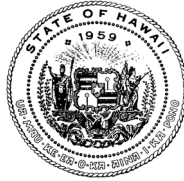


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'OHAWAI'I



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

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

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB0749
RELATING TO CESSPOOLS.**

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

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

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Position:** The Department comments on this measure.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division (EMD) provides the
4 following testimony on behalf of the Department.

5 The Department appreciates that this measure creates a new cesspool conversion
6 section within the Department's wastewater branch and appropriates moneys for three (3)
7 full-time permanent positions. The Department has concerns that the time and effort to
8 reorganize the branch to include a new cesspool conversion section would detract the existing
9 management from addressing actual cesspool conversion actions. The reorganization is
10 required before the development and establishment of the new positions. This delay may cause
11 impacts to human health and the environment.

12 By placing the new positions within the existing organizational structure of the
13 wastewater branch, the responsibilities identified in Section 2 may begin sooner than the
14 approximate year to reorganize the branch. The position descriptions for the new positions will
15 reflect the duties and responsibilities listed in the measure.

1 **Offered Amendments:** None

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

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

TO: Senator Nicole Lowen, Chair
Senator Amy Perruso, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

FROM: Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor
Shayne Agawa, Director of Environmental Management

DATE: January 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB749, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this measure which creates within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch a Cesspool Conversion Section, which shall be responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State.

We **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This is a huge task for the State and the DOH-WWB does not have the manpower and resources to do it. This measure will ensure a critical part of our infrastructure needs are being given the proper attention.
2. DOH-WWB are the regulatory agency for cesspools and helps make the transition to IWS efficient.
3. This measure will allow federal funding from EPA to be appropriated to the Cesspool Conversion Section.

Mahalo for your consideration.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

January 28, 2025

Testimony in Support of HB749: Relating to Cesspools

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

We, Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick, are testifying on behalf of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii in strong support of HB749, which aims to address the environmental and public health issues caused by cesspools in Hawaii. This bill creates a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch, responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the state. It also establishes and appropriates funds for positions within this new section.

Key Points of Support:

1. **Environmental Protection:** HB749 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. **Economic Benefits:** The establishment of the Cesspool Conversion Section 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.
4. **Compliance and Support:** HB749 provides the necessary resources and personnel to ensure compliance with the mandate to upgrade cesspools. This support will help homeowners and communities transition to more sustainable wastewater management systems.

In conclusion, the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports HB749 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 Health
Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
Representative Sue L. Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Vice Chair

FROM: Lynn Miyahira representing Public Access to SunScreens (PASS) Coalition
DATE: Thursday, Jan 30, 2025

Re: HB 749

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.

Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i's ecosystem and tourism economy.

By law, all 83,000 cesspools must be upgraded by 2050—a monumental task that requires a coordinated and well-resourced effort. HB 749 provides a critical solution by establishing a dedicated Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health (DOH). This section would be tasked with overseeing cesspool upgrades, managing grants and financing, conducting public outreach and education, and fostering partnerships with counties.

Currently, the DOH Wastewater Branch is not equipped to handle the scale and complexity of this mandate. Without additional resources, the state cannot effectively meet its obligations or protect public health and the environment. HB 749 proposes a modest but essential increase in funding to create three new full-time positions within the DOH to focus exclusively on cesspool conversion.

This modest investment is essential to tackle one of Hawai'i's most pressing environmental and public health challenges. Establishing this dedicated section will

ensure the state has the capacity to manage this massive undertaking effectively, safeguard our natural resources, and protect the health of future generations.

We urge your support for HB 749 to ensure Hawai'i takes this critical step forward in addressing its cesspool pollution crisis.

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 **HB749 RELATING TO CESSPOOLS**

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.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB749!

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.

The Department of Health will need to facilitate compliance, and to administer thousands of cesspool upgrades in the coming years. Overseeing the upgrading of thousands of cesspools is a huge task. The Department will need to seek and manage grants and other financing, develop and manage comprehensive public information and outreach, and form partnerships with counties, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector relating to the department's responsibilities under this section.

The existing DOH Wastewater Branch is not able to take on these major additional tasks. A new section is needed with additional personnel dedicated to facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State.

This Act will create a **new cesspool conversion section** within the Department's wastewater branch and establish and appropriate moneys for new positions within the new section. The bill proposes a modest funding increase for **three full-time equivalent employees** dedicated to working on cesspool upgrades.

