



**STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION  
COMMISSION  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809**

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The Adjutant General  
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of  
LEAH LARAMEE  
Climate Change Coordinator on behalf of  
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission Co-Chair Mary Alice Evans and  
Co-Chair Dawn N.S. Chang**

**Before the House Committees on  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Thursday, January 30, 2025  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 736  
RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS**

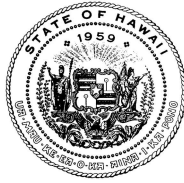
House Bill 736 establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center and requires interim and final reports to the Legislature. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission consists of a multijurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. Removal of cesspools for all properties within the Sea Level Rise Exposure Area (SLR-XA), is imperative to the health of nearshore waters and for members of the public accessing coastal resources. Removal may not be achievable by 2050 as directed by state law without viable alternatives for replacement. The Commission's 2022 update to the *Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report* Recommended Action 6.1.1 states that the state should sponsor research and development efforts to expand affordable and actionable conversion options for shoreline property owners and options should account for SLR-XA projections of coastal erosion and associated land loss, and potential failure of sewage treatment systems due to sea level rise groundwater inundation. Cesspools in the coastal zone will be an increasing source of nonpoint source pollution as groundwater rises and coastal erosion accelerates. The *Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report* Recommended Action 6.4 urges the state to expand policy directives beyond the existing income tax credits and requirement for removal by 2050. Specifically, policy must

address existing cesspools in the coastal zone in relation to enforcement of existing laws and regulations and removal of unpermitted shoreline hardening.

Connection to sewer lines is not always feasible and septic tanks while preferred to cesspools are not a perfect alternative. New innovative wastewater treatment systems designed for Hawai'i's unique landscape that are cost effective and protect our waters are needed. This bill will provide funding to ground truth this technology.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB0736  
RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS**

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

January 30, 2025, 9:00 am, Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health ("Department") requests that this measure be  
2 considered as a vehicle to provide this needed funding so long as it does not supplant the  
3 priorities and requests outlined in the Governors executive budget request.

4 **Department Position:** The Department supports this measure.

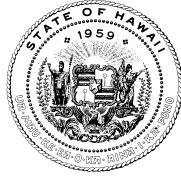
5 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division (EMD) provides the  
6 following testimony on behalf of the Department. The Department supports this measure "to  
7 facilitate the certification of new wastewater technologies in Hawaii that could reduce the costs  
8 of cesspool conversions by establishing and appropriating funds for a new wastewater system  
9 technology testing pilot program within the university of Hawaii water resources research  
10 center."

11 **Offered Amendments:** None

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

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII  
*Ke Kia 'āina o ka Moku 'āina 'o  
Hawaii 'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII  
*Ka Hope Kia 'āina o ka Moku 'āina  
'o Hawaii 'i*



KALI WATSON  
CHAIRPERSON, HHC  
*Ka Luna Ho 'ōkele*

KATIE L. LAMBERT  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR  
*Ka Hope Luna Ho 'ōkele*

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS  
*Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho 'opulapula Hawaii 'i*

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIR  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
HEARING ON JANUARY 30, 2025 AT 9:00AM IN CR 325

**HB 736, RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS**

January 29, 2025

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) **supports** this bill which establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Resources Research Center.

Approximately 2,500 cesspools exist on Hawaiian Home Lands. Pursuant to Act 125 (SLH 2017), these cesspools are required to be converted to a septic system or aerobic treatment unit system or connected to a sewerage system before January 1, 2050.

DHHL supports the establishment of a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center because it will provide the opportunity to test new wastewater technology systems and review and evaluate the affordability, feasibility, and efficiency of the treatment technologies for DHHL, current lessees residing on Hawaiian Home Lands, and potential beneficiaries to understand the challenges and financial costs of cesspool conversions and wastewater technologies.

DHHL understands that there is no simple, one method fits all ahupua'a (land division) solution toward addressing the cesspool conversion and wastewater needs of the State of Hawaii and we stand ready to work collaboratively on this issue.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 9:00 am

By  
Tao Yan  
Director, Water Resources Research Center,  
And  
Michael Bruno, PhD  
Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### HB 736– RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) stands in strong support of HB 736, which establishes a pilot program to evaluate and certify new wastewater treatment technologies in Hawai'i. This initiative is a critical step in addressing the State's cesspool conversion challenges by expanding affordable and effective treatment options.

Hawai'i's commitment to improving water quality and public health is evident in the legislative mandates requiring the transition away from cesspools. However, the currently approved replacement options pose challenges—advanced treatment units (ATUs) are highly effective but costly, while septic systems, though more affordable, have limited nutrient removal efficiency in Hawai'i's coastal environments. The lack of viable, cost-effective solutions is a major barrier to meeting the State's water quality goals and could lead to substantial investments with limited impact.

This bill leverages WRRC's expertise in wastewater research to implement a pilot program that will rigorously test and evaluate new wastewater treatment technologies. By identifying and validating solutions that are both effective and financially feasible, WRRC will provide the Hawai'i Department of Health with the necessary scientific basis for approving new, lower-cost alternatives for cesspool conversion. This research is essential to ensuring that the State's approach is data-driven, efficient, and tailored to Hawai'i's unique environmental conditions.

As the designated implementing entity, WRRC has extensive experience in wastewater research and policy development. Our previous work includes:

- The Hawai'i Cesspool Prioritization Tool, developed in collaboration with the Hawai'i Department of Health to assess cesspool risks statewide.

- A long-term wastewater outflow biomonitoring program conducted with the City and County of Honolulu, contributing critical data on wastewater impacts.
- Numerous faculty-led studies on wastewater treatment and its environmental effects, which inform local and national policy discussions.

We strongly support the appropriation of funds for WRRC to establish and implement this pilot program, including necessary infrastructure, equipment, and administrative support, its adoption does not impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents Approved Budget. Additionally, we emphasize the need for increased staffing within the Hawai'i Department of Health's Wastewater Branch to effectively oversee statewide cesspool conversion efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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January 28, 2025

## Testimony in Support of HB736: Relating to Wastewater Systems

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection,

We, Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick, are testifying on behalf of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii in strong support of HB736, which aims to address the environmental and public health issues caused by cesspools in Hawaii. This bill establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center.

### Key Points of Support:

1. **Environmental Protection:** HB736 will help protect Hawaii's natural resources by reducing pollution from cesspools. Cesspools discharge millions of gallons of wastewater into the state's groundwater daily, harming public health, drinking water, and marine ecosystems.
2. **Public Health:** By facilitating the conversion of cesspools, this bill will improve public health by reducing the contamination of drinking water sources and lowering the risk of waterborne diseases.
3. **Innovation and Research:** The establishment of a pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center will promote innovation and research in wastewater management. This will help identify and implement more effective and sustainable solutions for cesspool conversion.
4. **Economic Benefits:** The pilot program will create jobs and support local businesses involved in the conversion process. Additionally, protecting coral reefs and other marine resources will benefit Hawaii's tourism and fishing industries.

In conclusion, the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports HB736 and urges the committee to pass this important legislation. By addressing the environmental and public health issues caused by cesspools, we can ensure a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this critical bill.

Sincerely,

Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick

Co-chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii





TO: House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

House Committee on Higher Education  
Representative Andrew Takuya Garrett, Chair  
Representative Terez Amato, Vice Chair

FROM: Lynn Miyahira representing Public Access to SunScreens (PASS) Coalition  
DATE: Thursday, Jan 30, 2025  
TIME: 9:00 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

**Re: HB 736**

**Position: SUPPORT**

The [Public Access to SunScreens](#) (PASS) Coalition is a multi-stakeholder coalition composed of public health groups, dermatologists, sunscreen manufacturers, and leading advocates for skin cancer patients. We also support efforts that protect our coral reefs.

