

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Friday, February 13, 2015
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 525, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO STATE PARKS**

House Bill 525, House Draft 1 proposes to prohibit smoking, the use of electronic smoking devices, and the use of tobacco products within the state park system and requires posting of signage. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill as it would enhance the visitor experience at state parks eliminating any exposure to second hand smoke, and litter from cigarette butts, however the Department is concerned with budget implications and expectations of enforcement.**

The Department recognizes that most people who visit our state parks expect to experience the natural, cultural, or scenic resources and the clean fresh air. Tobacco smoke mars this experience.

However, the Department has some concerns related to costs for replacement signage, flexibility in sign postings. The Department has developed standardized signage which includes text which varies in size and requests that the specified 1" text size in the bill be removed. In addition, the capacity of the Department to provide meaningful enforcement of the prohibition provision is limited in light of staffing shortages and other ongoing priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB0525,HD1
RELATING TO STATE PARKS**

SENATOR RYAN YAMANE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Hearing Date: February 13, 2015

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports HB0525,HD1 which
3 prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products within the state park system.

4 The DOH acknowledges the intent of this measure to uphold and expand healthy social
5 norms by prohibiting smoking and tobacco use in public places. Smoke-free and tobacco-free
6 environments positively influence tobacco use behaviors. According to the Centers for Disease
7 Control and Prevention, there is strong evidence that smoke-free policies reduce tobacco use
8 among youth. Movement toward policies that prohibit tobacco use where many residents and
9 tourists visit for recreation will help dissociate the act of smoking from healthy lifestyles.

10 Creating smoke-free or tobacco-free parks is an important step toward protecting the
11 public from involuntary exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) and the toxic effects of tobacco
12 litter. In parks and beaches, most cigarette butts end up in the sand, the grassy areas, and the
13 parking lots, presenting serious health risks to children and pets due to ingestion and choking.
14 Discarded cigarette butts leach toxic chemicals into the ground and waterways, damaging the
15 ecosystem and threatening the longevity of the natural environment. In 2013, the National
16 Poison Control Center reported 5,509 cases of children under the age of 5 years ingesting
17 cigarettes and cigarette butts in the United States. The Center receives between 15 to 23 calls
18 from Hawaii each year for this age group.

19 The introduction of this bill capitalizes on the momentum already begun on the county
20 level. Community organizations and students have demonstrated strong belief in this cause to

1 protect health and the environment by eliminating smoking and toxic, tobacco-related litter
2 where people live, work, and play.

3 **Offered Amendments:** The DOH suggests expanding the following definitions to those
4 approved by the State Attorney General:

5 "Smoke" or "smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or
6 heated tobacco product or plant product intended for inhalation in any manner or in any
7 form. "Smoking" includes the use of an electronic smoking device."

8 "Tobacco product" to be codified in the singular case:

9 "Tobacco product" means any product made or derived from tobacco, that contains
10 nicotine or other substances, and is intended for human consumption or is likely to be
11 consumed, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, or ingested by
12 any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing
13 tobacco, snuff, snus, or an electronic smoking device. "Tobacco product" does not include
14 drugs, devices, or combination products approved for sale by the U.S. Food and Drug
15 Administration, as those terms are defined in the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act."

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



To: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Members, House Committee on Water & Land

From: Lyndsey Garcia, Policy & Advocacy Director

Date: February 11, 2015

Hrg: House Committee on Water & Land; Friday, February 13, 2015 at 10:00 am, Room 325

Re: **Strong Support for HB 525, HD1, Relating to State Parks**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **strong support of HB 525, HD1, and offer one recommendation to apply these prohibitions to all parks within the state.**

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawai`i (Coalition) is a program of the Hawai`i Public Health Institute working to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy. Our program consists of over 100 member organizations and 2,000 advocates that work to create a healthy Hawai`i through comprehensive tobacco prevention and control efforts. The Coalition also supports the public through its smoke-free parks and beaches advocacy work at the county and state levels.

The Coalition supports prohibiting the use of tobacco in all of Hawai`i's parks.

HB 325 adds a new section to Chapter 184, Hawai`i Revised Statutes, which states that "Within the state park system, it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in: (1) Smoking; or (2) The use of tobacco products..." In order to address inconsistencies across counties and prevent confusion among tourists and residents, the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai`i recommends that tobacco, including ESDs be prohibited in all parks within the state instead of just within the state park system.

Currently, three out of four counties have enacted smoke-free parks and beaches laws. Hawai`i County's parks and beaches went tobacco-free in 2008.¹ A few years later, all Honolulu City and County parks and beaches became smoke-free on January 1, 2014² followed shortly by all Maui County parks and beaches³. We commend the lawmakers that passed these laws and support furthering their efforts through making a consistent statewide policy.

SMS research conducted an independent poll in 2014 that shows overwhelming support, with 78% supporting statewide smoke-free public beaches and parks.

¹ Hawai`i County Code, 14-21b.

² ROH 41-21.3 amended by Bill 25 (2013) CD2 RD 1

³ Maui County Code 13.040.20 amended by Ord 4120



Secondhand smoke has killed 2.5 million Americans and should be eliminated.

Secondhand smoke is dangerous; the 50th Anniversary U.S. Surgeon General Report released on January 17, 2014 states that any level of exposure to secondhand smoke is dangerous and can be harmful and over 2.5 million people have died from secondhand smoke.⁴ The International Agency for Research on Cancer and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency both note that environmental tobacco smoke (or secondhand smoke) is carcinogenic to humans. Secondhand smoke contains 7,000 identifiable chemicals, 69 of which are known or probable carcinogens.

Growing scientific evidence shows that secondhand smoke has a harmful effect on air quality in some outdoor settings. Studies have shown that when people are in close proximity to each other, the levels of exposure to secondhand smoke can be comparable to secondhand smoke levels measured within enclosed spaces.⁵

By passing HB 525, HD1, exposure to secondhand smoke will decrease, creating a healthy environment for the State. These laws should be applied consistently across all parks within the state to protect the public health of residents and tourists alike.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyndsey Garcia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lyndsey Garcia
Policy and Advocacy Director

⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). "The Health Consequences of Smoking – 50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General." Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health.

⁵ Global Smokefree Partnership. (2009). "The Trend Toward Smokefree Outdoor Areas." Accessed from <http://www.globalsmokefree.com/gsp/resources/recurso.php?id=225> on May 6, 2013.

Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

P.O. Box 25284 · Honolulu · Hawai'i · 96825

(808) 393 2168 · www.b-e-a-c-h.org

DATE: 12th February, 2015

TO: Chair Ryan Yamane, Vice-Chair Ty Cullen and Members of the Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Suzanne Frazer, President, Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

RE: **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB 525 HD1**
Relating to State Parks. Prohibiting smoking and the use of tobacco products within the state park system.

Committee meeting on Friday 13th February, 2015 at 10:00A.M. Conference room 325

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.) in strong support of HB525 HD1 which will ban smoking throughout Hawai'i's state park system.

I recently visited a number of state parks on O'ahu and found them littered with cigarette butts and stinking of cigarette smoke. There is a vast difference now between Hawai'i's state parks and the cleaner, healthier City and County parks on O'ahu where smoking has been banned island-wide for a year now. The County parks are free of smoke and the huge amounts of cigarette butt litter. The bans are working very successfully resulting in a healthier environment for all.

B.E.A.C.H. has surveyed Honolulu City and County beaches where smoking has been banned and found cigarette butt litter reduced enormously. In some surveys not one butt could be found on the beach. Also we have found the public abiding by the law and very, very happy to have a smoke-free environment especially families with young children who want to come and enjoy the park without breathing in second-hand smoke. I also do my best to avoid smoke, but when people are smoking all around and in the car parks as I have encountered in state parks, it's unavoidable.

There are no designated smoking areas in the smoke-free beaches and parks in Maui County, Hawai'i County and the City and County of Honolulu. All these counties have laws that are in effect and working fine without designated smoking areas. Designated smoking areas will undermine HB525 and will result in areas of the park that are still littered with cigarette butts which can blow and wash into the ocean and people will still be affected by second-hand smoke. Designated smoking areas do not work and this is why they were not included in the laws of the 3 counties that have smoking bans at beaches and parks. For all the reasons related to health and the environment we respectfully request that you please amend HB525 HD1 to remove the section (see in italics below) related to designated smoking areas found under (a) number 2 - *"provided that the department may designate areas where this section shall not apply"*.