Given the serious pollution caused by cesspools, **this bill is needed to protect public health and the environment by helping the Department to manage the huge cesspool upgrade effort.**

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

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



Date: January 27, 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 749, Relating to Cesspools
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 HB 749, Relating to Cesspools

I am testifying in Support of HB 749 relating to cesspools on behalf of the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) and as a concerned community member of Moku o Keawe. This bill establishes a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch to facilitate cesspool conversions statewide and funds key positions within this new section. As a member of the The Ocean Legislative Task Force, we advocate for cesspool conversion as part of our kuleana to care for the oceans that sustain us.

CORAL has been working to remove cesspools across Hawaii for over ten years. We watch as communities like Puakō, Kahalu'u, Hana, and Keaukaha invest millions of dollars and countless hours to identify solutions to save coral reefs and safeguard human health, only to be stalled due to lack of capacity at the State and County levels. With more than 80,000 cesspools across the state, contributing millions of gallons per day of raw sewage to our groundwater and ocean, cesspools pose a severe threat to coral reefs, human health, and our economy. Coral reefs are essential to shoreline protection for sea level rise, cultural practices, and community well-being. HB 749 will establish the needed resources within DOH to address these capacity shortfalls that prevent solutions from being implemented.



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 HB 749. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erica Perez".

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

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 7:44:37 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise E Antolini	Malama Pupukea-Waimea	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha EEP Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and members,

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea strongly supports HB749 - to create a Cesspool Conversion Section within DOH's Wastewater Branch.

The State needs much stronger administrative capacity to address and solve the cesspool conversion challenge.

As stewards of the Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District, which are Class AA state waters, MPW strongly supports eliminating cesspool pollution into our nearshore waters.

Mahalo nui,

Denise Antolini, President, Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea, North Shore, O'ahu



Jan., 28, 2025

In Support of **HB749 Relating to Cesspools**
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 HB749**. This bill would create a new Cesspool Conversion Section at the Department of Health to work with the state, counties, communities and individual homeowners to convert cesspools across the state. I was a member of the State's Cesspool Conversion Working Group for four years (2018-2022), and the creation of a new Cesspool Section was one of the highest priorities in our Final Report.

Cesspool conversions can be costly, and we need to try to find ways to make upgrades more **affordable**. The bill would appropriate funds for three positions within the new Cesspool Conversion Section who would help with expediting the permitting process, updating old regulations, applying for federal grants and finding funds to help homeowners with the costs of conversion. Due to limited staffing in the Wastewater Branch, DOH needs these dedicated positions to help meet the state mandate under Act 125 (2017) to convert all cesspools by 2050.

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 would create a new Cesspool Conversion Section at DOH to help the state, the counties, communities and individual homeowners with the process, while also reducing the time, obstacles and costs of upgrading cesspools. 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 749, Relating to Cesspools.
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 HB749 which would create within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch a Cesspool Conversion Section responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State. The bill would also establish and appropriate funds for positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.

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

Cesspools 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, Maunalua, 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.

Effectively upgrading cesspools to technologies that can remove nutrients and contaminants that are harmful to reefs is critical for their long-term health. However, our state faces major barriers to adopting these technologies, including a lack of capacity at the Department of Health. Every year hundreds of cesspools are upgraded, but the existing Wastewater Branch is stretched thin in ensuring that alternative, reef-friendly technologies are approved. By creating a cesspool division HB749 would be key to adding that capacity.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB749.

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 749 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 749 Relating to Cesspools.

I am testifying in Support of HB 749 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 734 Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,

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

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 4:19:21 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jocelyn Herbert	Resources Legacy Fund	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We strongly support HB 749 Relating to Cesspools. This bill establishes a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch to facilitate cesspool conversions statewide and funds key positions within this new section.

Hawai'i is suffering from the 83,000 cesspools that dump 50 million gallons of untreated sewage into our groundwater every day, polluting our drinking water, streams, and ocean waters, and harming our vital coral reefs. Our reefs in Hawai'i provide food for local families, and protect our coastal roads, homes, and businesses from coastal storms.

Current staffing at the Department of Health is insufficient to address the urgent need to convert cesspools and identify and secure funding to make cesspool conversions more affordable for local families.

This bill proposes a modest increase of funding to provide three staff positions dedicated to helping Hawai'i address its cesspool crisis.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY OF PACIFIC WHALE FOUNDATION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2025
9:00 AM

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL HB749

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

Pacific Whale Foundation (PWF), a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the ocean through science and advocacy and inspiring environmental stewardship, strongly supports HB749, which would create a new cesspool conversion section within the Hawai'i Department of Health and appropriates funding for new full-time positions within the same section. This action is imperative to facilitate the conversion of the 88,000 cesspools in the state which are contaminating drinking water sources and lowering water quality in streams and nearshore marine environments.

