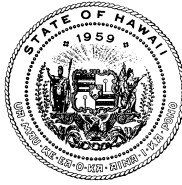


# SB 11

Measure Title:	RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS.
Report Title:	Polystyrene Foam Products; Prohibition; Disposal of Nonreusable Prepared Food Containers; Litter Reduction
Description:	Prohibits the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide. Authorizes the Department of Health to adopt rules to implement the prohibition and include within its administrative rules a requirement for food vendors to educate their customers about proper disposal of nonreusable food containers and litter reduction. Takes effect on July 1, 2020.
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	AEN, CPH
Introducer(s):	S. CHANG, BAKER, GABBARD



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

WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB0011  
RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH  
Hearing Date: February 26, 2019 Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** approximately \$1,000,000 annually

2 **Department Testimony:** This bill proposes to ban the sale of polystyrene foam containers in  
3 the state; and, ban restaurants from serving prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers.

4 The Department of Health (Department) recognizes the urgency to address the impact of  
5 plastic litter on the environment. However, we note that the proposed ban duplicates existing  
6 county bans. Polystyrene food container bans are active, or about to begin, in Hawaii County  
7 and Maui County.

8 We further note that sales prohibitions do not fit into the area(s) of responsibility of any  
9 of the Department's existing regulatory programs. The Department has not enforced litter laws  
10 since the abolishment of the Litter Control Office in the late 1990s. We estimate that to re-  
11 establish the Litter Control Office with an administrator, one clerical position, and a single  
12 inspector for each county will cost approximately \$1,000,000 annually.

13 Finally, we ask that any mandates or appropriation made to implement this measure not  
14 impact the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget Request and the  
15 Department's appropriations and personnel priorities.

16 **Offered Amendments:** None

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

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH**

**Tuesday, February 26, 2019  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 11  
RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS**

Senate Bill 11 proposes to prohibit the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide. It would also authorize the Department of Health to adopt rules to implement the prohibition and include within its administrative rules a requirement for food vendors to educate their customers about proper disposal of nonreusable food containers and litter reduction. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the deleterious impacts of marine debris on wildlife and their habitats as a primary natural resource issue throughout the State. Marine debris degrade land and ocean-based habitat through smothering and abrasion and impact a variety of wildlife (aquatic and terrestrial) through ingestion and entanglement. Hawai'i has the highest reported debris accumulations in the United States' Pacific Ocean Coastlines.

Although a large amount of marine debris arrives from the ocean, it is all of our responsibility to reduce the amount of debris entering and re-entering our ocean and beaches. Senate Bill 11 would help reduce the polystyrene debris load entering Hawaii's shorelines and contribute to the improved health of our wildlife and their habitats.

The Department however shares the Department of Health's concerns regarding administration and enforcement of this initiative.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

February 26, 2019 9:00 a.m. Room 229

In **SUPPORT** of **SB11**: Relating to polystyrene foam containers

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Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB 11**, which seeks to prohibit the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide, taking effect July 1, 2020.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, dedicated to exploring, enjoying, and protecting these unique and beautiful islands we call home, have engaged in decades-long efforts to protect public access to trails and beaches in addition to restoring hundreds of trails on public and private land. Part of our dedication to protect is to keep these valuable public areas free of pollution from plastics and other waste. In this case, we advocate for halting harmful plastic pollution at the source. This measure is one of many that support our collective efforts to reduce pollution across the board.

Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters--settling on our reefs and, in some places, creating large plastic island gyres. Polystyrene food containers are intended for single use, cannot typically be recycled, and pose harm to marine life. The toxins and heavy chemicals found in them are not compostable or biodegradable--*taking 500 years or more to decompose*. Polystyrene food containers, as well as other single use foam products, create an overabundance of waste that continually overflow local landfills, overflow our beaches, and are not a source of clean energy when burned at H-Power. **There are alternatives for single use polystyrene food containers**, including compostable and biodegradable options. By reducing single use plastics like polystyrene food containers at the source, Hawai'i will have the opportunity to reduce and even eliminate one of the most toxic plastic pollutants, thereby showcasing its state sustainability goals to the nation and the world. Banning the distribution and selling of polystyrene food containers will enable Hawai'i to invest in the future aesthetics of the island, and more importantly the health and safety of marine life and local communities.

*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 plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB 11**.

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





1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
P: 808-533-1292 | e: [info@hawaiiifood.com](mailto:info@hawaiiifood.com)

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**Beau Oshiro**, C&S Wholesale Grocers, *Past Chair*  
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**Paul Kosasa**, ABC Stores, *Advisor*  
**Barry Taniguchi**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*  
**Derek Kurisu**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

---

TO:  
Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: February 26, 2019  
TIME: 9:30am  
PLACE: Conference Room 229

RE: SB11 Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers

Position: Comments

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

Protecting our natural environment is a goal we all share, but this bill will not address the root causes of things like marine debris and trash mismanagement. Most of the trash debris seen on beaches is the result of haphazard disposal of waste from all over the world and on the seas, which are brought here by currents. Many products do not biodegrade which is why waste management is such an important issue. We support litter reduction measures and we believe that comprehensive measures are preferable to single item bans that simply change the composition of litter.

A recent audit of polystyrene and bag bans by the City and County of Honolulu City Auditor determined that, "Minimizing litter to keep our natural environment safe from harm is an important community objective. To be successful, the city should pursue comprehensive methods rather than a simplistic ban on a single kind of litter/trash that is unlikely to effectively reduce the overall amount of litter and its harm to the environment."

Extensive studies from the FDA, Health Canada and Environment Canada concluded that polystyrene is "non-toxic" and that styrene "does not constitute a danger to human life and health" and "does not constitute a danger to the environment on which human life depends."

If the State is determined to pass this measure we request the several important amendments in order to make it feasible for retailers to implement.

**An exemption for meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, and fish would need to be added to this bill to make it workable for the food industry.** Current definitions make it unclear if raw meat/fish/poultry trays and egg cartons are exempted, as is common practice for these bills. Polystyrene is the global industry standard for packaging meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, and fish because it is one of the only materials that keeps these products insulated at safe regulated temperatures. For health and sanitation reasons we ask that this amendment be included. It would also be cost prohibitive for meat stores to replace meat packaging machines with new ones designed to use some other type of trays.

**It is also unclear if this bill bans product that are pre-packaged in polystyrene such as Nissan Cup of Noodles<sup>1</sup>, Hawaii Food Products, Inc. Lau Lau<sup>2</sup>, Sun Noodle Udon<sup>3</sup>, Fresh Ewa Sweet Corn<sup>4</sup>, and many others.**

The amendments suggested in red would ensure that pre-pack non-prepared foods are exempted. It would also ensure that egg carton and meat trays are exempted. These exemptions would also ensure that this measure is not in violation of any interstate commerce laws.

"Prepared food" means food or beverages that are prepared to be consumed **with no additional heating or cooking** on or off the premises of a restaurant or food establishment. **"prepared food" does not include raw eggs, butchered meats fish and/or poultry.**

~~"Vendor" means any person, firm, or corporation engaged in selling or offering for sale any prepared food containers.~~

"Restaurant" means an eating establishment, including but not limited to coffee shops, cafeterias, sandwich stands, food trucks, and private and public school cafeterias, that gives or offers for sale food or beverages to the public, guests, or employees, as well as kitchens and catering facilities in which food or beverage is prepared on the premises for serving elsewhere. The term "restaurant" includes a bar area within the restaurant and outdoor areas of restaurants.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nissinfoods.com/products/cup-noodles>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.hawaiifoodproducts.com/about>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.mylilikoikitchen.com/2018/04/12/ginger-pork-udon-with-baby-bok-choy/sun-noodle-udon-1/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.yelp.com/biz\\_photos/kta-super-stores-kailua-kona-kailua-kona?select=hZyCwBCgj-NoUCWOJmR6Og](https://www.yelp.com/biz_photos/kta-super-stores-kailua-kona-kailua-kona?select=hZyCwBCgj-NoUCWOJmR6Og)

§ -2 Prohibition on the sale and use of polystyrene foam containers.

~~(a) No vendor operating within the State shall sell any polystyrene foam containers.~~

~~(b)~~ (a) No restaurant operating within the State shall serve prepared food using polystyrene foam containers.

**Having one consistent statewide ordinance is preferable for consumers and businesses.** Having different regulations in each county creates a large administrative and financial burden for businesses, especially smaller local businesses. We ask that the language below be added to ensure that if this measure is passed it applies to the entire state.

This section shall take precedence over and preempt all contrary ordinances or rules adopted by a county or any department or agency thereof.

**We ask that the definitions in this measure be clarified.** Polystyrene is a chemical compound used for the creation of several types of food service containers because of its versatility, durability, and temperature control. If the intent of this measure is to limit the amount of lightweight foam type polystyrene packaging then we believe the ordinance should be amended to clarify that and to exclude hard plastic polystyrene.

One of the reasons that so many of our local food businesses rely on polystyrene as a packaging material is that it has a unique ability to safely hold very hot liquid. There are very few other materials that can match polystyrene's insulation qualities, and many alternative container options are significantly more expensive. In order to give our local businesses time to make the transition we ask that the effective date of this measure be changed to January 1, 2022.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



## SB11

### RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

February 26, 2019

9:30 a.m.

Room 229

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB11, which would ban the sale of polystyrene food containers and their use by food providers, and thereby reduce the impacts of polystyrene waste on our native wildlife, marine and coastal resources, and associated Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

Polystyrene has a well-established impact on native species of cultural significance, including endangered as well as subsistence resource species. An ubiquitous and dominant feature of the average consumer's food and retail experience, global production of polystyrene exceeds **300 million tons annually**; approximately **50 percent** of that production is disposed indiscriminately into the environment, causing significant negative environmental impacts. In Hawaiian waters, the ingestion of discarded plastic debris including polystyrene by native seabirds, such as mōlī, as well as by endangered honu, is a well-documented phenomenon that may have highly injurious or even fatal consequences. Notably, such species hold special significance in Hawaiian culture and traditions: the cultural importance of seabirds includes their role in navigation, meteorology, craftwork, and in their spiritual symbolic significance; likewise, honu are also featured in numerous mo'olelo, hula, ki'i pōhaku, and other art forms, and were traditionally raised and harvested for food, medicinal, and other purposes. Polystyrene may also be ingested by other marine fauna, and its bioaccumulation through the food web may adversely affect numerous other native and culturally significant marine species. **Therefore, reducing or eliminating the amount of disposable polystyrene containers used in Hawai'i may help to mitigate the overall impact of plastics on the native and endangered marine species in our islands' waters.**

OHA further notes that polystyrene plastics may also threaten the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural and subsistence practices. The toxins contained in discarded polystyrene, including those found in polystyrene itself as well as toxins readily absorbed by polystyrene material, may bioaccumulate in the marine food web, discouraging cultural and subsistence practitioners from the practice of gathering and consuming marine resources. The presence of polystyrene fragments and other microplastics in our nearshore waters may also discourage the traditional gathering and consumption of pa'akai and other non-living resources. In addition, the harm caused to endangered and native species may foreclose the future use of such species in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, which depend upon the availability of healthy and abundant resources. Finally,

the presence of polystyrene and other plastics may compromise the cultural and spiritual integrity of the marine and coastal environment, upon which Native Hawaiian subsistence practices and ways of life are inextricably tied.<sup>1</sup> **Accordingly, reducing the use and inevitable disposal of polystyrene containers into our marine environment may also represent a small but important step towards the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian culture.**

Finally, while OHA understands and appreciates that economic concerns may be raised by some, OHA believes it may also be important to consider the economic benefits that would result from a ban on polystyrene foam containers. For example, a ban on polystyrene food containers, and the resulting reduction of plastic waste on our beaches and in our coastal waters, will only enhance visitor experience and thereby economic activity in the islands. The outward commitment by our government to prioritize and be responsive to the needs of Hawai'i's marine ecology would also be favorable to Hawai'i's image as an attractive visitor destination. A polystyrene container ban would further enhance the market for locally produced, environmentally friendly alternatives to polystyrene containers, injecting life into nascent sectors of our local economy and encouraging local, environmentally conscious entrepreneurship. Finally, the reduction of polystyrene's impacts on our marine and coastal environment, as well as on human health, may result in significant avoided economic costs associated with such impacts. OHA therefore urges the Committee to consider the significant economic benefits of a polystyrene ban in any weighing of the marginal increased costs of polystyrene-alternative food containers.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB11. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> In Native Hawaiian understanding the spatial bounds of 'āina and moana are viewed holistically and maintain powerful and epistemological connections to Hawaiian ancestry and resilience; in one salient example, hāko'ako'a, coral reefs, are prayed for and spoken of in the kumulipo, the Hawaiian creation chant.



**Tyler Roukema, Chairman** – Outback Steakhouse      **Kelii Gouveia, Incoming Chair** – Hula Grill  
**Hide Sakurai, Vice Chair** – Diamond Dining      **Dirk Koeppenkastrop, Secretary** – Il Gelato  
**Ben Dowling, Treasurer** – Ocean House      **Michael Miller, Past Chair** – Tiki's Grill & Bar

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**Gregg Fraser**, Executive Director    **Sunny Obrey**, Executive Assistant    **Holly Kessler**, Director of Membership Relations

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To:      Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
         Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair  
         Members of Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From:   Victor Lim, Legislative Lead  
         Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj:    SB 11 Prohibiting Polystyrene Foam Food Service Containers

Date:    February 24, 2019

We at the Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,500 restaurants in Hawaii oppose SB 11 that prohibits the use of polystyrene foam food service containers state wide.

The neighbor islands have already passed their rules to do just this but Honolulu has taken a different approach since all the household and restaurant waste ended up at the H Power to be burned for electricity.

A recent study done by the Honolulu City Auditor reports out that less than one percent of our total trash stream is currently made up of foam food containers. Foam is much cheaper than alternate products and for ethnic foods with heat and moisture, also performs better in holding the product, retaining heat and safer transporting. We also do not have any composting facilities here in Hawaii where everything ends up at the H Power. We are looking at substituting a very functional product with a much more expensive substitute. The final result will have the consumer paying more.

We do want to reduce litter and that's why we try to educate our employees and customers and launch our Malama 808 campaign with many industry partners to make sure litter is properly disposed of in the trash bins.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to share our views on this.





February 20, 2019

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Members, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Tim Shestek, Senior Director  
State Affairs

RE: **SB 11 - OPPOSE**

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) must respectfully oppose SB 11, which would ban the sale and use of polystyrene foodservice containers in Hawaii. ACC and its members certainly support efforts to reduce litter and marine debris; however, SB 11 appears to be drafted under the false assumption that alternatives to polystyrene foodservice containers are environmentally preferable.

ACC membership includes the leading suppliers and manufacturers of plastics foodservice packaging products, including polystyrene food and beverage containers. Unfortunately, the proposed bill is based on many misperceptions about polystyrene foam foodservice products, including that it cannot be recycled and that alternative food service materials leave a lighter environmental footprint and can be easily recycled or composted.

Key questions ACC believes the Legislature should assess prior to imposing new mandates on Hawaii businesses include:

- Will this legislation actually reduce waste or rather simply result in replacing one type of trash with another?
- Are there environmental impacts (e.g. energy use, water use, impacts on greenhouse gas emissions, trash generation, landfill waste, etc.) associated with the manufacture, distribution, use and disposal of likely alternative replacement products?
- Are likely replacement products recycled or composted within the State's existing infrastructure and do viable, end use markets exist for these products?

#### **Impacts on Trash Generation/Disposal/Litter**

New policies and practices should ensure that no waste, plastic or otherwise, ends up having a negative impact on the environment. SB 11 is misguided and likely to be ineffective based on data from completed litter studies. The bill fails to recognize that litter and improper waste management are independent of material type. In fact, a study recently completed by the Honolulu City Auditor found that a "simplistic ban on a single kind of litter or trash is unlikely to effectively reduce the overall amount of litter and its harm to the environment"<sup>1</sup>.

Litter studies conducted following the enactment of a ban have shown an increase in the litter of alternative materials that is greater than the decline in the banned material. For example, when the City of San Francisco placed restrictions on the use of certain plastic foodservice products, the City found that replacement products became more dominant in the litter stream<sup>2</sup>. For this reason the California Water board rejected the use of bans as a compliance mechanism for waterborne trash reduction<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca\\_docs/PS\\_Ban\\_Study\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/MRP/02-2012/Comments/Dart/Staff\\_Exhibits.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/stormwater/MRP/02-2012/Comments/Dart/Staff_Exhibits.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/trash\\_control/docs/trash\\_sr\\_040715.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/trash_control/docs/trash_sr_040715.pdf)



### **Assessing Polystyrene Foam and Likely Replacement Products**

If alternatives are considered, the decision needs to be based on a full life cycle analysis. All packaging leaves an environmental footprint regardless of the material type. It takes energy and raw materials to produce, transport, and recover or dispose of any material. So it is important to measure all of these impacts throughout the entire lifecycle of a product. Consider the following:

- Polystyrene cups weigh anywhere from two to five times less than comparable paper packaging products which means fewer air emissions when transporting products<sup>4</sup>.
- A polystyrene hot beverage cup requires about 50% LESS energy to produce than a similar plastic-coated paperboard cup with a corrugated cup sleeve, and creates significantly fewer greenhouse gas emissions than a similar coated paper-based cup with its corrugated sleeve.
- Studies conducted for Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) showed that banning polystyrene foam food take-out containers would dramatically increase environmental impacts by doubling the greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, and waste associated with the use of alternative products<sup>5</sup>.