**We support this measure.**

Hawaii faces a severe cesspool pollution problem, with over 83,000 cesspools discharging approximately 50 million gallons of raw sewage daily into our groundwater, streams, and oceans. This not only threatens our drinking water but also harms coral reefs that are vital to Hawaii's ecosystem and tourism economy.

Cesspool upgrades are expensive, creating significant financial challenges for both homeowners and governments. HB 736 addresses this issue by encouraging the development and adoption of innovative wastewater technologies that can reduce the costs of cesspool upgrades while maintaining high water quality standards.

This bill establishes a three-year pilot program at the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center to test new wastewater technologies, including cluster sewers, individual wastewater systems, and other innovative approaches. By facilitating and accelerating the Department of Health's certification process for these technologies, this program can provide cost-effective solutions that benefit homeowners, governments, and the environment.

The cost of the testing program is modest, especially when compared to the potential benefits of reducing the financial burden on residents and ensuring cleaner water for future generations. Investing in this program is a proactive step toward solving Hawaii's cesspool pollution crisis.

We urge your support for HB 736.

Mahalo you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lynn Miyahira  
Public Access to SunScreens (PASS) Coalition



To: The Honorable Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Amy Perruso, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

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

Re: Hearing HB736 **RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS**

Hearing: Thursday, January 30, 2025, 9:00 a.m. CR325

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee Members:

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.

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### **The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB736!**

There are about 83,000 cesspools in Hawaii that are dumping about 50 million gallons **every day** into Hawaii's groundwater, drinking water, streams, and ocean and harming our coral reefs. By law (the mandate of section 342D-72, Hawaii Revised Statutes), all 83,000 cesspools must be upgraded to a system approved by the Department by 2050.

Cesspool upgrades are expensive. The cost depends on site-specific conditions, but the cost to convert a cesspool to a septic system or an aerobic treatment unit system is often over \$30,000. We need to try to find ways to make upgrades more **affordable** to homeowners and governments.

At a time when many residents of Hawaii are struggling to make ends meet, our State has an excellent opportunity to **save cesspool owners and governments money by introducing new**

**wastewater technologies.** There are new wastewater technologies in cluster sewers, in individual wastewater systems, and in other wastewater systems that can potentially reduce the costs of cesspool upgrades substantially without harming water quality and protect coral reefs by reducing nutrients.

The Department of Health must certify the new technology systems. The Department does not have sufficient resources and expertise to perform those certifications promptly and effectively, however.

The University of Hawaii's Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) has previously had a testing program for wastewater systems. Guidance and studies by a revived UH WRRC testing program for new technologies can facilitate and accelerate DOH's certification of new technologies. The cost of the testing program is modest (estimated at under \$1 million) and the benefits in reducing costs will be many times larger.

The bill funds a three-year pilot program to test wastewater systems and individual wastewater systems technology at UH WRRC. UH WRRC, in coordination with other departments at UH, DOH, county agencies and others will review, document, and evaluate the affordability, feasibility, and efficiency of treatment technologies, perform tests and studies and submit results to the Department.

This bill will enable Hawaii to achieve its goal of upgrading cesspools more affordably without compromising water quality.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

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



Date: January 28, 2025

To: Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection of the Hawai'i State Legislature

Re: HB 736, RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS.  
Thursday January 30, 2025  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

From: Erica Perez- Program Manager and Head of Sanitation  
eperez@coral.org  
Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL)

Subject: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB736 Relating to Wastewater Systems-

I am testifying in Support of HB736 relating to cesspools on behalf of the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) and as a concerned citizen of Moku o Keawe. This bill establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center and requires interim and final reports to the Legislature. CORAL and The Ocean Legislative Task Force advocate for cesspool conversion as part of our kuleana to care for the oceans that sustain us.

As a 2019 Cesspool Conversion working group member I have first hand experience with the challenges of Hawaii's Cesspool Conversion. CORAL has worked across the State to help identify community scale solutions for conversion for a more equitable solution that distributes costs amongst many, to lessen the costs for individual households. Cesspool upgrades are expensive. We need to try to find ways to make them affordable to homeowners and governments.