According to the Hawai'i Department of Health, cesspools discharge approximately 53 million gallons of untreated sewage into the ground daily. This untreated waste introduces pathogens that threaten public health, harm wildlife, and release nutrients that fuel harmful algal blooms. These blooms smother coral reefs, disrupt marine ecosystems, and impair the natural beauty and biodiversity that Hawai'i is known for.

[\(https://health.hawaii.gov/wastewater/home/cesspools/\)](https://health.hawaii.gov/wastewater/home/cesspools/)

Coral reefs, which support 25% of marine life at some stage of their life cycle, are a cornerstone of Hawai'i's tourism industry and generate billions of dollars annually. Poor water quality caused by cesspool discharge not only jeopardizes marine ecosystems but also threatens the livelihoods of local communities, particularly those reliant on fishing, diving, and tourism industries.

The 2050 deadline for cesspool conversion is rapidly approaching, and Hawai'i must accelerate its efforts to meet this goal. HB749 addresses a critical bottleneck by creating new positions within the Department of Health to build the capacity necessary to ensure timely and effective cesspool conversion. Without these resources, Hawai'i risks falling short of its commitments to environmental protection and public health. We urge the committee to pass HB364 to protect Hawai'i's water quality and ecosystems. Mahalo for your leadership on this critical issue and for considering the testimony of Pacific Whale Foundation and its supporters.

Sincerely,



Dayna Garland
Interim Executive Director



Susan Frett
Conservation Director



Protecting the ocean through science and advocacy, and inspiring environmental stewardship



January 29, 2025

House Energy & Environmental Protection
Hawai'i State Legislature
Via Electronic Transmission

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 749, Relating to Cesspools

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

The Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i region, is testifying in **strong support of HB749** Relating to Cesspools. This bill establishes a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's (DOH) Wastewater Branch to facilitate cesspool conversions statewide and funds key positions within this new section.

Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots activist network dedicated to the protection of our oceans, waves, and beaches. As part of our water quality initiative, we maintain a citizen-science water quality monitoring program called the Blue Water Task Force (BWTF) on Kaua'i, Maui, and O'ahu that tests for enterococcus, a fecal indicator bacteria at 80 sites regularly. BWTF sites are often selected to monitor water quality around sites with high concentration of coastal cesspools such as Kāne'ohe bay at Kahalu'u. Due to these cesspools, the water near and around Kahalu'u regularly exceeds state public health standards.

Without mechanisms to facilitate compliance with 342D-72, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, we will continue to pollute our coastal and freshwaters, threatening both environmental and public health. Additional personnel and funding for a Cesspool Conversion Section within DOH will give the Wastewater Branch the much needed resources to expedite cesspool conversions and protect our environment.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB749, submitted on the behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's three Chapters in Hawai'i and all of our members who live in the state and visit to enjoy the many coastal recreational opportunities offered by all of the islands' coastlines.

Sincerely,

Hanna Lilley
Hawai'i Regional Manager
Surfrider Foundation

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:04:46 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Bishop	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support!

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:25:13 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The conversion of Hawaii's 80,000+ cesspools to sanitary and environmentally friendly waste treatment methods is one of the most important, and most difficult, challenges that Hawaii must deal with in the near future. The DOH is the responsible agency to oversee this massive transformation, yet is currently not up to the task. HB749 will fund a dedicated section within the DOH wastewater branch, with employees assigned full-time to this essential mission. This bill should be at the top of every legislator's must-pass list.

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 12:51:40 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:

The DOH Wastewater branch is severely understaffed and cannot properly address the cesspool crisis in Hawai'i with only a couple employees working on approving cesspool conversion projects and new technologies that have the potential to make the conversion on 83k+ cesspools more affordable, more efficiently upgraded, and treat wastewater to a much higher level. A cesspool conversion section is needed so that we can further efforts that are already being made to address this issue to protect our environment and human health from wastewater pollution.

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/28/2025 10:36:17 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB749 that would create within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch a Cesspool Conversion Section, which shall be responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State. This bill is needed to protect public health and the environment by helping DOH to manage the cesspool upgrade effort. Please pass this important measure.

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 12:20:52 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alex Filardo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support creating a branch of DOH to support the conversions of cesspools. I have seen the impacts leaking cesspools on our coral reefs and we must address this issue immediately.

HB-749

Submitted on: 1/29/2025 12:58:57 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 - Creates within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch a Cesspool Conversion Section, which shall be responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State. Establishes and appropriates funds for positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.