It is also important to note that compostable food service containers only “degrade” in a controlled composting environment – essentially a large industrial facility where temperatures can exceed 140 degrees for several days. Hawaii does not currently have a commercial composting facility to process compostable alternatives, so these products will end up in a landfill. Biodegradable containers do not degrade if littered alongside the road, deposited into a trash can, nor will they degrade if they make their way into a storm drain or other water body.

The Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI), a not-for-profit association of key individuals and groups from government, industry, and academia seeks to educate manufacturers, legislators and consumers about the importance of scientifically based standards for compostable materials which biodegrade in large composting facilities. Under their “Myths of Biodegradation”, BPI states:

**Myth:** Biodegradable products are the preferred environmental solution because waste simply biodegrades in the landfill.

**Reality:** Nothing biodegrades in a landfill because nothing is supposed to<sup>6</sup>.

### **Cost Impacts**

Lastly, replacements for polystyrene products will likely result in higher operating costs for restaurants, caterers, delis, and the host of other food providers covered under SB 11. Polystyrene containers cost 2-3 times less than replacement products, which in some cases do not perform well, especially for very hot and cold food and beverages.

### **Efforts to Address Litter and Marine Debris**

ACC and its members take seriously the issue of litter and marine debris. To that end, ACC is working domestically and internationally with government officials, retailers, anti-litter groups and consumers to devise solutions to prevent litter and marine debris.

On January 16<sup>th</sup> global companies in the plastic value chain including many ACC members announced the creation of a new non-profit called the Alliance to End Plastic Waste. This new group is committing \$1.5 Billion over five years to end plastic waste and will focus on providing help to the largest sources of plastic in our ocean.

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<sup>4</sup> Life Cycle Inventory of Foam Polystyrene, Paper-Based, and PLA Foodservice Products, prepared by Franklin Associates, a Division of ERG, February, 2011

<sup>5</sup> Alternative to Disposable Shopping Bags and Food Service Items Volume I, prepared for Seattle Public Utilities, January 2008, Herrera Environmental Consultants

<sup>6</sup> See <http://www.bpiworld.org/Default.aspx?pagelid=190439>





Some of our recent activity also includes helping develop new and innovative recycling programs nationwide; promoting industry-wide practices to contain plastic pellets; partnering with governments and conservationists to encourage recycling and discourage litter; working to educate children on the link between litter and marine health; working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to advance scientific understanding of marine debris; and continuing to innovate and develop smaller, lighter packaging. More information about our activities to help reduce marine debris can be found at: <http://www.marinedebrissolutions.com>.

Additionally, last year ACC partnered with the City and County of Honolulu on a pilot project to find and close off potential pathways for trash from land-based sources to migrate into the marine environment. One of the primary sources of litter found near waterways and beaches on Oahu is uncovered public trash cans that allow garbage to blow out. Through our partnership, ACC and the City and County of Honolulu identified a better design for outdoor public garbage cans to keep trash out of parks, and most importantly, out of waterways and the ocean.

ACC believes that reducing landfill disposal, marine debris and litter requires the implementation of a variety of tools. In addition to efforts that seek to increase recycling and improve solid waste collection infrastructure, opportunities to recover non-recycled plastics may be an option as well. An emerging set of technologies is allowing governments and businesses to convert non-recycled plastics into energy, fuels, and feedstocks, or raw materials for new manufacturing. A range of energy recovery technologies are being used to complement recycling in helping to divert more valuable post-use materials from landfills. Some of the most widely used and rapidly emerging technologies include waste-to-energy, plastics-to-fuels, gasification, and solid recovery fuels.

Experts agree that improving waste management is the key to addressing marine debris. Attempts to reduce marine debris through product bans fail to recognize the underlying source of marine debris in developed countries, litter. Thank you in advance for considering our views. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or via email at [Tim\\_Shestek@americanchemistry.com](mailto:Tim_Shestek@americanchemistry.com). You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551.





## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION & HEALTH**

February 26, 2019    9:00 a.m.    Room 229

### **In STRONG SUPPORT of SB11: Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers**

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Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the committee,

The HAWAII REEF AND OCEAN COALITION –HIROC– was formed in 2017 by coral reef scientists, educators, local Hawai'i environmental organizations, elected officials, and others to address a crisis facing Hawai'i's coral reefs and ocean, including harms from plastics.

#### **We strongly support passage of SB11.**

Polystyrene foam containers are ultra-light, produce litter on land, and often are blown into the ocean, where they harm marine life, including sea birds, fish, mammals and even our precious corals that protect Hawai'i's shorelines. There are more sustainable alternatives to styrofoam that would involve only a small increase for consumers, with far less impact on our pristine environment. We must act now to protect our environment by reducing plastic and styrofoam use!

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support of SB11.**

Kimiko LaHaela Walter on behalf of the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

---

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96823				
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February 21 , 2019

TO: Honorable Chair Baker & Members of CPH Committee

RE: SB 11 Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers.

Support for Decision Making on Feb. 26

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 11 as it would prohibit the sale, use, or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags.

One only needs to look at Wikipedia to find evidence in support of this bill: "Polystyrene is slow to [biodegrade](#) and is therefore a focus of controversy among environmentalists. It is increasingly abundant as a form of [litter](#) in the outdoor [environment](#), particularly along shores and waterways, especially in its foam form, and also in increasing quantities in the Pacific Ocean." Save our beaches and ocean; ban polystyrene foam and other plastics that pollute.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel  
President



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
February 26, 2019**

**Re: SB 11 Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers**

Good morning Chairperson Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health. 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.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii OPPOSES SB 11 Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers. Bans are not the simple answer. We need to maintain a fair balance regarding food service containers and look at a coordinated litter reduction programs.

Businesses respond to the wants of the customers that patronize their establishments all while operating on a very thin profit margin. They look for cost effective food containers that ensure that products are durable enough to protect people from spills and burns as well as keep food protected and fresh longer by sustaining appropriate temperature.

A mere substitution of polystyrene type containers to another type will NOT result in reduced trash as more than likely the substitution product would be discarded in the same manner as the polystyrene.

We need to be looking into a comprehensive litter reduction program that includes government and the community that not only takes into account educating the public, but also looking for alternative solutions like public trash cans that are designed so that it will keep its content from flying out.

We also want to point out that the alternative products often creates more waste in volume and energy as well as increase air and water pollution – in the manufacturing of, in the transportation to the business.

We also question why we want to violate interstate commerce by banning the sale of prepackaged food that come in Styrofoam containers items like that of Cup of Noodle.

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



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 10:52:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeri Di Pietro	Testifying for Hawai'i SEED	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 4:16:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Morita	Testifying for Tatsuos	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I oppose this bill, because we feel that it will force small restaurants like ours to raise our prices because of the additional cost of the bio-degradable plates. I am for the educating of the public on how to dispose of the current plates we have now, but I think that the government should enforce and pay for the literature to educate the public. The very small mom and pop restaurants will suffer because we have to buy small amounts at a time which costs more than the larger restaurants who can buy in bulk.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 2:00:54 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Dombrosky	Testifying for HNA FOOD SERVICES LLC	Oppose	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State Senate

Consumer Protection Health Committee

From: Tsukenjo Restaurant

Aloha Committee:

I am writing to you as the owner of a small plate lunch restaurant. We had the great fortune to be able to move from Kakaako to Downtown last year. Normally I am the only person working in the restaurant, but we have had success in Town and we were able to hire a part-time kitchen help. Before we moved, and on the days when the kitchen staff doesn't come in, I wake up at 3am to open the restaurant on time by 5:30am. I am the cook, cashier, dish washer, handle all maintenance and cleaning, and manage the books. This is not a glorious job, but I love it. Running this business is my passion and I love being self-employed. However, with high costs, we are considering moving again because it is so hard to make a profit and to stay in business while maintaining sanity.

I am very concerned about this proposed ban on styrofoam containers.

Of course I care about the environment and I love our beautiful island. But, I already work so hard and our profits are so thin. It frustrates me to no end that I work hard, and try to move up and then I hear about these laws that only affect the small mom and pop restaurants.

Why can't you create environmental laws that don't only hurt the little guys? More trash cans won't hurt small businesses, but helps the environment. Better recycling is good too. Maybe instead we can have a law where customers have to ask for bags or utensils? Or we can encourage customers to bring their own to-go containers. All of those ideas do not hurt business.

Tsukenjōs has been around since 1959. Plate lunch is important to our culture. Why do you think so many restaurants that serve plate lunch use styrofoam? Are you willing to vote on something that 100% impacts all plate lunch restaurants? This law is just not fair. I really do struggle and work so hard to stay in business, provide for my family, and provide for customers. I hope you can see this and you will reconsider this unfair idea.

Aloha,

Deborah Dombrosky

HNA Food Service LLC dba Tsukenjō's

1148 Bishop St

Hon, HI 96813

808-779-4328

tsukenjō705@gmail.com





# sustainable coastlines Hawaii

SB 11

**In Strong Support**

**Hearing Date: Feb 26, 2019 9:00 AM**

**Senate Committee on CPH**

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Senate CPH Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i (SCH), in strong support of SB 11, relating to the phasing out of Polystyrene Foam Food containers in the State of Hawai'i.

We are at a critical juncture in our waste management and plastic pollution measures. The burdens of single use plastic are mounting around the world as the soup of plastics that has accumulated in our oceans is rapidly increasing. Additionally, the world's markets are closing in places where we have traditionally moved our waste. As an island we should be the leaders for the world in reducing these detrimental plastics like polystyrene foam.

A recent study published in the renowned journal of *Science* describes the mounting issues of plastics on our fragile and threatened reefs. The study describes corals as being 90% more likely to be diseased when plastic sits on the reef. The billions of pieces of plastic already in the ocean are scarring reefs and then likely infecting them with the contamination that comes from their properties. Plastics bio-accumulate toxins in the water and thus can transfer such toxins to other organisms like coral. This is yet another toxic consequence of plastics in our oceans, of which many more are described in the bullet points below.

As an organization that engages thousands of volunteers each year on the issues of plastic pollution through beach cleanups, in class-education, and public outreach event, Sustainable Coastlines is extremely familiar with the detrimental effect these foam containers are having on our environment and ultimately our economy. Each year we see more and more plastics aggregating on our State, County, & City beaches and foam is one of the most found items during our beach cleanups. Polystyrene Foam, like plastic bags, has the characteristic of being extremely light and brittle – thus leading to its escape and nasty ability to break into smaller pieces in the environment. If it remains intact it clogs stormdrains and other runoff infrastructure and if it breaks into pieces, it can end up in the stomachs of many marine and stream creatures. These effects are all detrimental to the health of our ecosystems and leave an ugly scar on the landscape that provides the basis for our whole economy.

Through years of investigation and generating collective understanding of the issue, Sustainable Coastlines and its partners have found an undeniable amount of evidence that

points to banning foam as a necessary step for our State to move forward in a sustainable way. Our State Department of Transportation Highways program recently identified foam and plastic bags as the two largest contributors to trash problems around our State. These are unnecessary materials that are costing our tax payers millions of dollars each year to clean up. The bullet points catalogued below highlight studies on Global, National, State, and County levels identifying the financial cost of plastics like foam to our economy.

SCH advocates for our Cities, Counties, and State to rethink the way they create, handle, and discuss waste. Our view is that we can become a leader in a regenerative economy in which we value reuse and recovery over the single-use items. Single-use plastics, like polystyrene foam, are a fossil fuel driven, carbon emitting industry that has no place in an island economy where space is limited and our environmental health is the most important issue to our economy. Alternatives to foam and other forms of plastic are easily accessible, with the most sustainable version being certified compostable products.

Our partners at Surfrider Foundation and their Ocean Friendly Restaurants Program have registered over 200 hundred businesses around the State that illustrate that foam free is not only the right thing to do, but is an economically viable way to operate. Though the program is only two years old, the amount of restaurants demonstrating their ability to operate in this manner continues to not only grow, but be an incentive for customers to frequent the restaurants as our population understands more and more the destructive effects these types of plastics are having on our world.

While litter reduction campaigns should continue around the world, they are proving ineffective as a way of keeping plastic contamination out of our oceans. Despite efforts to stop litter the amount of plastic entering our oceans each year is rising exponentially, with predictions showing that by 2050 there will be more plastic by weight in the ocean than fish. Each step that we make towards taking these items out of circulation allows us to have a positive impact on reducing this toxic soup that is accumulating in our oceans.

The referenced bullet points below outline the economic, environmental, and human health impacts of foam to our islands.

#### Cleanup Costs & Economic Benefits

- Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our storm water management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups.
- Hawaii State Department of Transportation has produced a trash plan that shows styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream.<sup>1</sup>
- The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California:<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp\\_wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan\\_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf](http://www.stormwaterhawaii.com/swmp_wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trash-Reduction-Plan_FINAL-10-18-16.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/ca-pollution-in-waterways-IB.pdf>

- CA taxpayers are paying \$428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and cleanups.
  - San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends \$14 million alone on plastic cleanup
- United Nations Environmental Program Global Estimates are in the billions for the global cost to cleanup plastics, \$14 billion for marine plastic alone.<sup>3</sup>
  - This cost is closer to \$78 billion annually if all costs are considered, including the cost lost in fossil fuel production and loss of resources.
- Burden on the public
  - According to cleanup hours recorded across Hawaii's beach cleaning organizations and volunteer hour base rates, we spent \$750,000 - \$1 million on beach cleanups in 2016 alone.

### Environmental Impact

- It is argued that styrofoam is acceptable because we can incinerate it for energy. However, this approach is not without significant impacts. According to the Hawaii DOH Clean Air Branch the Covanta H-POWER plant emits 0.15 million metric tons of carbon dioxide<sup>4</sup> (a potent greenhouse gas) annually. Although touted as a "clean energy solution" for Hawaii, H-POWER only generates about 3% of Oahu's energy needs<sup>5</sup> while still emitting greenhouse gases through burning plastic.
- Further, for each ton of polystyrene not produced, 2.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions are avoided. This directly supports Hawaii's greenhouse gas reduction goals as stated in the Aloha + Challenge and as mandated by the US EPA.<sup>6</sup>
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) report shows that burning polystyrene emits more carbon dioxide equivalent than other plastics. For each ton of polystyrene incinerated, 1.64 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent are emitted.
- If burned at HPower, one compostable clamshell burns 1.76 times greater energy compared to one EPS Foam clamshell of the same size. And burning compostable products comes without the toxic ash or smoke that EPS foam creates in the burning process.
- Fiber clamshells are also less than half the volume of EPS, so a restaurant could fit about twice as many clamshells on the same amount of shelf space or have more space for other things.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/](http://www.unep.org/pdf/ValuingPlastic/)

<sup>4</sup> <http://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/ghg-inventory-20081.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [www.islandpulse.org](http://www.islandpulse.org)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www3.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/warm/pdfs/Plastics.pdf>

- The material for fiber containers can be grown and then made here in Hawaii, so more jobs and sustainable ones, not jobs that are exposing workers directly to large amounts of toxic chemicals. EPS can also be made here, but raw, toxic source chemicals need to be shipped to Hawaii.
- EPS is designed to be used once, and according to the US EPA less than 1% of foam is recycled nationally. 0% of EPS Foam is recycled locally.
- According to the EPA Waste Reduction Model Report, 7% of plastic waste generation in US is polystyrene. Of our total plastic recovery, polystyrene makes up 0.7% of recycled plastic

#### Human Health

- Air pollution from polystyrene
  - Styrene is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen and a confirmed animal carcinogen as reported by the National Institute of Health in their Report on Carcinogens (2011); this conclusion is also endorsed by the National Academy of Sciences (2014)<sup>7</sup>
  - When combusted, styrene produces benzaldehyde (US EPA classifies this as a hazardous substance), acetophenone (Group D carcinogen by US EPA, causes chromosomal damage on hamsters, but hasn't been tested in humans), styrene oxide (main metabolite of styrene, which is known as carcinogenic).

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i deeply appreciates your time and energy in considering these important matters and is available to answer questions that you may have.

Mahalo,

Rafael Bergstrom

Executive Director, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/styrene/index.cfm>

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 6:35:54 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Bishop	Testifying for Friends of Hanauma Bay	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health (CPH) Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in Strong Support of SB11 which will measurably decrease the amount of polystyrene pollution that is so injurious to the health of marine life, birds, and other wildlife that ingests it.

Mahalo,

Lisa Bishop,

President, Friends of Hanauma Bay

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:27:46 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gwen Alejo-Herring	Testifying for Queen Street Cafe & Grill	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB 11 — Oppose Foam Food Container Ban Bill

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection, Commerce, and Health

Aloha Senators,

My name is Gwen Alejo-Herring. I am the owner and operator of the Queen Street Cafe & Grill in the Aiea Town Square.

My cafe prepares and sells plate lunches like kiawe grilled steak, firecracker chicken, ahi Belly and more. All entrees come with a choice of two scoops rice, garlic mash or brown rice, along with a choice of potato, mac or tossed salad.

We use foam food containers because it can handle the weight, moisture and retain the heat of our foods. My customers and I believe foam food container bans don't make sense because here on Oahu, foam food containers and even compostable containers all go to HPower for energy production. If there were a biodegradable/compostable plant, it then makes more sense for paying more for biodegradable containers.

