

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

July 26, 2021

DEPT. COMM. NO. 518

Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker State of Hawaii State Capitol, Room 431 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of Resolution No. 21-117, which was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on July 23, 2021.

Respectfully,

KATHY L. KAOHU County Clerk

/lks

Enclosure



COUNTY OF MAUI 200 SOUTH HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

July 26, 2021

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President Hawaii State Senate State of Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of Resolution No. 21-117, which was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on July 23, 2021.

Respectfully,

KATHY L. KAOHU

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County Clerk

/lks

Enclosure

Resolution

No. __21-117

REQUESTING THE STATE OF HAWAIT'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT REDUCING THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF CERTAIN SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, according to the Countywide Policy Plan, enacted by Ordinance 3732 on March 24, 2010, the County of Maui's official policies are to:

- "Reduce air, noise, light, land, and water pollution" as stated on page 48; and
- "Develop strategies to promote public awareness to reduce pollution and litter, and encourage residents to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost waste materials" as stated on page 71; and

WHEREAS, according to a *ScienceMag.org* article dated October 30, 2020, "in 2016, the U.S. population produced the largest mass of plastic waste of any country in the world and also had the largest annual per capita plastic waste generation of the top plastic waste-generating countries"; and

WHEREAS, a report published in December 2020 by the International Pollutants Elimination Network and the Endocrine Society said, "plastics contain and leach hazardous chemicals," including endocrine-disrupting chemicals, "which disturb the body's hormone systems and can cause cancer, diabetes, reproductive disorders, and neurological damage in fetuses and children"; and

WHEREAS, in April 2021, a report of the United Nations Environment Programme stated, "Environmental harms disproportionately impact persons, groups, and peoples already living in vulnerable situations – including women, children, the poor, migrants, and internally displaced people, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities"; and

WHEREAS, the same report also said that plastic pollution poses a considerable threat to marine life, biodiversity, and ecosystems, as well as human health, safety, and local and national economies; and

WHEREAS, the Council has shown its commitment to reducing plastic pollution in Maui County by enacting Ordinance 3587 (2008), which encourages "the use of environmentally preferable alternatives to plastic bags, such as recyclable paper bags or reusable bags"; and

WHEREAS, more recently, the Council also enacted Ordinance 4457 (2018) and Ordinance 5084 (2020), to "promote public health, reduce litter, and limit harmful materials from entering the environment by regulating and limiting the use of plastic disposable foodware"; and

WHEREAS, the Pacific Whale Foundation's website says its research confirms that 70 to 90 percent of all debris found on Maui is plastic, with single-use plastics being the biggest contributor; and

WHEREAS, the State has limited waste management infrastructure, historically shipping much of its plastic waste overseas, potentially further polluting underdeveloped countries with weak waste management infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Maui County community to protect the State's natural resources for the health of the people, economy, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 984 (2021) and House Bill 2238 (2021) would each amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to:

- Reduce the production and use of certain single-use plastic products and packaging;
- Improve the responsibility of producers in the design, collection, reuse, recycling, and disposal of their consumer products and packaging; and
- Prevent pollution from consumer products and packaging from entering into animal and human food chains and waterways; and

WHEREAS, both bills are pending in the 117th Congress; now, therefore,

Resolution No. 21-117

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

- 1. That it supports Senate Bill 984 (2021) and House Bill 2238 (2021);
- 2. That it urges the State's Congressional delegation to support amending the Solid Waste Disposal Act to reduce the production and use of certain single-use plastic products and packaging; and
- 3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Nainoa Thompson, President, Polynesian Voyaging Society; Mason Chock, President, Hawai'i State Association of Counties; the Honorable Brian Schatz, United States Senator; the Honorable Mazie K. Hirono, United States Senator; the Honorable Jeff Merkley, United States Senator; the Honorable Ed Case, United States Representative; the Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, United States Representative; the Honorable Alan S. Lowenthal, United States Representative; the Honorable Ron Kouchi, President, Hawai'i State Senate; the Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker, Hawai'i State House of Representatives; the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i; and the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui.

paf:nas:21-221a

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 21-117, was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 23rd day of July, 2021, by the following vote:

MEMBERS	Alice L. LEE Chair	Keani N. W. RAWLINS- FERNANDEZ Vice-Chair	Gabriel JOHNSON	Natalie A. KAMA	Kelly T. KING	Michael J. MOLINA	Tamara A. M. PALTIN	Shane M. SINENCI	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA
ROLL CALL	Aye	Aye	Excused	Excused	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

COUNTY OF ERK