Smoking is a health issue in regards to second-hand smoke and it is also a health issue for young children who can die or become poisoned from the ingestion of cigarette butts. Hydrogen cyanide, arsenic and formaldehyde are just some of the up to 4000 dangerous chemicals that are in used cigarette butts that litter beaches. Butts can also smolder up to 3hrs when they are dropped and still lit. No other plastic item littered on beaches releases toxic smoke.

Many parks also include shorelines and cigarette butts pose a health hazard for fish and other marine life. When cigarette butts wash into the ocean, toxic chemicals and nicotine (one of the most lethal natural insecticides on the planet) leach out of the butts within an hour of contact with water, killing fish. So cigarette butts aren't just any litter and this is not just an aesthetic problem - one concerning dirty parks. Cigarette butts are dangerous, toxic litter that are especially harmful to young children, fish and other marine life.

Cigarette butts are the number one most littered plastic item. They are made from cellulose acetate - a type of plastic and plastic does not biodegrade. It does not have a timeline for disappearing. Plastic lasts forever. When plastic gets into the ocean it accumulates additional poisons such as dioxins and other persistent organic pollutants. Fish, whales, sea turtles, sea birds and other marine life are ingesting plastic in the ocean. We need to do everything we can to reduce plastic litter throughout Hawai'i's state park system and in the ocean in order to protect Hawai'i's marine life.

A smoking ban throughout the state park system in Hawai'i will make a huge difference, resulting in cleaner parks and a healthier environment for all - residents, visitors and marine life.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in strong support of HB525 HD1.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Frazer.
President,
Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.)



Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i is an all volunteer, non-profit organization that brings awareness and solutions to marine debris through environmental education, plastic reduction/litter prevention campaigns, and marine debris removal and research in order to protect Hawai'i's marine life, sea birds and ocean/coastal environment.



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the
House Committee on Water and Land
Hearing: Thursday, February 12, 2015 8:30 am, Room 325

In Support of HB 525 HD 1 Relating to State Parks

Aloha, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 1087, which prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products within the state park system, and requires posting of signage prohibiting smoking or the use of tobacco products.

Cigarette smoking is bad for human health and the environment. People need incentives to quit and smoking bans help.

According to B.E.A.C.H. (www.b-e-a-c-h.org), cigarette butts are also the most littered plastic item on Hawai'i beaches and in the world. They are made from toxic chemicals, including arsenic, hydrogen cyanide, and formaldehyde. Ingestion of just one or two cigarette butts by young children will result in poisoning or death.

Within an hour of contact with water, cigarette butts leach toxic chemicals into the water that kill fish and other marine life.

Cigarette butts do not break down. They are unsightly and are not good for our visitor industry. Even if tourists smoke, it cannot be pleasant for them to run their toes through the sand to find it dirty and littered with cigarette butts.

Here is a photo of cigarette butts that were retrieved during a beach clean-up. HB 1087 will help clean up our state parks and make them a healthier place for humans and wildlife. Please kokua. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler

Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.

Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

Telephone/Fax: [808.593.0255](tel:808.593.0255) | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 | Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'auomoana | Koalani Kaulukukui
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



Jodi Malinoski
Rise Above Plastics: Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter
House Bill 525: Smoke-free State Parks
Committee on Water and Land, Hearing February 13th, 2015 at 10 AM
Strong Support

Dear Chair Yamane and Vice Chair Cullen,

Aloha and good morning. My name is Jodi Malinoski and I am the Rise Above Plastics Coordinator for Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter. The Rise Above Plastics coalition comprises of five environmental groups: Surfrider Foundation, Styrophobia, Sustainable Coastlines, Conservation Council for Hawaii, and Kōkua Hawaii Foundation; I am writing to represent our coalition who is in strong support of House Bill 525.

My Father has had bladder cancer since 2008. He has had 5 surgeries to remove malignant tumors; the most recent was less than one week ago. Next week, he is starting a painful, two-month long chemotherapy treatment. When he was diagnosed with cancer his doctor told him the cause was most likely from cigarettes. Although he had smoked for ten years and quit, he was exposed to secondhand smoke growing up from my Grandfather who smoked pipe tobacco. This is the reason I am writing to you now, because tobacco has affected my entire family and the legality of smoking in public spaces needs to stop.

Cigarettes are the most littered item in the world. They contain plastics that never break down in the natural environment and thousands of cigarette butts are collected at every Surfrider and Sustainable Coastlines cleanup. Smoking has been banned in most city and county beaches and parks and the same should be in the State park system.