I also provide lunch for schools. One school requires biodegradable plates, which I find to be flimsy and I worry about if and when a child may get burned from hot lunches. Another school that I work with uses the foam plates. I notice that the biodegradable plates are double or more the price of the foam plates.

If a foam food container ban becomes law, I will need to raise prices and I worry about losing customers. Everyone is very price-conscious.

Please do not support these foam container ban bills.

Sincerely,

Gwen Alejo-Herring

Queen Street Cafe & Grill

99-080 Kauhale Street Aiea,

HI 96701

[galejoherring@gmail.com](mailto:galejoherring@gmail.com)

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:32:35 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Kim	Testifying for Jets Fast Food	Oppose	No

Comments:

Senate CPH Hearing

Tues. Feb. 26, 2019 SB11 - Oppose Bans on Polystyrene Food Service Products

Dear Senators,

I have a small restaurant in the airport area. Hawaii is a very tough place to own a business. A statewide ban on foam food service products will make it even harder. I try not to pass on too much of my business expense to customers because everything is so competitive and I will lose business if my food prices are raised too much.

I have looked at compostable containers and it doesn't work for my business. The good ones are too expensive. The lower cost ones do not work well; hot rice or other food, and even salad make the containers soggy. Customers don't like it when the rice sticks to the container or tastes like pulp.

Thank you

James Kim

Jets Fast Food

2957 Koapaka Street

(808) 833-7155

more1s@icloud.com





February 26, 2019

To: The Honorable Chair Rosalyn Baker  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, & Health

From: Kona Brewing Company  
Mary Rait; Director, Regulatory Compliance and Government Relations

RE: SB 11; Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers; **In Support**  
February 26, 2019

Kona Brewing Company offers our **support** of SB 11, which prohibits the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide. We are encouraged by the statewide commitment to environmental protection and particularly the growing awareness of the negative impact of the use of polystyrene foam containers. Environmental sustainability is a key value of Kona Brewing Company and a guiding principle for how we operate. To this end, our organization does not use polystyrene or foam products and instead offers readily available environmentally friendly options at our pubs in Kailua-Kona and Koko Marina.

Kona Brewing Company runs our flagship brewery in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii and produces more than 12,000 barrels of beer per year. The company was started by a father and son team who had a dream to create fresh, local brews made with spirit, passion, and quality. Kona Brewing Company is currently in the process of expanding our pub and brewery operations in Hawaii to include a new state-of-the-art, eco-friendly 30,000 square-foot facility. In addition to creating more local jobs, this will increase our annual production capacity from 12,000 to 100,000 barrels. All the beer we produce in Hawaii is made for Hawaii distribution. For 25 years Kona Brewing Company has proudly invested in the future of Hawaii, and therefore feels passionate about promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and share our strong commitment to this effort.

Sincerely,

Mary Rait  
Kona Brewing Company

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:31:45 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Suehiro	Testifying for Nabeya Maida	Oppose	No

## Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kevin Suehiro, and I am the owner of Nabeya Maida, a hot pot restaurant in Kaimuki. I work everyday and hardly have time to watch the local news, so it was quite a surprise when I heard about the potential styrofoam ban.

As a small business owner here in Hawaii, our restaurant is constantly faced with increasing food costs, increasing insurance costs, increasing minimum wage, and the ever increasing rent. So when I hear that there is a bill concerning the banning of plastic bags or styrofoam containers, I'm like, give us small businesses a break! For my restaurant, we use the styrofoam containers for our hot soups that the customers take out. We might not do as much volume as some of the plate lunch/bento places, but the alternatives to styrofoam are just too expensive. We would just have to pass those costs on to the customers which might lead them to lost business. I hope that when you folks are deciding these policies, you are taking into account ALL the points of view that are out there. For the people who want to ban styrofoam and plastic bags, I get you. I understand that it is bad for the ocean, that it is bad for the environment, but so are a lot of other things. Yes styrofoam will not decompose and might kill some marine life, but what do you say about oil spills or toxic runoff being dumped into our ocean? They kill marine life too. What I am trying to say is that there has to be some kind of middle ground where all parties can concede something to attain a positive outcome. I go to the beaches all over the island, and I have not personally seen all the trash that they say is flying into the ocean. What I do see are overflowing rubbish cans with no covers, I see homeless people with there worldly possessions in bags trying to live in makeshift tents. Can't the government do something without completely banning styrofoam and plastic bags?

People always talk about being ecologically friendly and "going green". But why is it when I thought of allowing my customers to bring in their containers to take their food home, a friend of mine warned me that the board of health considers that a health safety violation? I thought it would be correct to offer a small discount for customers to bring their own containers to take things home, I didn't think it would be a violation to do something "ecologically friendly". There has to be some give somewhere so we can all get along. You all want to do things black or white, but if you can find a way to meet

somewhere in the gray. Find something that you can offer the small businesses as a viable alternative to styrofoam, and I do not mean viable meaning it can do everything that styrofoam does,,,,,,but at 10x the price. Going with waxed coated containers or compostable containers with waxed paper lining or aluminum foil lining, does that really solve the problem? Waxed paper or aluminum foil flying into the ocean wouldn't seem to be an acceptable alternative either right? And to make all the compostable containers, where are we going to get the wood pulp from, are we going to cut down the trees that the world with climate change needs so dearly?

I don't have any answers for the styrofoam problem except for people trying to be more responsible and disposing of their trash in proper containers. I don't feel that banning styrofoam is the answer. There might be a lot of small shops who might just give up due to the ever increasing costs of doing business in Hawaii, and that would be just a shame. Small businesses with their unique flavor makes Hawaii Hawaii. You take away the small mom and pop, locally owned stores and have it replaced with big corporate businesses and you take away the uniqueness that we call home. I couldn't imagine going to eat and have only big restaurants with their "local" menus, it just wouldn't be Hawaii.

Please vote no on the styrofoam ban, and instead, think of ways that in the future, both sides can meet somewhere in the middle to make a better Hawaii to live in.

Mahalos,

Kevin Suehiro

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 2:32:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Ushijima	Testifying for the Hibachi	Oppose	No

Comments:

Tues. Feb 26, 2019 - Hearing

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

SB 11 - Oppose

Members of the Committee:

My name is Mark Ushijima and I am a partner in the Hibachi Kailua. I am strongly against a ban on styrofoam containers in Hawaii. This will truly impact the small businesses in Hawaii. We already have high overhead costs (labor, electricity, taxes, fees, lease rent, etc...) that adding to our cost of goods would be very detrimental.

I also have a small business with my friend in Washington State. Washington State did not impose a ban on styrofoam but they strongly discourage styrofoam. They understand the importance of small businesses in Washington.

State legislators should review the Honolulu City Auditor's Study (which I participated in) about Single Use Polystyrene Food Containers and Plastic Bags.

[http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca\\_docs/PS\\_Ban\\_Study\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf)

The City Auditor finds that the majority of litter observed was miscellaneous items, and food service items mainly of non-polystyrene material that would remain unaffected by a ban.

Since there are no reusable alternative food containers, the ban will only change the material of the container, and that substitute container will become litter. Customers sometimes bring in personal reusable containers but many do not know that is against the law due to safety and hygiene reasons.

Focusing on styrofoam and only one type of plastic, that is not a big part of the waste stream, doesn't make sense. Someone should look at all the plastics from retail chips to juice pouches to frozen food bags—just walk through a grocery store. Some of these like potato chip bags are littered on streets, parks and beaches far more than foam food containers. I don't understand this. There are so many other plastic litter why go after a economical, useful product that's not even a major part of the litter problem.

Please do not pass this law. Not only will it affect the business owners but it will also affect the employees who work tirelessly for higher wages.

Thank you,  
Mark Ushijima  
the Hibachi  
515 Kailua Road  
Kailua, HI 96734  
thehibachihawaii@gmail.com

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 11:06:44 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Ngyuen	Testifying for Pho Tri Restaurant	Oppose	No

Comments:

To: Hawaii State Senate Committees

Consumer Protection Health

From: George Nguyen

1307 Kalakaua Ave

Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Date: February 26, 2019 Hearing

Re: Foam Foodservice Container Ban Bill: SB 11

To whom it may concern:

I am a small business owner. I am a single dad and am putting my daughter through college. My family relies on my business, Pho Tri Vietnamese Restaurant. We use styrofoam to-go containers for our customers because they are the most affordable and they also work the best. I spend \$23 on a case of 200 styrofoam containers. Other containers cost \$52 for 200 containers. We use about 200 to-go containers per day. I work in my restaurant every day. I am not rich, but I am proud to have a small business that I started when I immigrated to this country. Banning these containers and making business more expensive will make it harder for other immigrants like me.

Please think about how this ban will affect small immigrant businesses like mine.

George Nguyen

Pho Tri Vietnamese Restaurant

1307 Kalakaua Ave

808-341-6012

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 11:24:56 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stacey Gray	Testifying for No Single Use - Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Baker and Committee,

I urge you to support SB-11 to ban polystyrene single use containers. These petrochemical containers are used ONE time and can last forever. Once in the environment, plastics do not biodegrade but instead break down into smaller and smaller pieces. Styrofoam causes damage to the state's infrastructure by clogging storm drains and littering our beaches. Fish, marine mammals, and seabirds ingest plastics sometimes causing fatalities. As an avid outdoorswoman I am ashamed when I see single use plastics littering our beautiful state but I know we can do better and get back to a place where we don't use these harmful products.

Mahalo for your time and hard work this session. Please support SB-11.

Regards,

Stacey Gray



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 2:34:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Wong	Testifying for LoCo MoCo Drive Inn -Ewa Beach	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha ! I co-own and operate two take-out 'plate lunch' counters here on O'ahu. We have been in business nearly 25 years supporting our families and about a dozen employees.

Using the right to-go containers is important to us. To me nothing works better to keep hot food hot and cold food cold than polystyrene foam containers. And, nothing else keeps its shape when food gets "piled on." Hawaii has a lot of heavy dishes with rice plus big portions of hot, moist food on top and I for one like to fill up my customers.

Already most mom and pops are struggling to stay in business as rent and the cost of ingredients go up. A ban on polystyrene containers could add up to thousands of dollars per year and could be the straw that broke the camel's back. When we last check the cost was double, \$~55 vs. ~\$23 for a case of 200 bio-friendly vs. foam containers. Imagine going through an average of 3 (or more) cases a day, over \$11,000 year.

How would you feel if your favorite (locally owned and operated) take-out restaurant permanently closed shop?

Sincerely,

Eric Wong - Co Owner

Loco Moco Drive Inn - Ewa Beach

Wiki Wiki Drive Inn - Waterfront Plaza



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 11:23:22 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Lee	Testifying for Cooke Street Diner	Oppose	No

## Comments:

Senate Committee of Consumer Protection Health,

Aloha. I am the General Manager of Cooke St Diner in Kaka'ako. We serve working class people food. We serve a lot of construction workers and port workers. All of our food is served in styrofoam to-go containers because most people take their food to go. We are not a fancy fine dining restaurant. We provide breakfast and lunch to the regular person who is on the go. Our customers rely on cheap, quality food that will fill them up. Our customers have fixed budgets and we already struggle to keep costs low with so many rising costs.

This ban does not affect rich people, it affects working class people like me and my customers. Sure, I want to work on taking care of the environment. But, why should we pass policies that hurt the little guys?

Thank you,

Karen Lee

General Manager

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# Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

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

*(808) 393 2168 · [www.b-e-a-c-h.org](http://www.b-e-a-c-h.org)*

DATE: 25th February, 2019

TO: Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Chang and Members of the Committee on Commerce,  
Consumer Protection and Health

FROM: Dean Otsuki, President, Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

RE: **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB11**  
Relating to polystyrene foam containers  
Committee hearing on Tuesday 26th February, 2019 at 9AM

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Chang and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health,

I am writing on behalf of Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.) in strong support of SB11 which bans the use and sale of polystyrene foam food and drink containers. B.E.A.C.H. strongly encourages the committee to pass this bill as is. Thank you very much to Senators Chang, Baker and Gabbard for introducing this important bill.

Polystyrene foam containers are very light, break into small pieces and can easily blow into the ocean where marine life can ingest them. Plastic in the ocean accumulates persistent organic pollutants (POPs) such as DDT, DDE, PCB's, and dioxins on the surface of the plastic up to a million times more than the surrounding sea water making the plastic very toxic. When marine life ingest plastic marine debris those POPs migrate to the fatty tissues of the animal. These POPs bioaccumulate up the food chain where the top of the food chain including humans get the most chemicals. POPs are endocrine disruptors that can interfere with the endocrine (or hormone) system. Endocrine disruptors can cause cancerous tumors, birth defects, and other developmental disorders.

There are better, healthier alternatives to polystyrene food containers like compostable containers. Compostable containers are 100% plant based so if they do get into the marine environment they will not harm marine life. Another alternative to polystyrene foam containers is to bring your own reusable containers.

Please protect marine life, human health and the environment from polystyrene foam and accept this as written testimony in strong support of SB11.

Sincerely,



Dean Otsuki.  
President, B.E.A.C.H.

Oppose Foam Food Container Ban, SB 11  
Feb. 26, 2019 Hearing - Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
Health

Dear Senators:

We are a small Chinese restaurant in Honolulu Chinatown. It's a family run business with 24 seats and about 40 guests a day. Nearly 60% of our business is take-out. Foam containers do not leak and keep food hot which is important for take-out customers.

I want repeat customers and have only raised my price once in 4 years. \$8.00 plate lunch raised to \$8.50. We serve tasty, affordable meals and try to keep it affordable for our customers who are very familiar with my price.

My sales are predictable and I also cater and deliver to surrounding companies. To keep my prices low and to pay workers I use foam containers. I have gone to Chef Zone and looked at other containers but they cost 3X more than the foam containers.

Rent is very high, cost of vegetables and meat is very high. Meat is the highest wholesale price compared to other states. I can only control labor not these other price increases. I do not want to reduce hours or lay off workers who need jobs.

I want choice of what containers I use. If our business grows I can even get the higher costing containers.

Instead of ban on foam containers, regulate trash and have a place for it to go so it avoids the ocean.

Thank you,

Gaven Wu  
Papa's Café  
1120 Maunakea Street #105  
Honolulu  
(808) 523-8668

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:44:28 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryce Fujimoto	Testifying for Shiro's Saimin Haven	Oppose	No

Comments:

2/25/19

CPH Committee:

My name is Bryce Fujimoto and I am the Vice President and Catering Manager of Shiro's Saimin Haven. We are a family-run restaurant and have been in business for 50 years.

I am concerned with the upcoming state legislation around restaurant to-go packaging. At Shiro's, we use foam to-go containers. I have looked into alternative to-go packaging and there is no alternative packaging for hot soups that is as good as foam containers. Shiro's Saimin Haven uses foam to-go containers for the following few reasons:

1. The cost of doing business in Hawaii is rising at a frenetic pace: minimum wage, insurance, increasing regulation and restrictions, let alone food cost. Green containers are 2-3 times more expensive than foam. Our niche is providing affordable food to customers by making things in-house as much as possible. Forcing us to use green containers is one way to offset our hard in-house work. We would have to raise prices, and would not be able to offer the same affordable, quality food that we have offered for years. I am scared we will lose our customer base who depend on our low prices. It might just seem like one small change in our business to those looking in, but, I can assure you that one small change can affect our business' entire production and profitability.
2. We serve hot saimin soup and it is important for us to serve our customers delicious and hot food in a safe manner. Other containers cannot safely hold hot soup. We are concerned that staff and customers might burn their hands just by touching a take-out paper or compostable soup to-go container.
3. Paper and compostable soup containers leak and can not hold liquids.
4. I have not seen any green 24 or 32 oz squat containers, which is the size of container we need for our soup take-out.

This change to green containers would be more palatable if we had a compost station to process the green containers - unfortunately we do not have this and everything goes to H-power anyways.

We are all for protecting the environment but we ask that this ban is not rushed. Right now it just doesn't make sense. Containing trash to trash bins by using lids etc, regulating the transportation of trash might be better. Hopefully we can all work together to find a solution that does not have such a drastic impact on restaurants, especially small restaurants like mine.

Sincerely,

Bryce Fujimoto

VP/Catering Manager

Shiro's Saimin Haven

[98-020 Kamehameha Hwy. #109](#)

808-488-8824



Nicole Chatterson

Director, Zero Waste O'ahu

[oahu.zerowaste@gmail.com](mailto:oahu.zerowaste@gmail.com)

808.561.7730

February 25, 2019

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Change and CPH Committee Members:

My name is Nicole Chatterson, and I am Mānoa resident writing in **strong support of SB 11**, to prohibit the sale of polystyrene foam containers.

Consumer demand has been undergoing a clear shift, globally and locally, away from polystyrene containers. This local success of and demand for polystyrene replacements is evidenced by the University of Hawai'i's Mānoa campus wide polystyrene ban as well as through the recent passage of Maui County's polystyrene ban.

Single-use plastic consumption maintains on the current trajectory, **plastic use will account of 20% of our fossil fuel use by 2050<sup>1</sup>**. While recycling and waste-to-energy are often cited as ways to deal with this plastic waste—we have recently seen that the recycling markets are too unstable to offer a consistent, sustainable solution to our waste. **Compounding this, roughly 80% of the Global North's 'recyclable' plastics (exported from places like Hawai'i) are not recycled and instead escape into the marne environment.<sup>2</sup>**

While we have the option to incinerate plastic for energy locally via H-POWER, this is also a flawed approach. Per megawatt, **H-POWER produces 3 times more greenhouse gas emissions than Kahe—O'ahu's largest oil-based energy plant.<sup>3</sup>** Further, **H-POWER requires 800,000 tons of waste annually** to maintain operations and profit margins. This means that waste production is incentivized, driving more upstream impacts through the extraction, production, and transportation of products-turned-trash.

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP (2018). SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: A Roadmap for Sustainability

<sup>2</sup> World Economic Forum (2015). The New Plastics Economy. Rethinking the future of plastics.

<sup>3</sup> <https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/main.do>





According to the U.S. EPA, **about 42% of the U.S. greenhouse gas footprint results from this production-disposal chain<sup>4</sup>.**

If Hawai'i is indeed serious about our commitment to the Paris Climate Accord and mitigating our climate footprint, it is clear that single-use plastic reduction is a necessary part of our climate change prevention tool-kit.

Plastic pollution reduction and movement away from a single-use economy are directly tied to the Aloha + Challenge goals to reduce our solid waste footprint and build sustainable communities. Further, plastic and single-use reduction also correspond to the following [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#), which have been adopted as a framework by the Hawai'i State Senate.

- **SDG 12 = Responsible Production & Consumption**
- **SDG 13 = Climate Action**
- **SDG 14 = Life Below Water**
- **SDG 15 = Life on Land -**

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Nicole Chatterson

Director, Zero Waste O'ahu

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/smm/epa-sustainable-materials-management-program-strategic-plan-fiscal-years-2017-2022>

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 12:32:42 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Testifying for We Are One, Inc. - www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Support	No

Comments:

There is no rational reason to pollute our own environment or destroy ecosystems.

[www.WeAreOne.cc](http://www.WeAreOne.cc)

**LATE**

Feb. 25, 2019

In Support of SB11 Relating to Polystyrene Food Containers  
House Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health (CPH)  
Feb. 26, 2019, 9:00am, Room 229

Aloha, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:

As the Hawaii Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I am writing in strong support of SB11 to prohibit the use of polystyrene food containers. With the support of Surfrider's five Chapters and thousands of members across Hawaii, we are committed to reducing the litter and environmental hazards of polystyrene foam and other single-use plastics as part of our popular Rise Above Plastics campaign. We are also part of the Hawaii Reef & Ocean Coalition (HIROC), a group of coral reef scientists, environmental groups, businesses and educational groups, and this bill is one of our top priorities this session.

Polystyrene food containers are one of the most littered items in our Islands. They are also one of the most toxic forms of plastic, and Hawaii has one of the highest per capita uses in the country. Opponents will say it's recyclable, but the fact is that less than 1% is ever recycled. They will also say that it's a "litter problem," but the plastics industry has been using this tactic and blaming the public for decades without producing products that are actually recyclable. An EPS foam ban was implemented in San Francisco, and there was a 30% decrease in EPS litter within one year (San Francisco Street Litter Re-Audit, 2008). Over 110 cities and counties across the country have enacted EPS foam bans with dramatic decreases in litter. For an extensive list see: <http://www.surfrider.org/pages/polystyrene-ordinances>.

Industry lobbyists will also say that banning polystyrene food containers will hurt small businesses, but there are many restaurants that have dropped these products and are doing just fine. In fact, the new Ocean Friendly Restaurants Hawaii program has registered more than 200 restaurants that are foam-free in the last 24 months! Here's a partial list of all the restaurants in Hawaii:  
[www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org](http://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org).

During our monthly beach cleanups around the state, EPS foam products are among the top items we find every single time. In fact, as part of International Coastal Cleanup Day, 17,383 cups, plates and pieces of EPS foam were removed from Hawaii's beaches in a single day on Sat., Sept. 19, 2015! That's why we need this bill, which would help reduce these litter problems and environmental issues by requiring restaurants and food service vendors to stop using toxic EPS foam containers.

We embrace a policy of "1, 2, C," meaning products should be recyclable #1 & #2 plastics or compostable. There are many compostable or non-toxic plastic alternatives that can be recycled. Although foam products may be cheaper to buy, they have a hidden cost that counties and citizens have to pay to clean them up. A recent Hawaii Dept. of Transportation (HDOT) report stated that banning plastic bags and styrofoam would save millions of dollars for the state and help save the County millions as well.

Although the FDA approved EPS foam products in 1958, the science since then has shown that these are toxic products. Here are some reasons why EPS foam food service products are dangerous and wasteful:



1. EPS foam is a toxic form of plastic made from non-renewable fossil fuels and synthetic chemicals like styrene that leach out over time, especially in contact with hot, greasy or acidic food.
2. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), styrene is a dangerous carcinogen/neurotoxin that can lead to cancer, lymphoma & leukemia. The EPA says 100% of humans have styrene in their fat tissues.
3. Because EPS foam food service products are more than 90% air, they break apart easily and are often blown into our coastal areas and out to sea, where they are listed as one of the top 10 items collected at beach cleanups.
4. EPS foam never biodegrades but only breaks into smaller micro-plastics. These pieces act like sponges for toxic chemicals in the ocean and are consumed by marine creatures who mistake them for food. 660 marine species are known to ingest plastics, including endangered species like sea turtles and albatross.
5. Hawaii has one of the highest per capita rates of take-out food in the country, and many food containers are made of EPS foam products whose toxic chemicals threaten the health of humans & the environment.
6. A recent study in *Science* showed that plastics are a major cause of coral reef disease and decline, and our Islands are dependent on our coral reefs for seafood, ocean recreation and tourism.

Along with the facts above, there have been many scientific studies showing the harmful effects of polystyrene foam. That is why we don't want to delay taking action to reduce foam use and litter. In 2008, the Hawaii Senate passed SR78 SD1 to create a voluntary compliance program to switch from foam products to healthier alternatives, and both Maui and Hawaii Counties passed bills to ban polystyrene food products.

The amount of testimony for these bills was overwhelmingly in favor of reducing polystyrene food containers. Though it's tempting to be swayed by the exaggerated claims of lobbyists for a few local foam producers and distributors, these same companies already carry and distribute more eco-friendly recyclable and compostable products because they see the writing on the wall. Scientific research and public sentiment have created a compelling case against foam products, and more than 110 cities and counties have already enacted successful foam bans. Polls show that most people in Hawaii support banning foam food products.

We appreciate that Hawaii's legislators have been environmental leaders in moving forward policies like the bills to ban plastic bags and create smoke-free parks & beaches. Now, we ask you to assert that same leadership on this issue. Because polystyrene food service products are toxic to the environment and human health, their use should be banned. There are many affordable alternatives that are non-toxic, biodegradable and not damaging to the environment or human health. On top of that, it will cost the counties less to clean up.

Finally, with the bans in Maui and the Big Island and the Dept. of Education's decision to drop polystyrene lunch trays, the state needs a consistent policy of eliminating these products. Protecting our land and people should be our top priority, not allowing a few companies to profit from outmoded products that harm the environment and our wildlife. Mahalo for your consideration and leadership on this issue.

Aloha,

Stuart Coleman

Stuart H. Coleman, Hawaii Manager

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:38:31 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tien phan	Testifying for Stadium pho	Oppose	No

## Comments:

my name is tien Phan i am a member owner of Phan LLC (DBA Stadium Pho)

i oppose the Ban of using styrofoams material container and any plastice utensil ,straw for foods services because i am a small Restaurant owner and we rely on them serve our customer need as far Dining in customer and carry out. Banning the use of such material will lead to use of other alternated that cost much higher and bring up the cost for our services. We as small business oner work extra hard , we do most of the work our self and even do work for our employee that often dont carry out their job correctly and on timely mater. so it is hard to have to spend that extra money to cover the new expensive to use the alternated material. Maybe one will challenger my believe by saying i should pass that new expense to customer . But by doing so will also scare customer away and not wanting to buy our foods and risk putting our business out of business. and most of our customer are also hard working men and women that have family driving up cost for meal does not help any one. While i understand the use of styrofoam and plastice like material is bad for the environment at the moment. we are not big business like Mcdonald Jackinthebox and Cheese Cake Factory that can hire as many employee as they please and lay on the beach enjoying that hawaiian sun. We work hard to make a living. please consider Us 90% of Citizen that is not mega richs in considering your dicion on these ban of material being use for foods serives.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:00:41 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Rafferty	Testifying for Big Island Divers	Support	No

## Comments:

On behalf of Big Island Divers, I would like to submit testimony in favor of SB11, a measure to limit the use of polystyrene foam containers across the state. There are many suitable alternatives available on the market today that are absolutely cost-effective. Additionally, it has been shown through numerous studies that the consumer is willing to absorb the cost of a more sustainable alternative, allowing businesses to pass along this cost-of-goods increase.

Our tourism-focused local economy **relies on thriving natural resources**. We have the honor of sharing the amazing natural beauty of Hawaii with so many visitors; it sends a contradictory message when our landfills are being stuffed with such high-volume waste at a faster rate than anywhere else in the country. We urge you to honor the land, the sea, and our future generations by supporting this legislation.

Sarah Rafferty  
Big Island Divers  
sarah@bigislanddivers.com  
(808) 329-6114

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:45:18 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Hatcher	Testifying for Kahili Adventist School	Support	No

## Comments:

As head teacher of a small private school that sits near the eastside beaches of Kauai I want to voice my support for this bill. I take my class regularly to the beach near our school for science as well as swimming lessons. We see a lot of styrofoam waste on the beaches along with plastics. My class works with our local Surfrider Foundation Chapter to clean up the beaches of the styrofoam and plastics regularly

Please consider banning styrofoam containers for our ecosystem's health.

Mahalo

Keith Hatcher

Principal, Kahili Adventist School

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:37:57 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 9:27:49 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Autumn Ness	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/22/2019 6:35:37 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paul Balazs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony of  
ELENA ZUCCHINI  
Hawai'i resident

Before the Senate Committee on  
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
09:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 11  
RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS

Aloha Chair Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health.

My name is Elena Zucchini and I am an international student at the Hawaii Pacific University. I am here today in order to give my strong support to the Senate bill 11, which seeks to prohibit the sale of and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide.

I decided to come to Hawaii in order to graduate in Environmental Studies. I thought it would be the best location to study about sustainability and the environment. However, when I first came to Hawaii, I saw several things that showed me that there is still a lot of progress to do in order to achieve a sustainable way of living. And Styrofoam is one of the reasons why I think that. Indeed, I don't understand how foam can still exist knowing that it has environmental and human health impacts as well as cleanup costs. This weekend, I organized a beach cleanup with my Surfrider HPU Club, and it stroke me to see how much plastic and foam are present along the beach. According to me, the reason is that people are not enough educated about the environment and its impacts. And because of that, predictions show that by 2050 there will be more plastic by weight in the ocean than fish. However, there are alternatives to Styrofoam. For instance, in France and other European countries we don't use

foam but bio-composite materials as cardboard. These recycled materials don't have any environmental impact and can even provide savings over Styrofoam materials in the long-run.

Hence, Styrofoam is impacting our environment, and it is our responsibility to change this trend. I do think that each step that we will make in order to ban this product will result in a positive impact on the environment and a chance to resolve our mistakes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 11.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 11:24:41 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dawn Poiani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support the ban of styrofoam containers. There are better options that have a less toxic environmental impact.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 4:36:08 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/20/2019 8:45:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Council Chair  
Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Riki Hokama  
Alice L. Lee  
Michael J. Molina  
Tamara Paltin  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services  
Maria E. Zielinski

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

February 22, 2019

TO: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Kelly T. King  
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2019; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 11,  
RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this bill is to protect the State's economy and environment by prohibiting the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared food using polystyrene foam containers statewide.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Polystyrene foam is ultra-light, which prevents collection systems from capturing it and allows it to easily accumulate on land and in waterways.
2. Products made using polystyrene foam are one of the most common kinds of litter pollution in Hawaii.
3. The sight of polystyrene products littering Hawaii's landscapes serves as a detriment to the State's number one industry, tourism.
4. Polystyrene foam contributes to the potential death of marine animals and avian populations through ingestion.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 10:07:39 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Skjold	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill and the positive environmental reasons for it. I have been working to stop buying from food trucks and take out shops that put food in these containers, and have made an extra effort to shop at restaurants that offer more environmentally friendly options.

That said, there is a real cost to making this switch, and I ask the Sate to consider offering small food businesses that would be most affected small 1 time grants or credits to make this switch. This could create more enthusiasm and willing compliance to this switch and make small business a partner for future changes we are all going to need to make.

Last, please consider a timeframe that allows businesses to use what they have already ordered, so there is not a need to throw out a large amount of environmentally damaging product without even being used.

I truly hope you will support and pass SB11! Thank you!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 3:39:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colby Takeda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 8:20:31 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorraine Garnier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORTING SB11

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 6:19:10 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mia Melamed	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 10:39:38 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kirstin Kahaloa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:15:17 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Silver	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 5:45:51 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lily Washburn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and committee members,

My name is Lily Washburn, and I'm a student at SEEQS: The School for Examining Essential Questions of Sustainability, a charter school in Kaimuki. I'm writing to say that **I strongly support SB11.**

I support this bill because it hurts me to see how careless people can be when it comes to the health of our beautiful islands. If people continue to use and produce polystyrene containers, it may have detrimental effects on our health, and the environment.

As a student who is very much concerned with the increasing amount of plastic waste causing harm to wildlife, and building up in natural ecosystems, I can say that this bill would be a huge step towards a more environmentally safe future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this serious issue.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/24/2019 7:48:09 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ray Aivazian III	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:27:05 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mio Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB11. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Mio Chee

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:27:44 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:40:38 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha, committee members. Thank you for taking SB11 up for a hearing. My name is Jennifer Milholen, and I work for Kāhuna Hawai'i Foundation as the Waste Reduction Coordinator. Our programs work with schools and communities across the state who envision a plastic-pollution free Hawai'i. We achieve this through presentations, beach and watershed cleanups, community and business partnerships, and modeling waste free events, all engaging 10s of thousands of Hawai'i residents and visitors. The feedback from these programs is overwhelmingly unified: Get Foam Out! This is the "low hanging fruit" of senseless plastic pollution that can be quickly and effectively transitioned out.

The environmental and health detriments of foam for food vending are established and well-documented - despite misinformation campaigns by paid lobbyists. We have known for years that, by design, EPS foam is ultra lightweight and escapes collection and management systems. Once in the environment, the foam fractures into billions of pieces of microplastics, which are consumed directly into the food chain - into us. Countless thousands of marine animals and birds starve to death because of ingesting plastics like foam. This is in addition to the leaching of known carcinogens from foam when used with hot and acidic foods.

In addition to the above, please consider these specific imperatives for supporting SB11:

1) Public Demand: The Honolulu Auditor office's 2018 report on prohibiting foam food containers determined that foam "bans" have overwhelming public and business support.

From the Report: "Restaurants want to do what is best for the environment. 95% of respondents said that they believe waste and litter is an environmental problem for our streams and ocean, and 98% of respondents stated that they would be willing to do more if they knew it would be green and protect the ocean. A majority (56%) of respondents stated that they would support (i.e., rating of 6-10 on a 10-point scale) a bill that banned the use of single-use polystyrene food containers.

In the 2018 Legislative Session, a foam ban bill (SB2498) was the most supported bill of the session, and recent memory, receiving well over 600 testimonies in support for a

single hearing. Students were excused from classes, people took time off work, and business owners left their restaurants all to come show support for measures like these. It was impossible to even get into the hearing room it was so full, so many of us congregated outside waiting for our chance to show support.

2) Economic Imperative: In 2017, the HI DOT Highways division produced a report on roadway flooding that indicated foam containers and plastic bags were the TOP items found to be clogging up storm drains, leading to flooding. The report also indicated that the prohibition of these items would save the division and the counties multiple millions of dollars in cleanup costs.

3) Established Precedent and Modeling: Maui and Hawai'i Island counties have already vetted these arguments and determined the value of prohibiting foam in food service. Maui's foam prohibition has already begun, and their environmental office will testify to the fact that it is well-supported and the transition has been smooth.

4) Environmental Imperative: "99% OF PLASTIC COMES FROM FOSSIL FUELS.

When we think about climate change, we typically focus on factories, coal and cars, but rarely on this fact. As plastic activists, we usually talk about downstream environmental impacts or health threats, but only marginally on the connection between the plastics economy and carbon pollution.

**PLASTIC IS CONNECTED TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND IT POLLUTES AT EVERY STAGE: FROM MATERIALS EXTRACTION TO PRODUCT PRODUCTION TO WASTE DISPOSAL."**

IF we want to truly act as the global environmental leaders that we claim to be, we HAVE to acknowledge that the flood of plastics in our lives are directly contributing to global climate change and take local, but impactful, changes to transition away from these single-use materials like EPS foam.

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please support SB11.

Jennifer Milholen

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:44:33 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Earle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The fact that we are still using polystyrene containers is amazing given that we know their production and use is detrimental to the environment. There are viable alternatives. It is time to put the environment and the protection of, as a high priority.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:56:00 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ku'ulei Neher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe that waste is a large issue that is polluting Hawaii and will effect tourism in the future. As a high school student and teen, I believe we need this bill to take action and take our planet's future in our own hands.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:57:14 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
june chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:01:52 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaliko Amona	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill. There are alternatives out there that are safer for people and the environment. Thank you.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:03:07 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzanne Frazer	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha Senator Baker, Vice-Chair Chang and Committee Members,

I am writing in **strong support** of SB11 which bans the use and sale of polystyrene foam food and drink containers. I ask that you please pass this bill as is. This is an excellent and much needed bill and I give kudos to the introducers: Senators Baker, Chang and Gabbard - Thank you very much for introducing this bill and supporting human health, the environment and marine life.

The chemicals in plastics are detrimental to our health. Eating hot food or drinking hot drinks out of polystyrene foam containers is putting one's health at risk. These containers when hot food or hot drinks are added to them, leach toxic chemicals into people's food/drink and then it gets ingested. The chemicals cause harm to people resulting in many different health problems. They turn on autoimmune diseases such as Hashimoto's Thyroiditis and Lupus, they cause various cancers such as breast and prostate cancer, they cause endocrine disruption, diabetes and obesity.

Plastic is the new smoking. The industry fights hard against bans and against the public (and lawmakers) learning about the health concerns regarding plastic. But the truth is that all plastic contains chemicals causing estrogenic activity and those chemicals are contributing to the rise in autoimmune diseases.

It's important for all the children especially who have no choice but to eat out of polystyrene foam at school, to eat out of it when their parent's buy take-out dinner in polystyrene foam. These children are given no choice but to ingest toxic chemicals which are harmful to their brains, nervous system, immune system and disruptive to their endocrine system. This is very similar to smoking - where children passively smoke when their parents smoke. The children have no choice in the matter and end up later on with cancer and other health problems. Same with plastic.

There are many alternatives to polystyrene foam which work for hot food and drinks including bringing your own insulated container which is what I have been doing for years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in strong support of SB11. I hope this bill passes this year and becomes law.

Mahalo,

Suzanne Frazer.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:33:11 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Ross	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:35:05 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anny Barlow	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

-Its bad for my health to eat items prepared or stored in this material as it leachs chemicals from the material into my food/drink.

-Its bad for my health to breath in the toxins released into our air when H-Power burns this material.

-Its bad for the marine animals in thier environment. Where as all trash is bad, this material causes severe health problems to marine animals when compared to compostable material.

-This material does not break down in our environment overtime the way compostable material does.

-This material stays longer as visually "ugly" on our beaches and on our ocean, again, because it doesn't break down like compostable material does.

-This material cannot be burned for reusable energy at H-Power the way compostable material can be.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:55:36 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phil Schlieder	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am submitting my testimony in support of the ban on Polystyrene foam. As an avid scuba diver, surfer, and free diver I see the affects of our pollution, specifically plastic/foam. The other day when I was scuba diving I saw 1 plastic bag and 3 plastic bottles out at turtle canyon. Right next to the beautiful Honu. We need to step up as a state to ban these items and become leaders to the global with marine conservation.

Thank you,

-Phil

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:12:44 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marissa Miller	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

As one of Hawai'i's keiki, I urge you to pass this bill, on behalf of the health of our people and our environment. I have seen the direct negative impacts of styrofoam in our environment and have read scientific evidence of the threats to human health that this toxic material poses. Styrofoam is known to leach chemicals into the food that it contains. It also breaks down into tiny toxic pieces in the environment but does not biodegrade. It is light and floats easily so it spreads very easily when polluted and is extremely difficult to clean up. This has impacts on our health, on animals' health, and also on our economy. Styrofoam can enter our waters, and be ingested by the fish that we eat. The impacts of styrofoam are not worth it. This bill will allow us to phase out styrofoam and transition to more eco-friendly alternatives. This is necessary for our economic, social, and environmental sustainability in this state.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:04:19 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Reynolds	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I would like to state my support of bill SB 11. As an environmentalist, it is so important to me and the work that I do, to have bills like this that will prevent further pollution of the resources we try to protect through many other measures and regulations.

This bill is a great step in a direction to clean up the environment and switch to sustainable measures that will have lasting long term effects for future generations and preserve marine life, the environment, and oceans, that we all care for.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:07:17 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Moriah Prescia	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

As a member of the community, I have seen the detrimental effects that foam has on our environment. Single use items are used for 20 minutes, and are subsequently a part of our environment forever. Plastic floods our beaches, threatens marine life, and ultimately ends up in our food and water systems. We cannot go on like this. Without regulation, this problem will grow exponentially. This ban will put the fight against plastic at the forefront of our communities, and will encourage creativity and innovation for a sustainable future.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:12:56 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kela Megorden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Banning of foam products in the food industry would be an positive environmental change in our state.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:24:48 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB11, which would prohibit the sale of polystyrene foam containers and the serving of food in said containers.

**Individual**

Because polystyrene food containers leach suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins such as styrene and benzene when coming into contact with warm food or drinks, as well as those foods and beverages containing alcohol, oils and acidic foods, polystyrene is toxic to humans, animal life and the environment. Studies show these toxins are slowly accumulating in the fatty tissues of humans and other animals.

Polystyrene is incredibly difficult to dispose of. It is bulky and recycling markets for polystyrene are small and shrinking. Studies estimate polystyrene takes up between 25-30% of landfill volume, which only adds to Hawaii's landfill woes.

Even when disposed of properly, polystyrene is often blown from disposal sites and into gutters and drains that lead to the ocean because of its lightweight and buoyant nature. Last year a whale died in Thailand after swallowing 17 pounds of plastic, and a dead sperm whale washed ashore in Spain with 64 pounds of plastic in its stomach. Birds, fish and sea turtles also commonly mistake polystyrene for food. Polystyrene is not biodegradable and only degrades into smaller and smaller pieces, thereby contaminating the lowest levels of the food web.

Additionally, since polystyrene is made with petroleum, the manufacture of it is a great contributor to the heat-trapping gases responsible for the greenhouse effect we are now seeing.

For these reasons, cities in the US and around the world are banning polystyrene. With all the economical and biodegradable paper or plant product alternatives, such as containers made from recycled compostable plant and wood fibers, there is no reason to continue the use of such an ecologically pernicious product.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to present my testimony.

Sincerely,

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:13:58 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elizabeth Leyshon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:48:52 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kai chase	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:49:34 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kenia cruz	Individual	Support	No

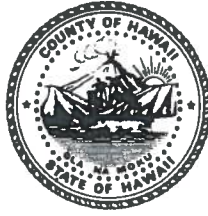
## Comments:

Hello, my name is Kenia Cruz. I am now living in Southern California but I lived the first 18 years of my life on the Big Island of Hawai'i. **I support the ban on polystyrene foam.** I know as a state we can rally together to use eco-friendly and sustainable alternatives. Polystyrene foam (also known as styrofoam) is very bad for our marine life and does NOT break down. We borrow this land from our children so we must take care of it.

Malama i ka aina i ka pono.

Mahalo.

REBECCA VILLEGAS  
Council Member  
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267  
FAX: (808) 323-4786  
EMAIL: [Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740*

February 25, 2019

TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS  
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON SB 11, RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
Wednesday, February 26, 2019  
9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 229

Aloha Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 11, relating to polystyrene foam containers. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

The purpose of this measure is to protect the State's economy and environment by prohibiting the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared food using polystyrene foam containers statewide.

Most common kinds of litter pollution in Hawai'i are from polystyrene foam. Polystyrene foam is ultra-light weight, which prevents collection systems from capturing it and allows it to easily accumulate on land and in waterways. Fragments of polystyrene foam harm the environment, the local food chain, and contributes to the potential death of marine animals and avian populations through ingestion. Through education, positive environmental changes and reduction of litter campaigns will assist with successful long-term litter solutions which can only benefit the State of Hawai'i.

For the reasons stated above, I urge the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health to support his measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

  
Rebecca Villegas  
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:45:12 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elana Jadallah	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Elana Jadallah and I live in Kailua Kona on the island of Hawai'i. I support this ban on behalf of our oceans. The production and distribution of polystyrene foam is detrimental to our sensitive ecosystem here in Hawai'i. Because this toxic material isn't biodegradable (taking 500+ years to breakdown) and cannot be recycled, it is not sustainable for our islands to continue using it in any form. By banning polystyrene foam statewide, we are moving towards the future of a less wasteful, more regenerative way of business. PLEASE pass this bill. We need it now more than ever.

Mahalo nui loa,

Elana



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:51:07 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Aaron Haynes and I live in Kona on the big island of Hawai'i. I support this ban because the production and distribution of polystyrene foam is detrimental to our sensitive ecosystem here in Hawai'i and toxic to our oceans. Because polystyrene isn't biodegradable nor recyclable but has a lifespan of 500+ years, it is not sustainable for our islands to continue using it in any form. By banning polystyrene foam statewide, we are helping businesses realize their impact and move towards a more sustainable future with biodegradeable and compostable alternatives. This bill is CRUCIAL. PLEASE pass SB11.

Mahalo nui loa,

Aaron

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:53:33 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Ironhill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:24:48 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelly Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:42:53 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
genevieve bradley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb11 bill to ban styrofoam!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:56:11 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lauren kristi layman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

I am in support of this bill, SB 11, as polystyrene foam is an environmental hazard that needs to be phased out of the Hawaiian Islands entirely. We should be the change and be the Aloha we wish to see in the world. Taking this much needed step is a big statement and hopefully the rest of the world will follow suit as biodegradable options are available and have a less negative impact of the environment. We want to protect our ecotourism niche and one of the ways to do that is to eliminate polystyrene foam from our environment.

mahalo!

kristi

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:46:37 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jihad r faraj	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a resident of Maui,

I feel like all styrofoam should be banned as it is continuously showing in our oceans and harming the marine life. It is also NOT biodegradable, very toxic and releases chemicals into the foods and environment. Upon moving to the hawaiian islands I have learned that taking care of the land is just as important as taking care of yourself. If we don't act together this can be catastrophic and a shame.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:03:11 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Valhuerdi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Foam is terrible for the environment and just ends up polluting the ocean, roads and different species. I believe it is in Hawaii's best interest to stop using foam if we want to continue to protect our lands, oceans, and animals.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:00:42 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

As a 16 year old high schooler, I strongly support SB11. I regularly go to the beach, and when I go the amount of Styrofoam trash is unbelievable. They are an eyesore and dangerous to both the environment and human health. This bill is an important step towards making Hawaii a sustainable state, and will help to level the playing field for businesses. Many local businesses are making the change to become more sustainable, but other, larger corporations are not doing so, and therefore is limiting local businesses in their ability to become sustainable. Passing this bill would level the playing field, at least for food containers. Also, this bill will help to preserve our beautiful Hawaii for current and future generations, and as a youth who will inherit this Earth I beg you to pass SB11. Mahalo.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:43:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Weaver Jadallah	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

This is Dr. Nancy Jadallah, a retired principal on the Big Island. I support the ban on polystyrene foam because of the devastating consequences on our oceans and environment as a whole. The production and distribution of polystyrene foam is detrimental to our sensitive ecosystem here in Hawai'i. Because this toxic material isn't biodegradable (taking 500+ years to break down) and cannot be recycled, it is not sustainable for our islands to continue using it in any form. By banning polystyrene foam statewide, we are moving towards the future of a less wasteful, more regenerative way of business. PLEASE pass this bill. We need it now more than ever.

Mahalo nui loa,

Dr. Jadallah

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:56:02 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yui Hartman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:58:18 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Levora	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Polystyrene foam is very scary in the fact that it takes millions of years to break down. Due to it's low price, it has become too large of a commodity, increasing the risk for it to end up in our oceans or blown off the back of a truck. It is extreamly harmful to our wildlife which often mistake it as food. Please support this bill to eliminate the continued risk this material poses to our environment. The argument that polystyrene is needed for H-Power becuae it burns hotter than other single use material is not enough of a sufficient argument to risk the danger it poses to wildlife. Please vote to support this bill!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 12:02:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jenna Neher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Yes to SB 11! This bill is necessary because Hawaii intends to be the leader of sustainability in the United States! Santa Monica city has already passed ordinances with the same goal in mind and we should be doing the same. The phase out of polystyrene foam is 100% necessary to be consumer-conscious today.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:09:08 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sabrina Reis	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Sabrina Reis. I live in Minnesota, but come to Hawaii often. I suppose the ban because polystyrene foam is harmful to our environment and our oceans. These foam containers are cheap for companies to purchase and are widely used. This ban would help make our environment a little cleaner, especially from businesses that don't understand the impact they're making with all the waste on the Earth.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:16:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Craig Neher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the proposed ban of polystyrene foam containers

thank you,

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:19:03 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dan Schlieder	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

We do mile long beach cleanups with the surf rider foundation. Constantly our haul is overflowing with polystyrene foam containers. This stuff does not degrade. It stays in our ocean, polluting our world. Our sea life eat it, get trapped in it. Its in our water supply. We must make an effort and SB 11 is a good first step.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:44:16 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Connor Lau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:43:51 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Owens, Ph. D.	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

This bill supports a hugely important initiative to rid unnecessary styrofoam use in Hawaii. These containers pollute the oceans. I regularly see styrofoam containers floating in the ocean when I am surfing and sailing. I also see lots of these containers on the beaches. The obvious right thing to do is to support reusable containers which do not inconvenience people anyway. This is the direction that Hawaii needs to be going in! I support this bill!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:37:57 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kiriana Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Bill SB 11 relating to polystyrene foam containers. The pollution from these containers is destroying our fragile ecosystems and could be very easily avoided. In order to change behavior and engage the public we need to make a policy change to demonstrate sustainability practices.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 1:20:32 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Wiedner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Elected Officials,

I support this bill. Litter and marine debris is a huge problem in Hawaii. On Saturday, Feb 23, 2019- 200 volunteers removed Over 4000 lbs of marine debris and litter off Kauai's East Side with Surfrider Foundation and B\*Rad Foundation. I was part of this cleanup. So please let's pass SB11 to reduce the litter and marine debris on Hawaii's Shores.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Barbara Wiedner

Surfrider Foundation Kauai

Marine Debris Removal Program

808-635-2593

1774 Puu Kaa St

Kapaa HI 96746

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:00:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Macklin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because styrofoam sucks and is terrible for the environment. It lasts forever but we use it once. We need to start thinking ahead and smart.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:08:13 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kristin dong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Phasing out these harmful materials will encourage individuals and business owners to seek out more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives. This in turn will encourage manufacturers to stop producing polystyrene foam and look to better options as well.**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:09:09 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthias Keller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha

My name is Matthias and I am in support of this bill. I am suffering from the flu right now and it literally pains me to write this testimony, but this means more to mean. Single use, polystyrene foam is to the world as the influenza virus is to me. Let's get ride of it. There are countless other options for resturaunts to use as well as consumers. I would happily be charged a fee if i knew my take out container wasn't damaging our health and the environment. Being a surfer, I ride on foam. One might think this to be hypocritical. However, my surfboard isn't single use. I have had a paddle battle with the trade winds so many times to grab a piece of polystyrene foam, like a cup or clam shell, that is literally blowing across the surface water. Please, save our oceans, land, and health by ridding us of this

**From:** [manaulu@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:manaulu@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [don cooke](#)  
**To:** [CPH Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** In support of SB 1126 SD 1, hearing in CPH on Tuesday, 2/26 at 9:30 AM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 24, 2019 8:47:44 PM

---

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and members of the committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB 1126 SD 1, a bill that would require mandatory disclosures for real estate transactions that include properties within sea level rise exposure areas.

Climate change creates a new type of hazard affecting coastal properties now and increasingly in the future. Mandatory disclosures are needed to start the conversation about which properties are in the exposure area, to acknowledge potential impacts and risks of sea level rise, and to protect buyers, sellers, and governmental agencies as the rising seas become more apparent in future years.

I support this bill, but recommend that the committee amend the bill to require disclosure for properties within the 3.2 foot sea level rise exposure area, which is the latest scientific projections that are officially designated by the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission. We are not sure how much sea level will rise, so it would be better to be overly cautious and implement disclosures for coastal properties that may be affected up to 3.2 feet. It's anthropomorphic.

Sincerely,  
don cooke  
47 -146 Pulama Rd Apt A Kaneohe, HI 96744-5088  
[manaulu@hotmail.com](mailto:manaulu@hotmail.com)

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:23:14 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
eliza derrey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Keep hawaiiis oceans, reefs, and wildlife beautiful and ALIVE!



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:25:07 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ava Fedorov	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need to keep this toxic material out of circulation and out of our environment!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:01:13 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keri Oliff	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Keri Oliff and I live in Kailua Kona Hawaii. I SUPPORT this ban. I spend a lot of time at the beach and I always find peices of styrofoam (sometimes with fish bite marks). It breaks into a million little peices but it never truly breaks down (it takes over 500 years!) A lot of restaurants still use styrofoam for to-go containers here in Kona and I'm constantly seeing them littered. There are so many better alternatives! PLEASE pass this bill and help out our oceans and Aina. Mahalo Nui Loa!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:54:13 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hailey Kuo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:03:04 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jaimie chhu	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Single-use Styrofoam cup doesn't just go away after you toss it in the bin. **Expanded polystyrene cannot be recycled**, despite the fact that many of the containers display the recycling symbol.

Plus, Styrofoam sitting in the landfill releases methane gases that have *over 20 times the ozone destroying potency as CO2*.

Styrene (a component of polystyrene) is a harmful chemical that can leech into food and drink. Even worse, styrene is *classified as a carcinogen to humans* according to the [National Research Council](#). Back in 1986, a [study by the EPA](#) detected Styrene in 100% of human tissue and breast milk samples.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 2:43:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Audrey Alessi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I belive Strongly in the banning of styrofoam.

