

<u>SB-1500-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2019 2:21:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Carpenter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this measure. Currently the water in the south end of the swimming area is often green from algal growth. A small (8' diameter or so) plastic culvert with rocks and concrete around it would do the trick. It will be good for human and aquatic health in the area.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony in OPPOSITION to SB1500-SD1 RELATING TO WATER CIRCULATION

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 19, 2019 Room Number: 211

- 1 Fiscal Implications: Funding appropriation is needed to develop a mechanism to increase water
- 2 circulation and to conduct research to investigate land-based sources of marine pollutants in
- 3 Pokai Bay. This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive
- 4 Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and personnel
- 5 priorities.

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- 6 **Department Testimony:** This measure proposes to require the Department to collaborate with
- 7 various agencies to research and develop a mechanism for increased water circulation in Pokai
- 8 Bay, Oahu. The Department acknowledges the intent of this measure but respectfully
- 9 opposes it due to the lack of resources, expertise, and funding.

The intent of this measure is to address concerns of alleged environmental and health risks caused by pollution and contaminants in Pokai Bay due to runoff containing industrial pollutants, illegal dumping, and other user-induced contaminants by developing a plan to increase water circulation in Pokai Bay and to conduct studies to investigate land-based sources of marine pollutants, including industrial pollutants and petrochemical-based pollutants.

The Department does not have the resources or expertise to develop a plan to increase water circulation in Pokai Bay or the analytical capability to test for industrial pollutants or petrochemical-based chemicals in the bay. The Department conducts weekly monitoring of Pokai Bay for the presence of enterococci, the fecal indicator recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Since 2015, the Department collected 160 samples of which three samples

- 1 exceeded the enterococci threshold level of 130/100 mL. When there is an exceedance in the
- 2 fecal indicator level, the Department posts advisory notifications online at <a href="https://eha-
- 3 cloud.doh.hawaii.gov/cwb/#!/landing and performs follow-up sampling on each subsequent work
- 4 day until the enterococci level no longer exceeds the enterococci threshold level.
- 5 The Department has been in consultation with the University of Hawaii Water Resources
- 6 Research Center and the Sea Grant program. Both programs are unable to provide resources for
- 7 the tasks specified in this measure. The intent of this bill may necessitate a multi-disciplinary
- 8 effort involving the expertise of multiple University of Hawaii programs. Given the complexity
- 9 of developing, conducting, and reporting on the requested research and planning for Pokai Bay,
- which includes significant findings, cost estimates, and any proposed legislation, the Department
- suggests an additional year to submit the report to the legislature.
- The Department respectfully suggests that funding and resources be appropriated to the
- 13 University of Hawaii as the lead agency in this measure in cooperation and consultation with the
- Department of Health, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Land and
- Natural Resources, the City and County of Honolulu, and representatives of the Aha Moku
- 16 Advisory Committee.

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- **Offered Amendments:** Additions appear as underlined and deletions appear as strikeouts.
- 18 SECTION 2. (a) The department of health University of Hawaii
- 19 shall collaborate with the department of health, United States Army
- 20 Corps of Engineers, department of land and natural resources, the city
- 21 and county of Honolulu, the University of Hawaii, and a representative
- 22 of the aha moku advisory committee to research and develop a plan for
- 23 a mechanism to increase water circulation in Pokai bay on Oahu's
- 24 leeward coast to mitigate environmental and health risks caused by
- 25 pollution and contaminants in the water.
- 26 (b) In conducting its research and planning for Pokai bay, the
- 27 department of health University of Hawaii and its collaborators shall

- 1 conduct a study of Pokai bay and the activities running to Pokai bay
- 2 to investigate whether there are any land-based sources of marine
- 3 contaminants or pollutants flowing from the land to ocean.
- 4 (c) The department of health University of Hawaii shall submit a
- 5 report of its collaborative activities, including significant
- 6 findings, cost estimates, and any proposed legislation, to the
- 7 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
- 8 regular session of $\frac{2020}{2021}$.
- 9 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



<u>SB-1500-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2019 9:44:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2019 9:30:00 AM

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-1500-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2019 7:57:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2019 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

The water is Pokai Bay has bacteria levels way to high most of the time. Some of this has to do with the fact that no one makes the boat, that is dumping their waste into the bay, leave. Not sure why this is so difficult to make him remove his boat from the bay. Please don't tell me that he will be given or has been given fines because we all know that doesn't do anything. This state has got to stop trying to fix things by handing out fines when no one ever pays them. It is a joke! Please start actually enforcing the rules/laws that are put in place! Everyone on this island knows nothing gets enforced therefore no one cares about any of the laws you put in place. Second, is the circulation. Please do something so that the local families can enjoy the bay without having to worry about getting sick!