



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB1897 HD1
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.**

REPRESENTATIVE MARK M. NAKASHIMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Hearing Date: February 28, 2024 Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will impact the priorities identified in the Governor's
2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and
3 personnel priorities.

4 The Department estimates that one enforcement position should be established and
5 funded annually to implement this measure.

6 **Department Testimony:** This measure prohibits lodging establishments from providing
7 personal care products in small single-use plastic containers to guests and visitors and establishes
8 civil penalties for violations as identified by the Department on inspection.

9 The Department is supportive of measures to reduce the amount of single-use plastic
10 containers distributed in the State to reduce the amount of plastic waste that is incinerated or
11 disposed in State landfills. However, the Department currently does not have the staff and
12 funding available to implement the inspection and enforcement component of this bill. The
13 Department respectfully requests funding and the establishment of one full-time equivalent
14 (1.0 FTE) position to receive complaints and conduct follow-up inspections of lodging
15 establishments identified as distributing personal care products in small single-use plastic
16 containers in violation of this measure. In addition to conducting inspection and enforcement
17 actions, dispensing citations, and coordinating with the Office of the Attorney General to pursue
18 civil penalties, this position would also be tasked with providing education and outreach to the
19 regulated community.

20 **Offered Amendments:** None

21 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



TESTIMONY OF DANIEL NĀHO'OPI'I
INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO, HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Wednesday, February 28, 2024 2:00 p.m.
In consideration of
HB 1897 HD 1
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following comments on HB1897 HD1 for your consideration. HTA supports the intent of this measure, which prohibits lodging establishments from providing personal care products in single-use plastic containers.

We agree with the intent of this legislation as it is in alignment with our Strategic Plan priorities as recognized in Section 1 of this bill, action items articulated in our community-led Destination Management Action Plans, and HTA's commitment to the Mālama Mandate.

Additionally, we are aware of and would like to take this opportunity to recognize lodging establishments already working to eliminate the use of single-use plastic containers for their amenities.

We support the intent of HB1897 HD1, stand ready to assist in educating visitor industry stakeholders and visitors, and defer to our colleagues at the Department of Health on matters related to the implementation of this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these comments.



February 26, 2024

To: The Honorable Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
From: Kris Quigley, Regional Director, State Government Affairs, PLASTICS
Re: HB 1897 – OPPOSE – Scheduled for Hearing February 28, 2024

We respectfully write to express our opposition to House Bill 1897 – relative to single use plastics/personal care products. The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) represents the entire supply chain of manufacturers of all plastic products. We are firmly committed to manufacturing products that meet the environment, social, and business needs of consumers.

Plastic is the popular choice to meet consumer demands and there is a reason for this; the material can do things other material cannot. It's efficient for manufacturers to produce and cost-effective for business to incorporate into their operations; and it is environmentally friendly to produce in terms of water/energy usage, greenhouse gas emissions and transportation costs and efficiencies.

Unfortunately, states across the country are considering policy proposals to target marine debris concerns and plastics that are improperly disposed of that end up in landfills. Some of these proposals include product bans and material deselection which unfortunately are misguided and fail to address the mismanagement of discarding products.

Before banning plastic products, PLASTICS advocates for consumer education about proper disposal practices; reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering plastics. As your committee works to address litter and waste problems, we stand by to provide instruction on the role our products play in society and how to best arrive at a solution that makes environmental and business sense.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kris Quigley", is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Kris Quigley Regional Director, State Government Affairs
Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS)

HB-1897-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 6:14:40 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/28/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

HB-1897-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 9:54:05 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/28/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Cox	Kaua`i Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kakou,

I am writing on behalf of Kaua`i Climate Action Coalition, a group of over 150 Kaua`i residents who engage in education, direct action, and supporting legislation to address the climate crisis we are already feeling and which threatens the future of our children. We urge you to pass HB1897 HD1 which will have several very positive effects. First, it will reduce the use of plastic, the creation of which emits greenhouse gases. Second, it will reduce the plastic in the landfill. We know that the capacities of landfills in Hawaii is a problem, particularly on Kaua`i. We also know that very little plastic is actually recycled. Finally, it will reduce the amount of plastic in our environment, thereby improving its beauty but also improving the lives of the diversity of life on our islands.

Please pass HB1897 HD1. Mahalo!

Helen Cox, Chair

Kaua`i Climate Coalition

LATE

HB-1897-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2024 4:05:14 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/28/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dallas Nelson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Let the customer choose for themselves if they want them.