



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony COMMENTING on HB2155
RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Hearing Date: 2/4/2020 Room Number: 325

Fiscal Implications: Undefined sums of State of Hawaii general revenues shall be appropriated to assist the counties with implementation. This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and personnel priorities.

Department Testimony: The Department respectfully offers the following comments on HB2155, which requires residential and commercial solid waste be separated by source, requires counties to update their integrated solid waste management plans, establishes a new waste stream reduction goal, and provides general revenue appropriations to the counties to implement this proposal:

Separating solid waste into appropriate, identifiable containers based on source may facilitate recycling by reducing contamination and expediting waste processing. However, each county manages its own solid waste based on local infrastructure, availability of funds, availability of land, and other factors. Currently, residential waste collection varies greatly by county – from no curbside collection in the County of Hawaii to automated three-bin curbside collection in the City and County of Honolulu. In addition, no county conducts commercial waste collection, which is managed exclusively by private haulers.

Each county is updating, or has recently updated, its Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) plan. The purpose of the ISWM plan is to identify priorities, approaches, and costs for the entire waste management process.

1 The proposed legislation presents a universal solution that impacts each county's solid
2 waste management program, although each county faces its own discrete challenges. The
3 Department respectfully requests that the Legislature consider each county's capacity and
4 priorities as identified in their ISWM plans.

5 **Offered Amendments:** None.

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

HB-2155

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 12:40:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alexandra Kahn	Surfrider Oahu	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2155

Submitted on: 2/1/2020 4:28:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Burnette	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support reducing the amount of waste going into landfills in Hawaii. It seems imperative that we do this because with live on islands and have a fixed amount of available space.

HB-2155

Submitted on: 1/31/2020 8:04:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
autumn ness	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
February 4, 2020

LATE

Re: HB 2155 Relating to Solid Waste Management

Good morning Chairperson Lowen and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) as founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

While the Retail Merchants of Hawaii appreciates the intent, we oppose HB 2155 Relating to Solid Waste Management. This measure requires residential and commercial solid waste be separated by source to be processed at appropriate facilities; establishes a 2030 waste stream reduction goal; and appropriates funds to the counties for solid waste management programs.

Retailers space for trash can be very limited as older buildings and shopping malls did not plan for having to separate out their waste when they were designed and built decades ago. To have to add additional receptacles to accommodate green waste, compostable and recyclables in addition to trash bins may be a hardship for many who lack the space, especially small businesses. Retailers would also have to secure these additional receptacles due to people dumpster diving, stealing the wood pallets, and dumping out trash onto the ground.

We would like to point out that retailers are already implementing their own inhouse recycling for their cardboard shipping boxes and packing materials, and providing separate receptacles for plastic, paper and trash in the mall. We are seeing many malls and shopping centers that already outsource their ground maintenance, who in turn hauls away the green waste when they leave the property at the end of the day.

It is also our understanding that there is NO composting facility in the state. We would like to suggest that the state focus their efforts on looking into creating a facility that addresses compostable waste.

We urge you to hold this measure. Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.

LATE

HB-2155

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 8:34:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2155

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 6:56:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lauryn rego	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

HB-2155

Submitted on: 2/3/2020 9:25:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/4/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments: