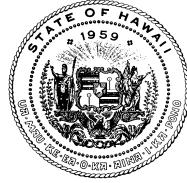


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
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doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR102 HD1
REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER
TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES RELATED TO
CESSPOOL WATER REMEDIATION, WHICH MAY INCLUDE ORGANIC
BIODEGRADABLE WATER CLARIFIERS.**

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: 4/12/2023

Room Number: 415

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports this measure but defers to the
- 3 University of Hawaii's Water Resources Research Center to address the resource and fiscal
- 4 implications that would be involved with the implementation of this measure.
- 5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 6 **Offered Amendments:** None.

HCR-102-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:37:18 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/12/2023 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Yoshimura	Testifying for PJY Global Consultants	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

To: Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Higher Education

Senator Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Time: 1:10 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 224

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Support for HCR 102, HD1

I strongly support HCR 102, HD1, which requests the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center to conduct a feasibility study on new technologies related to cesspool water remediation, which may include organic biodegradable water clarifiers.

HCR 102, HD1 provides in part:

- (a) Pursuant to Act 125, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017 (Act 125), every cesspool in the State, excluding cesspools granted exemptions by the Director of Health, must be upgraded or converted to an approved wastewater system or connected to a sewerage system by January 1, 2050.
- (b) There are approximately eighty-two thousand cesspools that will be required to be upgraded or converted to an approved wastewater system or connected to a sewer system by 2050.
- (c) New wastewater management solutions could greatly improve public health and save public funds.
- (d) One such promising technology is the use of an organic, biodegradable water clarifier (Clarifier) that is introduced through an automated, long-lasting delivery device that is inexpensive, tamper-proof, solar-powered, with clear and simple dosing instructions.

One of the proprietary formulas, Solutek, is FDA approved as a water clarifier in the United States, and is also well-proven from 22 years of use in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, India, Hong Kong, China, Japan, and Ireland. It contains no live organisms, enzymes or hazardous chemicals, and is user-safe, non-hazardous, non-flammable. Solutek's system can fully remediate Hawaii's cesspools for at least 95% less than the \$20,000 cost per household previously estimated by the Department of Health (local contractors have stated that the cost today, is closer to \$30,000 per household) for their replacement, greatly reducing the burden to the State and its residents. In fact, this cost reduction for the upgrade of the 83,000 cesspools here in Hawaii would result in savings in excess of \$1.5 billion dollars, to the residents and State, while meeting the mandate for conversion 25 years ahead of schedule.

The following information outlines the system and its benefits:

Organic: Solutek's proprietary organic formula is derived from sea kelp, contains NO hazardous chemicals, and is 100% biodegradable.

Safe: Solutek is FDA-approved as a water clarifier in the United States, and is also well-proven from 22 years of use in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, India, Hong Kong, China, Japan, and Ireland. It contains no live organisms, enzymes or hazardous chemicals, and is user-safe, non-hazardous, and non-flammable. Σ

Effective: The resulting effluent from Cesspools upgraded with the Solutek system, will be equal to or superior to effluent from septic tanks. Σ

Easy-to-Apply: Solutek is easily introduced through the use of a long-lasting delivery device that is, inexpensive, tamper-proof, solar-powered, with clear and simple dosing instructions. It is easy to use, service, and manage and can be very rapidly deployed (All 83,000 homes could be outfitted in a period of 2 years). This simple, but reliable system can deliver Solutek without the involvement of home and property owners, by using professionals that already currently serve the cesspool-septic tank market. The system would require the system's solution to be refilled twice a year, and at the same time be inspected to insure each unit is operating properly.

Includes online data entry system for record-keeping, scheduling, and government regulation compliance: The Hawaii Solutek distributor will provide at no additional cost, an online database for the Cesspool service companies to record the address, installation, and service dates of each Solutek cesspool treatment system. This online database will allow the appropriate Hawaii governmental agencies to monitor each property owner's compliance with applicable regulations and requirements, and ensure that each delivery unit continues to be operable.

The vendor would provide an interest-free multi-year financing plan which would make the monthly expense per household be very minute.

As such, I fully support this resolution and believe that the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center should do a feasibility study on new technologies related to cesspool water remediation, especially organic biodegradable water clarifiers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tracy Yoshimura



To: The Honorable Chairs Donna Mercado Kim and Mike Gabbard, the Honorable Vice-chairs Michelle Kidani and Tim Richards, III, and members of the Committees on Higher Education and Agriculture and Environment

From: The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HCR102 HD1 REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES RELATED TO CESSPOOL WATER REMEDIATION, WHICH MAY INCLUDE ORGANIC BIOGRADABLE WATER CLARIFIERS.**

Hearing: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 1;10 p.m. CR224

Aloha Chairs Kim and Gabbard, Vice-chairs Kidani and Richards, and members of the Committees on Higher Education and Agriculture and Environment:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean.

The **Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) STRONGLY SUPPORTS HCR102 HD1.**

I served as a Deputy Attorney General representing the Department of Health (DOH) Wastewater Branch for 15 years and served on the Cesspool Conversion

Working Group for its entire four years. On behalf of HIROC, I **strongly support further investigation of the feasibility of new wastewater management systems and new technologies that can reduce cesspool wastes, especially nutrients that harm reefs, and improve public health at lower costs than conventional septic systems or aerobic treatment unit systems. This research is needed to enable Hawaii to minimize the costs of upgrading cesspools, which is required by law by 2050.**

The University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center is the appropriate entity to conduct a feasibility study on new technologies related to cesspool water remediation, which may include organic biodegradable water clarifiers.

Please pass this Concurrent Resolution!

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

HCR-102-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 8:04:20 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/12/2023 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

HCR-102-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2023 8:52:26 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/12/2023 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

You people sure like to Play with CRAP!!!!!!

HCR-102-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2023 7:20:15 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/12/2023 1:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marion K A Kapuniai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

AN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY INNOVATIVE APPROACH!

WE NEED MORE INNOVATIVE THINKERS!

Thank you, M Kapuniai