Please pass HB 525 for not only the environment, but for my Father who is battling cancer every day. Thank you for this opportunity to share my story and I urge you to pass this Bill.

Warmest Mahalo,

Jodi Malinoski



Feb. 12, 2015

To: Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair
Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members, House Committee on Water And Land (WAL)
Re: Strong Support for HB 525, Relating to State Parks

Hrg: Friday, Feb. 13, 2015 at 10:00 am, Room 325

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 525. As the Hawaiian Islands Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I have worked with our chapters on the Big Island, Oahu and Maui to help pass popular county bills for Smoke- & Tobacco-Free Beaches. Now, we would like to work with you to create a more consistent statewide policy that will not only reduce the huge amounts of litter on our beaches but also protect beachgoers, children and marine life from the toxic effects of cigarette butts and second-hand smoke.

As a former smoker myself, I know how addictive and destructive cigarettes can be. I strongly support extending the ban on tobacco products to all of Hawaii's parks. The current language would only apply these prohibitions within the state park system, which would lead to inconsistencies with county laws and cause confusion for residents and tourists. So I would suggest changing the language of the bill to apply the prohibitions to all parks within the state of Hawai'i.

I support this bill because I believe all parks within the state should be tobacco-free. Cigarette butts are the most littered items in Hawaii and across the world, and we find thousands of them at our monthly beach cleanups around the state. In fact, on Sat., 1/31, Surfrider and the Rise Above Plastics (RAP) Coalition hosted a series of RAP Cleanups around the state and collected more than 10,000 cigarette butts and other plastic debris! At a similar cleanup last year on Maui, students and volunteers picked up more than 14,500 in less than two hours.

Along with toxic cigarette butts, we hope to reduce secondhand tobacco smoke, both of which have many toxic chemicals and known carcinogens. Studies have shown that when people are in close proximity to each other, the levels of exposure to secondhand smoke can be comparable to secondhand smoke levels measured within enclosed spaces. I grew up with parents who smoked and experienced health issues like a constant sore throat.

As a founding member of the RAP Coalition, I support tobacco-free parks and urge you to pass HB 525 in order to protect residents, tourists, children and wildlife from exposure to secondhand smoke and toxic cigarette butts. This bill will also help keep our beaches, parks and coastal areas cleaner and healthier. Mahalo for your consideration and leadership on this issue and let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Stuart Coleman
Stuart H. Coleman
Hawaii Coordinator

Rafael Bergstrom
Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter
House Bill 525: Smoke Free State Parks
Committee on Water & Land
February 13th 2015, 10:00AM
In Strong Support

Aloha Members of the Water and Land,

I am writing to voice my strong support for House Bill 525, the establishment of smoke free State Parks. I have spent the last two years volunteering and working for the Surfrider Foundation after finishing my masters in Environmental Management at UH. During my time in Hawai'i I have witnessed the profound amount of litter that is dumped on our beautiful island; cigarette butts are some of the biggest offenders. On January 31st as part of a statewide beach cleanup, the Oahu Chapter of Surfrider and its volunteers collected over 5000 cigarette butts in a little over an hour and half at Oneula Beach Park. Around the State the numbers reached over 15,000 butts in a short period of time. These are coming only from the beaches that we cleaned, when multiplied across the island's beaches and parks as a whole the numbers would be staggering and quite frankly – disgusting.

We are all well aware at this point of the detriments of smoking cigarettes as they contain nasty chemicals that are not only harmful to our own health, but also the health of the environment. Those facts are not debated anymore. However, I understand that we still need to protect our personal freedoms, even if that may be someone's choice to smoke and harm themselves. There was a time in my life when I may not have appreciated this bill, but having seen the amount of toxic litter that ends up in our storm drains and on our beaches, I have to believe that we will be better off as a society if we keep smoking off of our beaches and out of our parks. Our counties have begun the process of making the islands smoke free on beaches and parks, but our state can take another step towards a cleaner and healthier future.

Thank you for considering this bill and all the time that you put into reading testimony from the community.

Cheers,
Rafael Bergstrom
Oahu Chapter Coordinator, Surfrider Foundation

cullen4-Rachele

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 10:46 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: antonchris10@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM*

HB525

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Anton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Dietrich	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: konaking@live.com
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HB525

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Stevens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Let's NOT discriminate against people in our parks.

