards as outlined by the Basel Convention.

10 **Offered Amendments:**

11 Title: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
12 DIVISION TO ENSURE THAT [~~DESTINATIONS TO WHICH~~] THE STATE'S
13 RECYCLABLE WASTE WHICH IS TRANSPORTED FOR OUT-OF-STATE PROCESSING
14 ABIDE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AS OUTLINED BY THE BASEL
15 CONVENTION

1 “BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of
2 the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
3 Health’s Environmental Management Division is urged to ensure that [~~destinations to which~~] the
4 State’s recyclable waste which is transported for out-of-state processing abide by the
5 environmental standards as outlined by the Basel Convention; and”

6 Additions appear as underlines and deletions appear as bracketed strikeouts.

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



March 29, 2021

TO: Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

FR: Tim Shestek
Senior Director, State Affairs

RE: HR20 and HCR27 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO ENSURE THAT DESTINATIONS TO WHICH THE STATE'S RECYCLABLE WASTE IS TRANSPORTED FOR OUT-OF-STATE PROCESSING ABIDE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS AS OUTLINED BY THE BASEL CONVENTION. – **SUPPORT**

On behalf of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), I am writing to express support for HR 20 and HCR 27, resolutions urging the United States to ratify the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. ACC has long supported the U.S. ratification and implementation of the Basel Convention. ACC and its members support policies that aim to ensure that exported and imported end-of-life materials are recycled, recovered, or disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. The Basel Convention has an important role in ensuring these environmentally responsible global trade flows.

Basel Parties recently amended the Convention to control trade in most plastic waste as part of the larger global effort to address plastic waste. ACC and its member companies take seriously the need to address this global challenge. We recently announced goals that [100% of plastics packaging is reused, recycled or recovered by 2040](#). We also continue to be engaged in developing policies and programs aimed at increasing the recovery of plastic packaging and developing new domestic markets for recycled materials through both mechanical and innovative advanced recycling technologies that convert post-use plastics into a diverse range of raw materials, including feedstocks for new plastics and chemicals.

Last year, the [Global Plastics Alliance \(GPA\)](#) released its [5th Progress Report](#) announcing approximately 395 marine litter prevention projects have been planned, underway, or completed as of early 2020. The GPA, a collaboration among plastic industry associations around the world, noted the accounting of projects represents an increase of four times the amount since 2011 when the group was formed. The latest report reflects work undertaken by 80 plastics associations, including ACC, that have signed the Global Declaration in 43 countries. The six focus areas of the Global Declaration are education, research, public policy, sharing best practices, plastics recycling/recovery, and plastic pellet containment.

In just the past three years, [66 projects worth more than \\$5.5 billion in modern recycling technologies](#), have been announced in the U.S. alone; the vast majority of the investment dollars are being deployed to construct advanced recycling facilities.

ACC appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com. You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551 or ryamasaki@808cch.com





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TO:
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: March 29, 2021
TIME: 2pm
PLACE: Via Videoconference

RE: HCR27 / HR20 Urging the Department of Health's Environmental Management Division to ensure that the destinations to which the State's recyclables waste is transported or out-of-state processing abide by the environmental standards outlines by the Basel Convention

Position: Support

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

HFIA is in support of these resolutions. Recyclable materials are a valuable resource and new technologies, and developments are creating options for more effective and efficient recycling. We believe the ultimate goal of our State's waste management efforts should be to have affordable recycling options here in Hawaii for materials including glass, plastic, paper, and metal. Until those options can be created it makes sense to ensure that our recyclable materials are sent to locations where they can be responsibly processed for reuse. We thank you for the opportunity to testify.