Please please please help save our island and polution levels by banning this permanantly

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:44:34 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurel Perun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:26:06 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Darby Sherman	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Darby Sherman and I live in Hilo on the island of Hawaii. I support this ban on behalf of our oceans. The production and distribution of polystyrene foam is detrimental to our sensitive ecosystem.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:55:21 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yoshio Akaha	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

We need to be using products that are built to last. Single use containers and other products that destabilize the environment need to be replaced by more responsible and less harmful products.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:33:09 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kate Reimann	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I am a volunteer with Surfrider Oahu and have seen first-hand the quantity and effects of plastics - specifically foam - on our islands. Styrofoam is one of the highest volume offenders at our beach clean ups, and one of the most toxic. Not only is it harmful to US, its harmful to the marine life who are inevitably affected by this debris. And when we harm our marine life, and litter our coastlines, we harm our number one industry: tourism.

One of our initiatives at Surfrider, the Ocean Friendly Restaurant program, encourages restaurants to voluntarily swap out foam to-go containers for compostable alternatives. This widely successful - and voluntary - program has shown how ready Hawaii businesses are to make this change. With over 200 restaurants having made the change already, I'm confident this bill will solidify our state as a leader in sustainability and health - both the health of our ocean and our own.

Thank you for your support in the styrofoam reduction effort! Our marine life and our islands will thank you for it! With aloha,

kate

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:57:37 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmela Rose Aquino	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Carmela Rose Aquino, I currently live in Lakewood, California and I support this ban because the decomposition of styrofoam takes hundreds of years if not a lot more than that. and although it can break down chemically (very slowly), polystyrene is not biodegradable. It's bad for the environment and is bad for our health as it contains a harmful chemical that can leech into the food and drinks we consume when the styrofoam is used as the food/drink holder.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 3:01:17 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joshua Thomas	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I strongly support this bill. Styrofoam is a very harmful product both to ourselves and to the environment around us. I spend a lot of time in and near the ocean and I believe it is something we need to go to great lengths to protect for our further generations. Limiting the producton and eliminating the use of styrofoam is a great step in the right direction. There are so many other options available that can be either composted or recycled. Please help keep these harmful chemicles out of our environment.

Mahalo,

Joshua Thomas

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:03:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lana Shea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please put the Environment First! There are other to go containers available! Say Yes to a clean Hawaii



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII  
*The Voice of Business*

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
Consumer Protection and Health  
Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

**LATE**

**RE: SB 11, RELATING TO POLYSTYRENE FOAM CONTAINERS**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **opposes** SB 11, which prohibits the sale of polystyrene foam containers and serving of prepared foods using polystyrene foam containers statewide effective July 1, 2020. This bill would also authorize the Department of Health to adopt rules to implement the prohibition and create a requirement for food vendors to educate their customers about proper disposal of nonreusable food containers and litter reduction.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

We **oppose** SB 11 because it will raise the cost for both business and consumers and will impact jobs in the local manufacturing industry of FDA approved, food-grade food service containers. Creating a mandate for the use of compostable and other plastic containers stifles the free market place, where businesses and consumers have the right to choose among the various types of safe, FDA approved food service containers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:22:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julianna Davis	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Seeing trash on the beaches is a constant problem here in Hawai'i and globally. I think any measure to reduce pollution and its catastrophic impacts should be taken, therefore I wholeheartedly support SB 11.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:23:05 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Howdeshell	Testifying for Restaurant	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I am opposed. Let the businesses fade out styrofoam on their own. Your arbitrary deadlines make it to cost prohibitive for small business owners.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:30:18 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christina Comfort	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I STRONGLY SUPPORT the phase out of polystyrene containers in food service. Foam is detrimental to the environment, as it never degrades, and additionally releases toxins into food when it is heated. It is not suitable as a food service product, especially for hot food, and environmentally we need to adapt as a community to the knowledge we now have about how single use plastics harm our beaches, oceans, wildlife, and the quality of the environment for future generations.

Mahalo,

Christina Comfort

Resident, Haleiwa - Pupukea



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:31:52 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Juliana Sung	Testifying for Pancakes & Waffles BLD Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:38:13 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ali Bayless	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:41:47 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jeremy strubel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I think it is very important to continue to move towards using all things that are made from renewable resources as well as use items that don't just end up as trash on our beaches and in our oceans. There are plenty of affordable options for restaurants and food service to use for disposables if they choose to remain with the take out business model.

Thank you

jeremy strubel

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 5:01:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

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

**Comments:**

My name is Marvin Heskett and I am a resident of Palolo. I am writing in full support of HB850 to prohibit the use of polystyrene foam containers by food vendors. Polystyrene foam is one of the most littered and least recycled forms of plastic.

As a life time advocate and participant in beach cleanups, it pains me to consider how many Styrofoam clamshells and plates, discarded by residents and tourists, intentional or by accident, that I've picked up off of our leeward coasts. We have become painfully aware of the marine debris issue the coastal globe is currently facing. What pains me worse than the knowledge of how many hundreds of items I've personally removed, is all of those that I, and other concerned members of our community, missed. Hawaii shamefully currently contributes significantly to the growing garbage patch of the north Pacific Gyre. One of our greatest exports to the gyre is the lightweight, flyaway Styrofoam single use containers. We're sacrificing the Ocean environment that we love so much for a few moments of added convenience. Hawaii State Department of Transportation (DOT) just produced a trash plan that shows Styrofoam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream. The plan says that banning these wasteful single-use products could save the state millions of dollars.

Not only are we shamefully sending off unsightly rubbish, to our pristine life support system, but we are poisoning her inhabitants as we do. On a recent work trip to the northwest Hawaiian Islands, I bore personal witness to the remains of once grand albatross, withered with body cavities full of single use plastics, especially light small pieces of Styrofoam. The mangled corpses were not insignificant in numbers. They lay by the hundreds, dead or dying along the ground on these atolls, ironically suffering from starvation as their stomachs were filled with this mildly convenient artifice we use to feed ourselves from quickly and conveniently. Any person both privileged and cursed, to view this sight understands quickly why a global ban on these products is needed immediately. Hawaii, of all places, can understand and feel the pain this pollution is creating right here at home and needs to help lead the cause to eliminate them.

For producers of these plastics to blame the end users for the fate of the pollutants is no different than the same excuses the same petrochemical companies made for Agent Orange or PCBs. The people of this nation demanded change. We demanded a ban

on these chemicals for the knowledge of their inevitable fate was too much for any of us to bear. As we necessarily, demanded through federal law, to do away with these pollutants that were wreaking havoc on our health and the environment, we must too, ban the use of these acutely toxic killers of marine life.

I graciously ask you to consider the larger picture, to avoid being influenced by the very few who stand to gain by continuing to produce and sell these petrochemical products at the cost of our Ocean's health and support this bill. Future generations will surely thank you for having the courage to do so.

Mahalo nui loa,

Marvin Heskett

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 5:09:41 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sage Minato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 5:16:23 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bronte Kaneakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 5:18:22 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Tamamoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill will only raise the cost of living to Hawaii residents. We already live in one of the highest cost of living states in the Union and I don't want to see more Hawaii residents leave because of that.

Please stop this bill.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 5:31:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug Killpatrick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 6:08:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alexandre Vaquer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to add my voice to support phasing out styrofoam containers.

They're a catastrophe for the environment and totally NOT indispensable commodity, in this day and age, environmentally friendly alternatives do exist for barely more cost that can easily be reflected upon sales prices without hurting customers business.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 6:23:17 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
becca nutsch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Becca Nutsch. I live on the Big Island of Hawaii. I support this ban because I believe we need less waste. I work on the water and see so much of this styrofoam that is polluting the ocean. Unable to decompose. It would be great if it was no longer available on the island!

## SB 11

### Relating to Polystyrene Foam Containers In Strong Support

**LATE**

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 , 9:00am  
Room: Conference Room 229  
Committees: Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang and members of the CCP committee,

my name is Natalie Wohner, I am from Germany and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa getting my Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering. Growing up close to the beach in North Germany, I developed a deep connection to the ocean and moving to Hawai'i more than 7 years ago, I fell in love even more with nature. Hawai'i has a special place in my heart, not only because of its beauty, but also it's people that are loving and taking care of each other and the land. Hawai'i has opened my eyes to the huge problem of our throw-away culture and plastic pollution, and also taught me how important it is for our generation to be sustainable and reduce the waste we produce!

**I strongly support SB 11**, the statewide phase-out of polystyrene food containers, due to its negative impact on human health and the environment.

First of all, expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) is a type of plastic manufactured from non-renewable fossil fuels and synthetic chemicals, the most unsustainable and unhealthy material I can think of. It does not compost in our landfills and when burnt at H-Power it emits chemicals, such as benzaldehyde, acetophenone, styrene oxide, which are classified as hazardous substances or carcinogens by US EPA. Additionally, EPS foam is one of many types of plastic that cause starvation in marine life that mistake EPS pieces for food.

EPS food containers also leach chemicals (styrene) into the food. The amount of styrene that migrates into foods and liquids strongly depends on fat content and temperature, being highest for hot and fatty foods.<sup>1</sup> The monomer styrene (or vinyl benzene), that leaches into the food when in contact with PS food containers, is listed as a hazardous chemical and categorized as a carcinogen.<sup>2</sup> Evidence of cancer from studies in humans shows lymphohematopoietic cancer and genetic damage in the white blood cells, of workers exposed to styrene.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> M. S. Tawfik & A. Huyghebaert (1998) Polystyrene cups and containers: Styrene migration, Food Additives & Contaminants.

<sup>2</sup> [New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Hazardous Substance Fact Sheet, 2011](#)

<sup>3</sup> The Report on Carcinogens, Twelfth Edition, prepared by National Toxicology Program (2011)

Polystyrene is leaching toxic chemicals into our food, we are not able to recycle it, it is littering our environment and yet, polystyrene is still being used as a material for food containers simply due to its low cost. The main argument that this bill has not passed in the past decade was usually that it would be a financial burden for the business owners that provide take-out containers. The Surfrider Foundation Oahu, a non-profit organization, has a program that highlights restaurants in Hawai'i that have sustainable business practices and do not use PS containers, and other single-use plastics. This program, the Ocean Friendly Restaurants program, shows that local restaurants can exist without the use of polystyrene. There are currently 201 thriving Ocean Friendly Restaurants (OFR) in Hawai'i<sup>4</sup> and at least another 100 restaurants that are not part of the OFR program but do not use polystyrene containers.

The University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Maui and the Big Island have already passed a ban on polystyrene containers, as well as many other cities, countries, such as New York City, Seattle, Takoma Park, Miami Beach, Portland (Maine), Nantucket County, Minneapolis, Portland (Oregon), Los Angeles, San Francisco, even Zimbabwe in Africa! These and many more countries and cities are recognizing that it is more important to choose sustainable materials over cheap materials, and I hope Hawai'i will do the same!

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to testify and mahalo for your time.

Aloha nui loa,  
Natalie Wohner

Contact: [natalie.wohner@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.wohner@gmail.com)

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org/>

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 6:42:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lei Shimabukuro	Testifying for Wipeout Crew	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 6:58:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jordan May	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 7:35:26 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brittany Huntington	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the ban on polystyrene --- our island needs more environmentally friendly options and consumers will pay the additional costs.



**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 7:41:58 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Adolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is extremely important to eliminate the use of styrofoam because it is something that never breaks down and is polluting our land, beaches and wildlife. I volunteer weekly at beach cleanups and most of what we collect are pieces of styrofoam from plate lunches and to go containers from across the world. Please consider banning the use of styrofoam.

Sincerely,

Megan Adolph

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 7:44:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danna Olsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support banning single-use polystyrene foam containers. The styrofoam take out containers are littering our streets, streams, beaches and oceans. I volunteer with clean-up groups and I'm so tired of seeing this litter that breaks down into tiny pieces and does not degrade. It's a complete mess and it's hurting wildlife. It's not sustainable and it's completely unnecessary with all of the compostable options now available. Please take action to keep Hawaii a healthy and beautiful place for future generations.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 4:14:28 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zack Stoddard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Polystyrene is dangerous for the environment and a federally recognized carcinogen. A statewide ban makes sense for environmental and human health.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 7:53:49 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Mitchel-Block	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Sarah Mitchel-Block, I live in Kihei, HI on the island of Maui and I strongly support this ban. I see the devastating effects of single use garbage on our waters, beaches and wildlife every day, and I fully support any action to move us towards a direction of sustainability. Thank you for moving us forward, I do hope you will pass this bill.

Mahalo.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:09:12 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
alexandra gorbacheva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Single use containers are being overused widely and carelessly.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:19:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hyeonjo Kim	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Since I came to Hawaii last year, I have seen many people using too much of plastic bags too much, and many groceries packed in plastic containers. I realized that it is a reality that the used plastic bags and containers are not collected separately but are thrown away with ordinary waste. Plastics that cannot even be recycled may eventually cause great environmental problems in Hawaii, in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. To achieve the sustainable prosperity of human society, I believe we need to control Polystyrene. Therefore, I support the Polystyrene Foam Phase-Out Bill.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:31:43 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
K Elizabeth Matthews	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha. Please protect this small and vulnerable land mass. We need to fight the volume at the point of production. I cleaned a short distance of our most beautiful beaches for about an hour this weekend. After two full bags, I realized that I was unable to pick all of it up. There was a lot of foam. Please take action for our children and their children. Mahalo.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 8:34:14 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Monika Haar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:02:42 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Geyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support this bill because the plastic pollution statewide is getting out of control. Every beach cleanup I go to it seems like there is more plastic than the last time. It's affecting tourism, it's affecting wildlife, it's affecting quality of life for kamaaina. Some businesses are already voluntarily doing this with the support of groups like ocean friendly restaurants. This bill needs to happen and it needs to happen NOW!

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 7:50:54 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariana Chinellato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a Hawaii resident I urge you to please support SB11 so that we can phase out polystyrene foam on the islands. As we all know styrofoam is manufactured from non-renewable fossil fuels, connecting it closely to climate change. It is also made of synthetic chemicals which can leach so if it finds its way into the ocean (which in most cases does), it can contaminate the water and hurt or even kill marine life when they bite into it and eat it, confusing it for food.

Furthermore, styrofoam can't be recycled and it never biodegrades so once created, we can never get rid of it. Please please please make SB11 pass so that we can all focus on finding better alternatives that don't hurt our planet and our future generations. I want my future children to enjoy a plastic, foam free ocean.

Mahalo,

Mariana Chinellato, Kailua 96374

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:42:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Acasio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

My name is Laura Acasio and I am from Hilo. Please Support this important SB 11 to ban polystyrene state-wide. We are so grateful that this was successfully passed at the county level for Hawaii county. We really need to be taking huge measures to reduce our waste stream and this is a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Laura Acasio

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:53:10 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christina Hines	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Hawaii has the opportunity to show that it values its natural resources and its beautiful environment. For too long we have accepted the status quo in terms of plastics and styrofoam waste and we have already begun to see the devastating impacts these materials have on our environment. We have a major environmental problem on our hands and an opportunity to fix it!

## Scary styrofoam facts:\*

- Used in product packages and the shipping industry, the world produces tons of it each year.
- The fact that Styrofoam is non-biodegradable adds to the ecological impact. Landfills are filling up at a record rate and Styrofoam is one reason. Styrofoam has the potential to affect the entire ecological system of this planet.
- Health effects from exposure to styrene are irritation of the skin, eyes and respiratory tract and gastrointestinal problems. Chronic exposure affects the nervous system, causing symptoms like depression, headache, fatigue and weakness, and minor effects on kidney function and blood.... Styrofoam is non-biodegradable and non-recyclable.
- According to Washington University, Styrofoam takes 500 years to decompose; it cannot be recycled, so the Styrofoam cups dumped in landfills are there to stay.

(\*source: <https://www.livestrong.com/article/159954-facts-about-landfill-styrofoam/>)

As a consumer, I am disgusted when a restaurant uses styrofoam for to-go packaging. There are many sustainable alternatives to styrofoam that can easily be used in its place. This ban is long overdue and will put Hawaii at the forefront of a movement that will help to ensure a healthy planet for generations to come.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:56:58 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 9:39:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kari Goodbar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:14:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Gomes	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Hawaii should lead by example to the rest of the US as the first polystyrene free state. We are more aware of the effects of single-use plastic on the planet probably than any other state because we are surrounded by ocean. We see it in the water, on our beaches everywhere. Unless businesses and people are forced to change, things will not change fast enough, which is why this legislation is so important.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:25:38 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Minihan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The sooner we phase out polystyrene foam in Hawaii's food service industry, the sooner we can make a change in our surrounding ecosystems as well as inspire others to do the same.



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:58:57 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christian Robbins	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Please ban the foam! There are so many better alternatives. Think about the real cost, not just the monetary value.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 11:15:32 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In strong support of SB11

Hawaii, and all other 49 states do not need foam. As a Hawaii resident, PhD marine ecologist, and citizen that regularly enjoys our coastlines, it is clear that Hawaii-derived rubbish is ending up in our marine environment and causing ecological issues. It is also apparent to me that the chemical companies and their lobbyists make up the majority of the opposition to this and similar legislation. Please vote with the will of the residents of this beautiful state to keep our beaches and environments clear of trash. Mahalo nui – Daniel Amato

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/25/2019 10:14:27 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emily Pettit	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Styrofoam is not only bad for the environment but also terrible for our health. Hawai'i residents should be more aware of the problem, especially it was heavily used for plate linch. The government should take action to prohibit the harmful material.