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Cc: kathyk323@hotmail.com
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HB525

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Cc: mikenakas@hotmail.com
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HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael S. Nakasone	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas Winters	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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To: waltestimony
Cc: mauimoonflower@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM*

HB525

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sabrina Spencer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Date: 13th February, 2015

To: Chair Ryan Yamane, Vice-chair Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair and Members of
Committee on Water and Land

From: Dean Otsuki, P.O. Box 25284, Honolulu, HI 96825

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HBS25 HD1
RELATING TO STATE PARKS**

Prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products within the state park system. Requires posting
of signage prohibiting smoking or the use of tobacco products. (HBS25 HD1)

Committee Meeting on Friday 13th February, 2015 at 10AM.

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice-chair Cullen and Members of Committee on Water and Land,

I am writing in support of HBS25 HD1 which will ban smoking and use of tobacco products
within the state park system.

I feel that the public's health would be better served to have all of Hawai'i's state parks tobacco-
free. Hawai'i's residents and visitors should have their health protected from toxic second hand
smoke and have the right to breath clean air.

Second hand smoke releases over 250 toxic chemicals and more than 50 of them are known to
cause cancer. Cigarette butts can smolder for up to 3 hours and release dangerous and toxic
chemicals into the air. Toxic chemicals leach out of cigarette butts within an hour of being in
contact with water. Marine life have been found dead after ingesting butts.

I think that we can all agree that smoking is an unhealthy habit. Smoking cigarettes is linked to
cancer and emphysema. My mother and father both smoked for years and died from smoking
related diseases. Watching my once healthy father deteriorate into a person with emphysema and
dependent on an air tank for oxygen was a painful experience for me. At the end of his life he
couldn't walk more than 5 feet without having to sit down and rest. My mother originally had
cancer in her lungs which rapidly spread throughout her body and she died within a few months.
Had there been a smoking ban when they were younger it could have encouraged them to quit
smoking and possibly prolong their lives. Other smokers that I have talked to said that being
around non-smokers makes it easier to quit smoking.

Cigarette butts degrade the beauty of the beach and are the most littered plastic item collected at
beach clean-ups around the world and Hawai'i is no different. Plastic does not biodegrade, it
lasts forever in the environment. This is not ordinary litter like candy wrappers or food
containers, this is toxic litter. Cyanide, formaldehyde, arsenic are just a few of the hundreds of
poisonous chemicals found in cigarette butts. If a toddler ingests a cigarette butt he or she can be
fatally harmed. Banning smoking at state parks would drastically reduce the amount of butt litter
and keep our keiki safe.


No smoking signage, posters and public service announcements informing the public about the
smoking ban will help a lot in educating visitors and locals about the new law. Education about
the new law is key. I feel that educating the public about the smoking ban like the state smoking

ban in public spaces in 2006 and the 2014 Honolulu County smoking ban in parks will help
tremendously in enforcing the smoking ban. The law would give people confidence to tell
smokers to not smoke at state parks because the law would be on their side. It definitely gave me
confidence when confronting smokers on beaches in Honolulu County beaches and parks when
that law became effective last year. Most smokers are law abiding citizens and will stop smoking
in smoke-free areas if informed nicely about the tobacco-free law.

I am against having designated smoking areas in parks. The direction of where second hand
smoke drifts depends on the direction of the wind and in Hawai'i it blows from the east, west,
south and north on any given day. Non-smokers could be subjected to second hand smoke
depending on which way the wind is coming from.

A smoking ban could be a blessing in disguise for a lot of smokers to quit and add more years to
their life along with other people around them. Thank you for allowing me to provide written
testimony in support of HBS25 HD1.

Yours sincerely,


Dean Otsuki



LATE

Testimony of
Myles Ritchie, Programs Manager

In Support of
HB 525
Relating to Smoking in State Parks

House of Representatives
Friday, February 13, 2015

Since 1912, The Outdoor Circle has been working tirelessly to keep Hawaii “Clean, Green and Beautiful” for all of our residents and visitors. One of the largest problems facing this cause throughout the state, has been dealing with the litter associated with cigarettes and other tobacco related products.

The enactment of HB525 would help preserve Hawaii’s natural beauty in profound ways by banning all forms of tobacco products from our state parks. This would see a large reduction in the amount of cigarette butts that are carelessly deposited throughout these state parks and not only ruin the aesthetic value of these areas, but also have detrimental impacts on the environment and wildlife.

As such, The Outdoor Circle fully supports HB 525 with the only change coming in the form of an earlier implementation date of 2015 rather than 2050.

Mahalo

Myles Ritchie
Programs Intern
The Outdoor Circle



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 8:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: lcblickley@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lauren Blickley	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In April 2014, Maui County passed a bill to outlaw the use of tobacco products (including smoking) in all County parks and on county beaches. The bill has community support and while it will take time to implement, has already made our beaches, parks, and public places cleaner. This bill is a no-brainer. Please pass this bill and help make Hawaii a cleaner and more beautiful State by passing this bill.

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 8:55 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mhesketts@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marvin Heskett	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I firmly support this bill. Having worked on beach cleanups for the past decade, I have encountered thousands of cigarette butts, both along the shore and all around our beach parks. Although I am not opposed to an individuals right to smoke, they should not be allowed to do so where the toxic remains of their habit reach across to our children and environment. Please make the pono choice in supporting this important bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 7:22 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mary.flemming333@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mary	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please ban cigarettes from our beach. As a regular on beach clean ups I spend the majority of my time picking up cigarette butts. Not only is it unhealthy for us but also the land, animals and sea. I can only Imagine what good work could be done if we didn't spend all that time picking up butts. For the health of Seven generations protect our waters and get ride of the butts on beaches!

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:33 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mz9995@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Zehner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill can't be enforced, is a profane violation of civil liberties, and discriminates against users of electronic smoking devices without proven just cause.

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LATE

February 13, 2015

To: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Members, House Committee Water and Land
Re: Strong Support for HB 525, Relating to State Parks

Hrg: Friday, February 13, 2015 at 10:00 am, Room 325

I would like to start off by thanking the committee for the opportunity of submitting my testimony in strong support of HB 525. As a high school student, I have had the opportunity of collecting data and researching the issue of cigarette littering. I have gained substantial knowledge of how prevalent and severe cigarette littering is to our forests, oceans, wildlife, tourist industry, and health, which is why I strongly support HB 525.

I support this bill because I believe that state parks need to be protected under the law in order to preserve their sacredness and value, as well as protect the life within them. Cigarette butts are constantly ranked as the most littered item almost everywhere in the world. In Hawaii, their presence is abundant to say the least. At a recent beach cleanup, volunteers from the Surfrider foundation picked up over 5,500 cigarette butts in a little over an hour. It is obvious that the issue of cigarette littering is critical.

I care so much about keeping Hawaii cigarette-litter free because I love this land that I call home so much. I love to surf, hike, and be outdoors. Hawaii's life is precious, and it saddens me deeply to think that Her beauty may not exist for future generations. We all live on this land, and I personally feel that it's our responsibility to take good care of it.

My Senior Project consists of educating students at Mililani High School about how detrimental cigarette littering is. My hope in educating my fellow classmates on this issue is that they will understand how severe the impacts are when one chooses to flick their butt.

However, education isn't enough. Unfortunately, there will always be people who don't care. In order to tackle and end this careless act, policies and regulations need to be put in place. In other words, the law needs to defend the Aina, which is why I strongly support HB 525. If we work together on this issue, I have hope that Hawaii can become cigarette-litter free which will tremendously improve many aspects of life. Mahalo for your consideration and hard work during this legislative session.

Sincerely,
Nicole Antos
Mililani High School

cullen2-Sheila Marie

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 6:04 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: ngkue1193@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Niki	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Electronic cigarettes do not omit toxins or dangerous second-hand smoke into the air. The 'smoke' is actually vapor. The e-liquid that is used with e-cigs of which is vaporized is made out of three main ingredients: Propylene Glycol, Vegetable Glycerin, and added artificial/natural flavoring. When vaporized these ingredients do not cause harm to the body or others around it. Electronic cigarettes should not be viewed the same as tobacco since there are no traces of tobacco in these products.

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 5:11 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: pk.hitest@spamgourmet.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
P Kuromoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Let people enjoy legal recreational use in open air. If there is a litter problem, enforce that existing law.

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cullen2-Sheila Marie

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Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 5:55 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: vinkim@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB525 on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM*

HB525

Submitted on: 2/12/2015

Testimony for WAL on Feb 13, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vin Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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