New wastewater technologies that support community size systems to individual wastewater systems, are needed and can potentially reduce the costs of cesspool upgrades substantially, without harming water quality. A testing program for new



technologies at UH Water Resources Research Center can facilitate and accelerate DOH's certification of new technologies. SB 798 will establish the needed resources within DOH to address technology needs that can offer more solutions for homeowners and our Counties.

CORAL is an international coral reef conservation organization that works with communities, businesses, and governments to save coral reefs. With field offices on Maui and Hawai'i Island, and projects throughout the Main Hawaiian Islands, CORAL uses a science-based approach to improve coastal water quality. Throughout the state, CORAL's programs mitigate land-based sources of pollution, such as wastewater discharge and stormwater runoff.

Our coral reefs and oceans are vital to Hawaii's identity and future. By addressing this pressing issue, we protect ecosystems that define our islands and ensure the health of our waters for future generations. The time to act is now—our oceans cannot wait. We are a member of The Ocean Legislative Task Force, a group of over 100 individuals from diverse environmental organizations, working together to safeguard marine ecosystems. Our collective expertise allows us to craft impactful strategies to protect Hawaii's waters.

In closing, CORAL Supports HB736. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Erica Perez", on a light-colored background.

Erica Perez  
Program Manager and Head of Sanitation  
eperez@coral.org  
Coral Reef Alliance



Jan., 28, 2025

In Support of **HB736 Relating to Wastewater Systems**  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection (EEP)  
Hearing on Jan. 30, 2025, 9:00am, CR325

Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Peruso and Committee Members:

On behalf of the non-profit WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations, I am writing in **strong support of HB736**. This bill funds a three-year pilot program to test wastewater technology at the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center (WRRC). The goal is to introduce more efficient and affordable sanitation technologies to the state. WRRC will work in coordination with other departments at UH and the Dept. of Health to evaluate the efficiency of treatment technologies, perform tests and submit results to the Department.

The Department of Health must certify the new technology systems, but the Department doesn't have sufficient resources and expertise to perform those certifications promptly and effectively. Research and studies by the WRRC testing program can facilitate and accelerate DOH's certification of new technologies. The costs are modest, and the benefits in reducing costs will be many times larger. Based on a previous program run by WRRC, the pilot program will build on existing resources and staff at WRRC and UH. Once the program is up and running again, it will generate revenues from companies that pay testing fees to get their treatment systems approved in Hawai'i. This will bring revenues to the state, be self-sustaining and help solve our cesspool crisis.

Hawaii has more than 83,000 cesspools across the state, discharging 52 million gallons of raw sewage each day into Hawaii's waters. Along with threats to public health and drinking water resources, new research shows that polluted wastewater poses significant harm to coral reefs and the near-shore environment. The people of Hawaii need this law to make sure their wastewater systems aren't polluting the groundwater or nearby surface waters.

WAI is an environmental non-profit dedicated to protecting our water resources by reducing sewage pollution from cesspools. We support more innovative, affordable, and eco-friendly solutions to wastewater management. Better sanitation systems protect public health and valuable natural resources like groundwater, streams, coral reefs and coastal areas.

Hawaii is struggling with serious sewage pollution, and the state has a mandate to make sure all cesspools are converted in the next two decades. This bill will provide the necessary testing of new treatment technologies that are needed to convert cesspools across the state more efficiently and affordably. Mahalo for your leadership on this issue and support of this bill.

Aloha,

***Stuart Coleman***

Stuart H. Coleman, Executive Director

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy  
Supporting HB 736, Relating to Wastewater Systems.  
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
January 30, 2025, 9:00 am**

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Hawai'i and Palmyra supports HB736 Establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center. The bill would also require interim and final reports to the Legislature.

Science conducted by TNC and partners has shown that wastewater are detrimental to the coral reefs which protect our coastlines and underpin our economy. Without clean coastal waters are reef ecosystems are put at even greater risk in the face of growing global stressors including climate change.

Wastewater can cause harm to water quality within adjacent groundwater, anchialine, coral reef systems and fisheries by introducing elevated amounts of organic nitrogen and phosphorus, pathogens, and other contaminants. Contaminants emitted from cesspools can harm aquatic ecosystems by encouraging excess algal and bacterial growth and can also pose a threat to human health. Our research in He'eia, Maunaloa, Olowalu, Hana and South Kohala has shown direct evidence of cesspool contamination in streams and coastal waters using a variety of bioindicators and chemical signatures.

The Water Resources Research Center (WRRRC) at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa has historically provided technical support to creating advanced onsite wastewater systems. This bill would allow the WRRRC to support new innovative technologies to be permitted in the State through advanced testing and pilot measures. New technologies could potentially offer substantial cost savings by clustering adjacent homes, or reducing the amount of excavation needed. The cost of the program would be small compared to the potential savings.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 736.

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*Guided by science, TNC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and have supported over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands.*

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To: Nicole E. Lowen, Chair Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Re: HB 736 Relating to Wastewater Systems  
Thursday, January 30, 2025 9:00AM  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

From: Hanna Puentes- Project Coordinator (Hawai'i)  
info@hawaiiwaiola.com  
Hawai'i Wai Ola

Subject: I am testifying in Support of HB 736 Relating to Wastewater Systems.

I am testifying in Support of HB 736 relating to Wastewater Systems on behalf of Hawai'i Wai Ola (HWO) and as a concerned community member of Moku o Keawe. HWO is a Hawai'i Island based multi-organization initiative that produces quality assured, publicly-available nearshore water quality data. Since 2018, HWO has collected, analyzed, and reported on water quality throughout Hawaii County, the leading contributor of cesspools across the State, to safeguard our communities and marine ecosystems from sewage contamination. As an advocate for clean water initiatives, I can attest to the challenges of cesspool conversions, including high costs for homeowners and the technical hurdles faced in remote areas. Any actions that reduce costs and provide practical solutions without compromising water quality will greatly support HWO's mission.

The task of reviewing wastewater rules and identifying cost-saving measures is critical to mitigating cesspool pollution, which impacts groundwater and nearshore ecosystems. To achieve this, sufficient funding should be allocated to enable continued collaboration among local experts, agencies, and community stakeholders.

In closing, HWO Supports HB 736 Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HP' or 'Hanna Puentes'.

Hanna Puentes, Project Coordinator (Hawai'i)  
info@hawaiiwaiola.com  
Hawaii Wai Ola

**HB-736**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:05:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2025 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                   |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Lisa Bishop  | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I support!

**HB-736**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:55:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2025 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Aliya Smigel | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

New wastewater tech is necessary so that Hawai'i is able to convert all 83k+ cesspools by 2050. Innovative tech is important to address this issue of converting cesspools. New tech can make it so that multiple cesspools can be converted at once, more affordably, and to a higher water quality level than just traditional septic tanks.

This initial investment can save homeowners, the state, and the federal gov a ton of money by researching and implementing these new wastewater tech.

**HB-736**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:56:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2025 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By    | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                   |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Douglas Perrine | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Cesspool conversion options currently available to Hawaii property owners (basically just septic) are unaffordable, and not environmentally friendly. With the conversion deadline rapidly approaching, this research is essential to identify other options for individual property wastewater treatment. Please pass HB736.

**HB-736**

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 10:43:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2025 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By   | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                   |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Sherry Pollack | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony<br>Only |

## Comments:

I support HB736 that establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center. Cesspool upgrades are expensive. We need to try to find ways to make them affordable to homeowners and governments. Please pass this important measure.

**HB-736**

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 12:51:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2025 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By          | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Jacqueline S. Ambrose | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

YES to:- Establishes and appropriates funds for a three-year new wastewater system and individual wastewater system technology testing pilot program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center. Requires interim and final reports to the Legislature.