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 12:41:04 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsa Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Chelsa Davis, I live on the Hamakua coast of the Big Island. I SUPPORT this ban because I dont want to see anymore of it filling up our landfills to end up floating in our oceans. Please pass this Bill!

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 1:25:28 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Committee Chair and Members:

Please pass SB 11 which phases out Polystyrene Foam in the Food Service Industry. The time is now. Please do not fail as the City Council did. I managed Food Service career wide in Honolulu. Facilities can always find a few cents per dish to be Enviromentally responsible. Small moms and pops can raise their prices .03-.07 if needed. Our landfills are full. We are an island. Foam never disintegrates! There are no reasons to justify not passing this Bill. Please do not dump anymore indestructible foam in our Enviroment!

Linda Wong

leiahi@me.com

Member of Diamond Head Neighborhood Board

Surfrider Foundaton

Sierra Club

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 5:02:51 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jun Shin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 5:46:01 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DEREK CONSELVA	Testifying for Hawaii Restaurant Association	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 6:38:41 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sidney Higa	Testifying for Hawaii Restaurant Association	Oppose	No

**Comments:**

I Sidney Higa a Member of "The Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,500 restaurants here oppose the following:

- SB 11 that prohibits the use of polystyrene foam food service containers state wide,
- SB 367 SD1 that prohibits food service businesses and stores from the sale, use, and or distribution of polystyrene foam containers, expanded polystyrene food service products, plastic straws, and plastic bags
- SB 522 SD1 that prohibits Plastic food packaging, Plastic bags, single use beverage containers, and creates a Plastic Source Reduction Working Group.

A recent study done by the Honolulu City Auditor reports out that less than one percent of our total trash stream is currently made up of foam food containers. Foam is much cheaper than alternate products and for ethnic foods with heat and moisture, also performs better in holding the product, retaining heat, and for safe transport. Hawaii does not have any composting facilities and a majority of our trash ends up at H Power. We are looking at substituting a very functional product with a much more expensive substitute. The final result will have the consumer paying more.

Many major chains like McDonald's and Starbucks have made announcements in 2018 on their commitments that by 2025 all of the guest packaging in their restaurants will be fiber based and will come from renewable, recycled or certified sources with a preference for Forest Stewardship Council (FRC) certification. The food industry and their supply chains are working towards a solution, but the 2023 deadline is not reasonable and achievable.

We do support the bills and initiatives that straws should be given out only upon request at full service restaurants, similar to the California State law that was passed in 2018. How beverages are consumed varies greatly from the sit down restaurants to the quick service restaurants with a drive-thru, where many food and beverages are consumed on the go. Alternate straws made from paper, bamboo, metal are all being tested around the world with limited success due to its performance, durability, after taste, and costs. Supply chain is seeking and working towards an alternate product but will not be ready with a good alternate product by July 1, 2021



NextGen Consortium. This is a partnership initially set up by Starbucks and McDonald's to fund research. Coca Cola and Yum! Brands have now joined in the effort to create food service containers that will be both environmentally green and meet performance needs of the food and beverage industry. Each of the parties contributed millions towards a workable solution.

We do agree with the creation of a Plastic Source Reduction Group and look forward to participating. However, an alternate industry is in its infancy. Hawaii Restaurant Association urges Senators to be patient with these aggressive deadlines for implementation."

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 12:17:50 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harvy King	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 7:25:41 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Effie Drabinski	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Effie Drabinski, I live in Kailua-Kona, and I support this ban because our oceans are suffering with waste. Not only is it harmful to the environment, but also detrimental to our health as chemicals are released into food and drinks.

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

LATE

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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<u>MARIA B. NICOLAS</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1072 OKUPE ST EWA BEACH, HI 96706</u>	<u>808-678-1080</u>
<u>BETRISS CALMA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>(808)-676-9547</u>
<u>REM ALIAMBRA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>808-676-9547</u>
<u>MELVIN ALIAMBRA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>(808) 348-5143</u>
<u>CAROLYN ALIAMBRA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA Street EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>808-763-7349</u>
<u>CAROLINA ALIAMBRA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>808-282-9043</u>
<u>CLARENCE CALMA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>94-734 KAILO ST. WAIKANAHI HI 96797</u>	<u>(808) 748-4777</u>
<u>JOY CALMA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>94-734 KAILO ST. WAIKANAHI HI 96797</u>	<u>(808) 492-6263</u>
<u>ANGEL B. ANTIDA</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706</u>	<u>(808) 358-6646</u>

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature


Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

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janabundo@gmail.com

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Myron Nakagawa	<i>Myron Nakagawa</i>	87172 Kaula Lane St 96742	808 6964525
Anne Okada	<i>Anne Okada</i>	87-143 Pelanaki 96792	808-753-2987
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JESSE LALEMAN	<i>Jesse Laleman</i>	86-037 HOAHA ST WAIHAE 96792	808-675-8003
Zenaida Calvario	<i>Zenaida Calvario</i>	87-128 KULAHANI 96792	96792-3361
Naomi Kuba	<i>Naomi M. Kuba</i>	85-120 A ALA HEMA ST. 96792	808 206-0268
LETICIA GUERRERO	<i>Leticia Guerrero</i>	87-121 ST. John's Rd. 96792	808 384-0003
BOUALA SHIHARATH	<i>Bouala Shiharath</i>	86-341 B KUWALE RD WAIHAE 96792	808-782-8565
Lolaka Kulakahi	<i>Lolaka Kulakahi</i>	87-1073 Hakimo ST 96792	(808)-234-3926
MACRINA	<i>M. L. Guimer</i>	87-158 Maipela St. 96792	808 620-4979

# We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

We do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to others. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better management and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

WILLAS NAPOLIS

*[Signature]*

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LEA MARIE ADOS

*[Signature]*

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LORENZA JUAN

85-046 ARMY ST. WAIANAE

808-696-4609

REYWELYN BART

85-046 ARMY ST. WAIANAE

808-304-8489

MARCIAL P. CARLOS

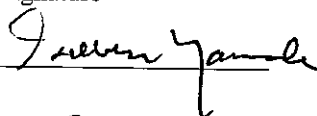
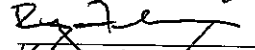

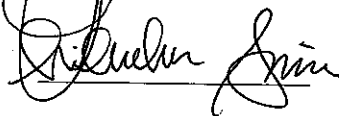
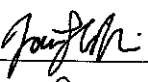
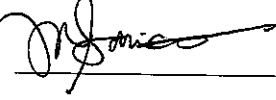
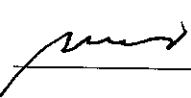
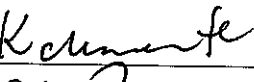
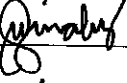
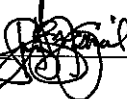
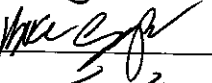

*[Signature]*

43 PROSPECT ST Honolulu HI 96813

808-386-5096

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

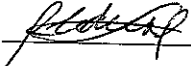
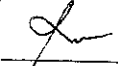
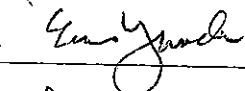
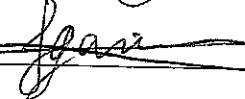

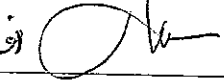


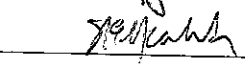



Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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KAREN KALAMA		84-1026 Hana Street Waianae HI	ilovespam@hawaii.rr.com 808 782-9853



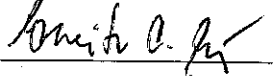

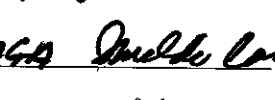

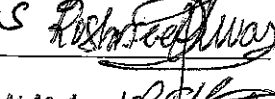
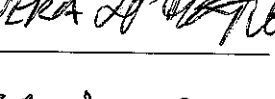
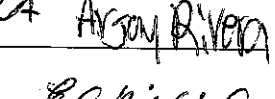
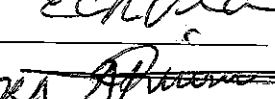

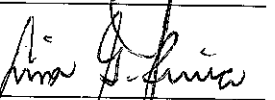
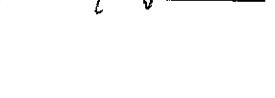
## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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IZZY RAMOS		2433-A MACANUEHA ST	728-0966
ERIL YAMADA		91-1176 BRYAN ST 96106	eye KYO-inc.com
JOSEFINO GARCIA		94-077 AKAMOKU ST	678-2018
Cherwyn Calumang		985 Leomole Ct	356 398-9420
Rolan Montesinos		1060 kom Hwy Pearl City	389-6336
CARLOS MANLANO		1807A-BECKLEY ST. 96819	753-2363
ARNEL YANTO		46173 HAWK RD KANEHE HI 96744	
Nelly M. Calub		43 Prospect St. Honolulu HI 96813	808-627-2058
Lou Buchanan		3224 George St.	
REX R. TITON		99-009 KALALOA ST. 96701	808-989-0390
Val Morales		741 Kopp St. 96819	454-3343

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Emerita Eusebio		94-1058 Leko Pl. Waipahu HI 96797	— n/a
JUANITO CASTANEDA		94-972 Luminoe St. Waipahu 96797	(808) 671-2551
ZNELDA CASTANAGA		94-972 Luminoe St. Waipahu 96797	(808) 671-2551
ANGELICA RIVERA		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	(808) 219-6864
RASHNEE OLIVAS		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	(808) 476-6034
JOHN PARICK RIVERA		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	(808) 219-6865
ARJAY RIVERA		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	
EMILIA RIVERA		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	(808) 219-6868
ARMANDO RIVERA		94-305 KAHUANANI ST. WAIKAKAHI 96797	(808) 219-6867
CARLOS RIVERA		94-701 KAMALO ST, WAIKAKAHI, HI 96797	(808) 256-8820
LINA RIVERA		94-701 KAMALO ST, WAIKAKAHI, HI. 96797	(808) 782-09-05

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Jared Mendoza	<i>JMendoza</i>	94-309 KAHUANANI ST	(808) 726-0807
Reah Ribao	<i>RRibao</i>	94-456 Liana Place	(808) 398-0464
NORMA PAET	<i>NPaet</i>	94-1067 KAHUAMOKU	(808) 397-4722
Ginahyn Layugan	<i>GPL</i>	94-1078 Nalii St.	(808) 398-8736
JENIKESHA CLIFF QUE	<i>JCQue</i>	724 PUHALE RD, HONOLULU, HI	(808) 498-1848
LELA PASCALSO	<i>LP</i>	1815 KALANI ST APT, 2-4 HON	(808) 679-6190
SAMANTHA ESTRADA	<i>SE</i>	91-932 PAHUHU ST. EWA BEACH	(808) 342-3570
Rosita D. Ramos	<i>RRamos</i>	94-1159 Nalii St. Waiapahu	(808) 4987303
Vergin Pascua	<i>VPascua</i>	94-1138 Awaiahi St. Waiapahu	(808) 6360919
ELLEN PADILLA	<i>EPadilla</i>	94-122 KAHUANANI ST WAIAPAHU	(808) 304-82-81
URSULA SIERRA	<i>USierra</i>	91-131 NOHOIHOEWA HWY. EWA BEACH	(808) 450-1957

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Signature

Email/Phone Number

heta Digna

1823 - A H U N I A ST 96819

349-8641

*Agnes*

1423 - 1444# 96819

NONE

Dist. Rules

1823-AHWA ST. 96815

Q45-2116

Line

1820 Ahumada St. 96819

7251561

CD

1823-A HULLA ST GC 515

465-7518

Abulqin

1823 Aurora St 96819

277-81-22

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Signature

Email/Phone Number

BETTY SALAPANGOL	Betty Salapangol	1419 Auld Lane Hon. Hi 96817	808-232-3977
Margeline	Margeline	1419 Auld Lane Hon. Hi. 96817	808-285-3641
Josie C. Martin	Josie C. Martin	1419 Auld Lane Hon. Hi 96817	808 517-9248
Ethel Senajo		1418 KEO LN Hon. Hi 96817	808-7286958
Lisa Santiago	Jiggs	2014-A Homerule St.	808 650 0428
Edna	Joe	2014-A Homerule St.	808 721 5241

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Amir Dhe

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

91-1031 - Monks of, Lux Block, HI

808-842-0170

BIENVINIDO ABUCAY Per Abucay

94-926 КШАКАНИ СТ. УАПРАНИ НН. 808-428-3537

[illegible]

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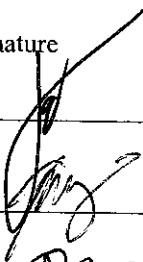
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

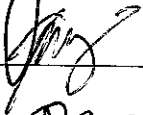
John Garcia



1315 Aaloa Dr. Honolulu HI 96818

john.garcia@gmail.com

Glorielle Garcia



1315 Aaloa Dr. Honolulu HI 96818

8087457115

Berta Peralta



1315 Aaloa Dr. Honolulu HI 96818 808-286-3837

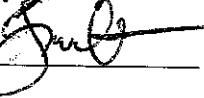
Gabrielle Garcia



1315 Aaloa Dr. Honolulu HI 96818

(714) 722-7527

Inocenci Peralta



11

286 8892

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

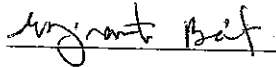
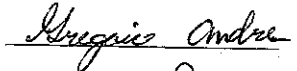
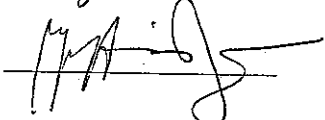

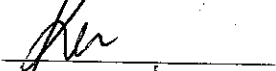

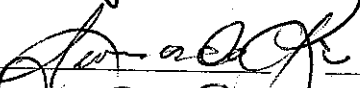

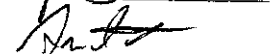
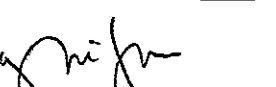

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Pat Taura	<i>Pat Taura</i>	25 Wood St 96817	<i>pattaura@gmail.com</i>
MARILYN CO	<i>Marilyn Co</i>	2888 Ala Ilima St. 96818	<i>marilynco24@gmail.com</i>
BELMA Rivera	<i>Belma</i>	94-123 Awalan St 96797	<i>jushme_belma@yahoo.com</i>
ANASTACIO SANTOS	<i>AS</i>	1816 PALANODI ST 96782	<i>Monsantos51@hotmail.com</i>
CONRADO ALDANA	<i>CA</i>	3661 ALA ILIMA ST 96819	<i>caldana@kyd-inc.com</i>
Vivian N. Ho	<i>VN Ho</i>	94-252 Hiwahiwa Pl. 96797	<i>vho@kyd-inc.com</i>
Daniel J Ho	<i>DJ Ho</i>	94-252 Hiwahiwa Pl 96797	<i>Danahke@yahoo.com</i>



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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
ESPIRANTE BARIT		85-046 ARMY ST. WAIANAE HI 96792	ESPIBARIT62@GMAIL.COM
GREGORIO ANDRES		87-101 HOOKULE ST WAIANAE HI	808 668 78 02
GLECERIO ARIOS JR.		85-046 ARMY ST. WAIANAE HI. 96792	ARIOSGLECERIOJR@YAHOO.COM
FERDINAND ALMAZAN		3464 ALIAMANU ST. HON. HI 96818	(808) 256-1282
KEN ROUE BAGSIT		177 Kopeke Street	(808) 725-8325
IDITO AGUSTIN		94-44 PUPUKAHI ST, WAIKIKI, HI 96711	(808) 852-2312
LEONARDO RIO		1823 A - AHUUA ST. HONOLULU, H.I. 96819	(808) 940-8740
CAVITE ARCEANA		3139 ALA ILIUA ST 709 HON HI 96810	(808) 381-2420
ANGELO B. ANTILDA		91-1009 PA ST EWA BEACH HI 96706	(808) 358-6646
JOSE GIOVANNI SALVADOR		2739 ROSE ST APT. A HONOLULU 96819	(808) 388-4472
NESTOR U. GONZALEZ		1266 RICHARD LANE B-406 HONOLULU HI	808 724 8069

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Signature

Email/Phone Number

Joseph

(808) 546-9893

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Liza Cabaccang

1719 A Owawa St.

(808) 781-1353

Angela A. Jones

1719 A Owawa St H 0808-841-3357

Jodette Miyamoto

1719-A OWAWA ST.

(808) 722-3917

Justin Jasce

1719-A Owawa St.

808 779 2840

Jessamine Miyamoto

1719-A OWAWA St.

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Adelle Jones

1719-A Owawa St

664-1896

VENNLAMPITOC

911081 INIRUAMOO ST #906

384-3340

CHRISTIAN CABACCANG

1719-A OWAWA ST

808 286 3007

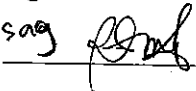

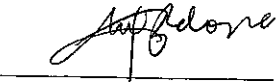

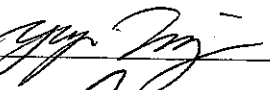
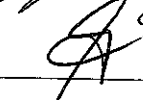
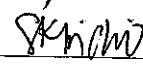
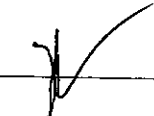
Bart Cabaccang

1719-A OWAWA ST. 96819

808 286 3075

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Rosalinda Calunsag		985 Leonele St. Pearl City HI 96782	808-348-1565
Luciano Sanico		985 Leone St. Pearl City HI 96782	808-232-7445
Atlene Radona		1109 Acacia Rd. 119 Pearl City, HI 96782	808-285-4100
Allysah Magboo		1245 Puu Kipa Street Pearl City HI, 96782	magbootallysah@gmail.com
Yuya Nishizawa		1351 Noelani St Pearl city HI 96782	808-271-6240
Erma Lamosao		1147 Ima Place Pearl City, HI 96782	408-8337
Shirley Valyn		94-245 Leowehine St 10106 Waipahu HI 96793	808-778-5391
My linda Lamosao		1147 Ima Place Pearl City HI, 96782	808-454-3917

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Alan Kobayashi

Calatayud

Home Address/Zip Code  
100 Kailuan Place

Email/Phone Number  
2862229

[illegible]

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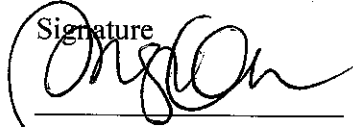
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Shirley Olue



2949 Koapaka St Hm


ShirleyOlue@ptc.net

Sean Olue



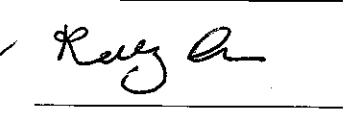
2949 Koapaka St Hm

Jenna Olue



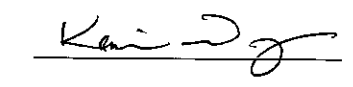
2949 Koapaka St Hm

Recky Olue



2949 Koapaka St Hm

Kevin Wang



98. 500 Kaula Ln. #124, Aiea, HI.

wongkawaii@yahoo.com

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

[illegible]

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Guy Simabekuro

*[Signature]*

150 Puiwa Rd. 96817

95@kyd-inc.com



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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Eric Newborn

ack

95.1127 Calor St. 96739

681-2724

[illegible]

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

REINA O. FUGARIN

Signature

KAT Nguyen

Home Address/Zip Code  
94-389 Kapiolani St. Kapiolani HI

836-7337

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Dani Mendoza

Dani

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Dina Ali-Bang

Dina

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Russell Pang

Russell Pang

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mayjdhpang-rp@gmail

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## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Michelle Kalahiki

Michelle Kalahiki

1404 Kewalo St. #403, 96822

mimi7088@aol.com

Michellei Kalahiki Michelle Kalahiki

same as above

mkalahiki@kyd-inc.com

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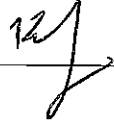
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Kwan Lau

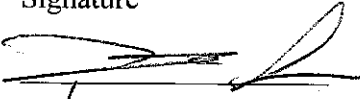
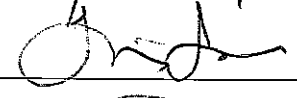


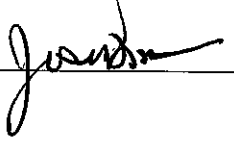


3130 Ala Ilima 16A

226-5304

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Daniel Lee		111 Sand Island Access Rd.	753 7513
CHONG Taelu	Chay Cha Taelu	98-1090 Komo Pl	488-1090
Lisa Lee			753 3776
Kyong Hyeon			800-389-0845
Annie Kwack		KAUHI BARB-C	808-847-3398
Joseph Maiava		Papa Ole	293-2292

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

JENNY RIV

*jmriv*

1823 AHAULA ST. HONOLULU 96819

FWTRAVEL@HOTMAIL.COM

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Rommel Menor

R Mann

4013 Keaka Drive Honolulu HI 96818 vmenov@kyd-inc.com

Vmenov@kyd-inc.com



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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

FRANCIS ENOMOTO Francis Enomoto 2504 ARII WAY, PEARL CITY 96782 4552010

Marlene Ennst Walch 2504 Aspen way P.C. 96782 - 4552010

ROBERT THOMPSON Robert Thompson 2504 AARL WAY PEARL CITY 96782 / 255-2010

Debbie Thompson June 2504 Aspin, PE 9678~ 455-2010

Danette End note      Danette End      2504 Gateway Pk H2 967P2      455240

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Malou Conway

Malou Conway

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melma-lope@oahu.com

Thelma Almodad

Thelma Almodad

2563 Date Street #108 Honolulu 96826

808- 352- 3898

Lope Almodad

Lope Almodad

2563 Date St. Honolulu 96826

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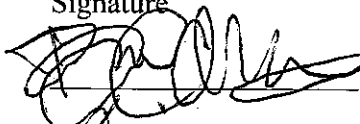
Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

BRANDON BEAUFORT



94-945 LAHAW ST / 96797

808-309-6614

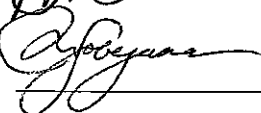
DELAN ALSTON



1221 ALA ILIMA RD. / 96819

808-348-9076

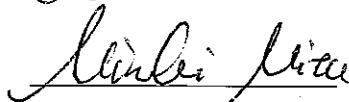
Mark Sobejana



5122 Likini St Apt. 316 / 96818

808-348-5032

Mizuki Mita



5122 Likini St Apt 316 / 96818

808-306-1851

ALFREDO SOBEJANA



3225 ALA ILIMA ST #2 - 96818

808-306-1047

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Mark Talaguchi

Miss Telgren

98-442 Kilroe St #905 near 96701

mach5hl@cs.cmu 236714

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Demie Ramelb Demie C. Ramelb 94-1079 Luminaia st. —

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Signature

Email/Phone Number

1577 Haloa Dr. Hon. HI 96818 [rp@kyd@-inc.com](mailto:rp@kyd@-inc.com)

1577 Harper Dr Hen 1496 1/2 16 473-8755

741-3942

1577 Haloa Dr. Hon. HI 96818 741-3942

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Age Group	Percentage
18-24	10%
25-34	15%
35-44	20%
45-54	25%
55-64	20%
65-74	15%
75-84	10%
85+	5%

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Lance H. Nitta

Lance H. Keith

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sirlancen@gmail.com

DONNA M. NITTA

Downs Mills

45-160 ЕХЕРИ РЛ 96744

nitta.donna@yahoo.com





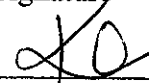
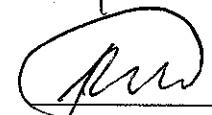
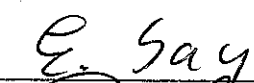
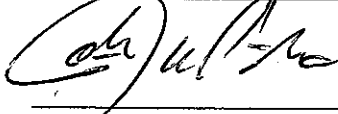



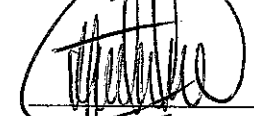
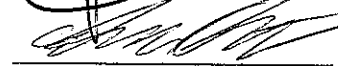

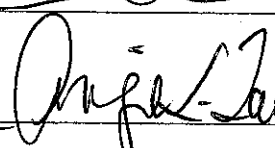
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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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MARGARITA DAYAO	<i>mpdayao</i>	4370 OIALOA ST Honolulu HI 96818	
Anne Lou	<i>Anne Lou</i>	2040 Nu'uana Ave #1901 Honolulu, HI 96817	anne@hawaii.edu
JOHN MCCARTHY	<i>John McCarthy</i>	1685 KALANANUOVI RD, HONO. HI 96825	396 8471
PHYLLIS DAYAO	<i>Phyllis Dayao</i>	47-703 HALEMANU ST KANEHE 96744	MANNYDAYAO@YMAIL.COM
MANNY DAYAO	<i>M Dayao</i>	47-703 HALEMANU ST. KANEHE 96744	
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FILIPINAS MERCADO	<i>Filipinas Mercado</i>	47-703 HALEMANU ST KANEHE, HI 96744	
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CARMELITA PHILLIPS	<i>Carmelita Philip</i>	13 PROSPECT ST Honolulu 96813	csdp@kyd-inc.com



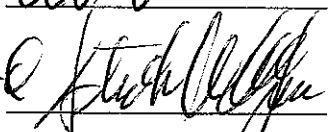
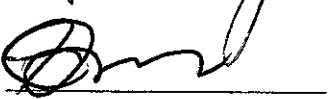
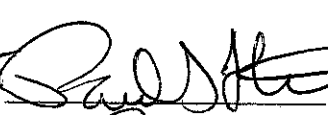

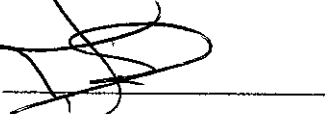



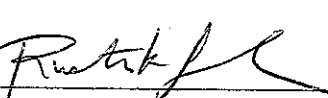
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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
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JOHN U. Pinala		4561 SALI LAKE BLVD	0NU loco tacos@gmail.com
Brenda Walker		948 Third St 96782	—
Anthony R Baathdama		6305 IRT Ave 96706	808-688-8568 SAKO Electric Tony@Aol.com
Bob Sugahara		1415 Victoria St. 96822	bob.sugahara@yahoo.com
Kaliko Lane		92-1266 Kikaha St #35 96707	lkaliko@yahoo.com / 343-4840
Ethan Pantil		1733 Dillingham Blvd.	hanapaaifishing@Hawaii.RR.com
Richard Akimoto		1040 Lumlala St #713	Leewardboard@gmail.com
Angela L. Tammara		607 N. King St. #200	FHS.

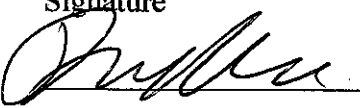


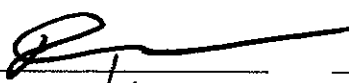
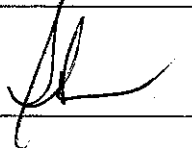
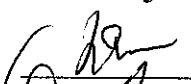
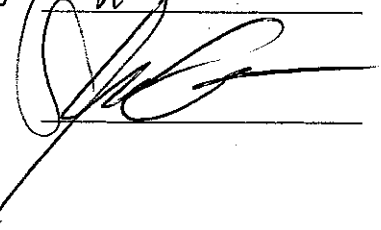
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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
Patrick Brady		16 Nialli Circle 96821	pcbrady1967@gmail.com
Altru Wale		1671 Hahaione St. #1 96819 Hon. HI 96814	
Stephen Wilford		1277 S. Beretania St	
JK CARINO		94-625 Poailani Circle	349-5821
Paul Fletcher		7002 Kanihiki Dr.	
Auna Leroy		91-261 Fort Weaver	358-9970
Jack Delgado		1164 Sunset	
Anwesh Singh		920 Ward Ave	lasoonhi@gmail.com
Samuel Becker		91-180 Olai St Kapolei	808-237-0307
China Le Fong		56-1079 Kanihiki	808-779-3495
Rustin Funakoshi		95-2065 Puhaka St. 96789	808-829-5718

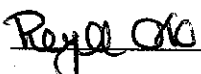


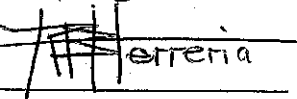

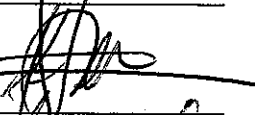
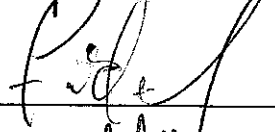
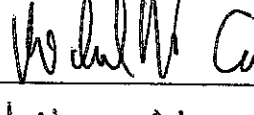
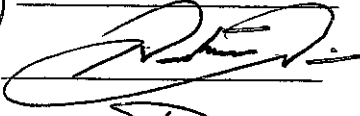
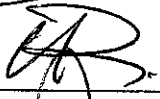
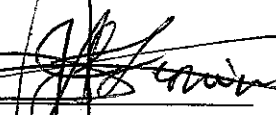

## We Oppose Polystyrene Foam Food Container Bans

Please do not pass a bill that will ban food-grade foam containers that we use for family parties, picnics, left over meals, and food service to customers. Foam food containers work--- it keeps foods from leaking and making a mess. It keeps hot things hot and cold things cold. The containers are FDA-approved and economical. The containers are not the cause of litter that goes into the ocean. People do that. We support better laws and enforcement of litter management. A ban on foam containers for alternative containers that cost more and don't work as well does not make sense. We know that all burnable trash on Oahu goes to Hpower to make electricity no matter what the material. Vote No On Foam Bans!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
David Mao		1151 Maguragua 96819	david.mao@waterandenergy
Pete Beltrame		1532 HANA Lp. 96817	
Songyang Li		60 Ala Moana 96813	hli@chris.com.com
Davy TAMASHIRO		4563 UKALI ST 96818	808-778-9582
SKUPAO		981438 Kopeke	
Dwaine G. MADEROW		1612 IMPERIAL ST 96811	808-723-2332
STEPHEN GRPO		1118 Wanda St	

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Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address/Zip Code	Email/Phone Number
REYNOLD OO		993 MCGREGOR LANE APT 1. 96817	
Jonie Fuentes		68-132 Au. Street Wailua, HI 96797	
FRANK SANTIAGO		41-515 Waiola St. Waiola HI 96797	
ROGER HERRERIA		99-264 OHENANA LOOP	
Jarred Santos		4367 Keolu Dr.	
Alejandro Puylos		91-1008 KULINA ST EWAIBETH HI 96706	
Felix		94-1170 Hima ST	
Wendell Cury		94-247 HANA ST. Waiolu. 96797	
Nathan Nino		1822 Beckley St.	
LAMAR FLORES		94-1079 LUMADA ST. WAIKANA HI	
Jaime Leon		94-1032 Kalapu ST. 96704	
FRANK		94-1111 KAWAHI ST 96797	

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Janice Chew Janice Chew 95-1008  
Huhili St. Mililani, HI 96789

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Name (Print Clearly)

Signature

Home Address/Zip Code

Email/Phone Number

Aida Ramos

*Aida Ramos*

2049 Koapaka St Honolulu

Loribeta Perkins

*Loribeta Perkins*

2049 Koapaka St. Honolulu HI

Jonathan Kyp

*Jonathan Kyp*

2049 Koapaka St. Hon

Tom Kubo

*Tom Kubo*

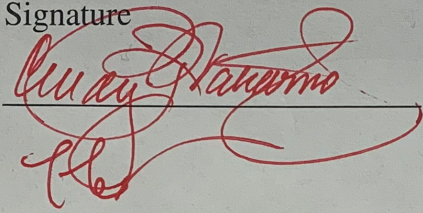
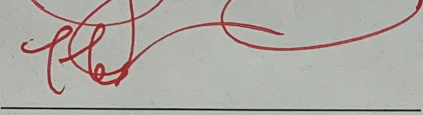
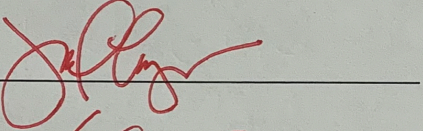
2049 Koapaka St Hon

+Kuboe Kyp, Inc. com



## Legislators: We Oppose Foam Container Ban Bills

We are customers who enjoy dining out at many favorite local restaurants—some small take out places and some sit down places. We oppose bills that want to ban polystyrene foam plate lunch containers, saimin bowls, foam cups. We notice that when restaurants serve food in compostable containers our food sometimes leaks when we take it home and it tastes funny from sticking to the container. We seem to pay more for less food in these containers. Hawaii is a beautiful place and we need to do our part in keeping it clean. Bag your trash and make sure you are not a litter bug!

Name (Print Clearly)	Signature	Home Address	Email /Phone Number
Cindy Wakamoto		1718 Noe St Honolulu	none
Teri Ketli		94-440 Kahualoa Pl Waimanalo	<del>X</del>
Kaniela Nao <sup>th</sup>	Kaniela K Nao <sup>th</sup>	1130 Maunakea St.	
Joel Tabangera		94-831 Lumikuke Loop	
Kanoe Carneiro	K. Carneiro	auiaz. 84-800 Moana St.	<del>X</del>
Raynette Fujii	Raynette Fujii	506A Kuliouan Rd Hon HI 96821	→
Glenda Kapaona	Glenda Kapaona	91-346 Elan Beach Rd.	
Kane Kanehiki	Kane Kanehiki	98 981301 Kokohe HI HI-PC. 96818	→
Peter MA	Peter MA	3079 ALA ILIMA	



**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 7:39:20 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steffanie Carter Felidae	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha, my name is Steffanie Carter Felidae and I live on the Big Island. I support this bill because I believe that styrofoam and other plastic/foam products are causing irreparable harm to the environment and with us being in the middle of the ocean, it is especially important for us to ban this now.

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 7:48:54 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

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

Comments:

Time to do this at a STATEWIDE level, please support and pass this, mahalo!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 8:02:14 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Spelman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Aloha. I am a mother and Hawai'i resident of the Big Island. I hope we will ban these toxic materials that serve us little purpose and create tons of waste. Please support the ban of styrofoam and hopefully more single use plaatics in the future. Thank you, Margaret Spelman of Kailua-Kona**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 8:19:04 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fawn Liebengood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 8:19:54 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sam Bennett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

No Syro!!!

**SB-11**

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 8:55:05 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/26/2019 9:00:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marla Gardner	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Polystyrene is environmentally destructive. It kills wildlife. It fills our waterways. There are alternatives. Let's choose better.