



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

Testimony COMMENTING on SB0422
RELATING TO RECYCLING

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Hearing Date: February 13, 2019 Room Number: 224

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) offers the following
3 comments on SB0422:

4 The Glass Container Recovery “ADF” and Deposit Beverage Container Program “DBC”
5 laws governing the fate of the collected glass containers are different. The ADF law provides a
6 mechanism of funding for the county glass recovery programs but does not restrict the collected
7 glass to be recycled in contrast to the DBC law that requires all glass deposit beverage containers
8 collected from certified redemption centers to be transported to a permitted recycling facility.
9 The DBC law requires containers collected through this program to be recycled while the ADF
10 law provides the option for recycling or reuse.

11 The Department abandoned the 2008 draft policy prior to the audit of the ADF Program
12 by the State Auditor. The 2008 draft policy applied equal end use standards to the collected ADF
13 and DBC glass containers however as explained above the respective laws did not support such a
14 policy.

15 Solid waste facilities that are permitted to accept and process glass, may stockpile ADF
16 glass at their facility within limits that is protective of human health and the environment.

17 The ADF law does not require the counties to convert the weight of glass collected to
18 numbers of containers therefore a recovery rate as a percentage is currently impossible to
19 calculate. As a result, there is no viable way to calculate or determine if an increase in the

1 recovery rate for ADF glass containers has attained seventy-five percent as required by the
2 Department.

3 The Department appreciates the support for a study to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of
4 combining the ADF and DBC glass processing streams however additional funding above the
5 \$100,000 and time of reporting to the legislature is respectfully requested. Recently completed
6 and ongoing studies by the DBC Program were awarded in amounts of two to six times the
7 suggested appropriated amount that required over a year to procure.

8 **Offered Amendments:** None

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



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

February 13, 2019 1:25 p.m. Room 224

In **SUPPORT** of **SB 422**: Relating to recycling

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 422**, which seeks to mandate implementation of recommendations made by the office of the auditor to the department of health regarding advance disposal fee glass containers and deposit beverage container glass. This bill requires the department of health to report on its implementation of recommendations to the legislature and appropriates funds to the department of health to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of combining the advance disposal fee glass container and deposit beverage containers glass processing streams.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is committed to supporting efforts seeking to reduce waste and consumption across the islands, that initiate on-island recycling and processing, and that explore innovative ways to upcycle and reuse various waste materials, notably plastics. The above efforts reduce the volume of waste being sent to H-POWER, which is inefficient when burning water-saturated food waste and creates pollution when burning plastic. Our communities have come so far in their support for recycling programs, and *we should continue moving toward a zero waste Hawai'i in a way that is clean, efficient, and causes minimal harm to the environment.*

The Sierra Club of Hawaii recognizes the current recycling programs, the Glass Advanced Disposal Fee (ADF) and the Deposit Beverage Container (DBC), are both flawed and not operating at their highest potential, per 2014 audit. The recommendations made by the auditor should be implemented to improve functionality and increase success of both programs. These programs are crucial to the efficiency of recycling in Hawai'i and will continue to encourage the public to recycle.

We urge the committee to pass this measure, which will serve our collective efforts to keep Hawai'i's land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of pollution and other waste.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB 422**.

Mahalo,
Lori Mallini
Volunteer, Sierra Club of Hawai'i

SB-422

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 1:50:14 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2019 1:25:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Winslow	Individual	Support	No

Comments: