

STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION  
COMMISSION  
POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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Director, OPSD

**Commissioners:**  
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Chair, Senate WTL  
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Director, C+C DPP  
Director, Maui DP  
Director, Hawaii DP  
Director, Kauai DP  
The Adjutant General  
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of  
Leah Laramee  
Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the House Committees on  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND  
COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**

**Tuesday February 13, 2024  
9:05 AM  
State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325**

**In support of  
House Bill 1894  
RELATING TO CESSPOOLS**

House Bill 1894 authorizes and appropriates funds to the Department of Health to retain qualified consultants as necessary to identify necessary public outreach and education resources and tools and develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy and website to educate homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about information and resources regarding the State's cesspool upgrade, conversion, and connection requirements and deadlines. The bill also requires that mandatory seller disclosures in real estate transactions include whether the property has a cesspool, including the date by which state law mandates that the cesspool be upgraded, converted, or connected, and the priority level of the cesspool according to the Hawai'i cesspool hazard assessment and prioritization tool. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this measure.**

The Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. Removal of cesspools for all properties within the Sea Level Rise Exposure Area (SLR-XA), is imperative to the health of nearshore waters and for members of the public accessing coastal resources. Removal may not be achievable by 2050 as directed by state law without viable alternatives for replacement. Cesspools on the shoreline and in the coastal zone will be an increasing source of nonpoint source pollution as groundwater rises and coastal erosion accelerates. The Commission's 2022 update to the *Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report* Recommended Action 6.4 counsels that the State should expand policy directives beyond the existing income tax credits and requirement for removal by 2050. Accelerating the conversion of cesspools of any kind would ensure a more resilient future and safer reefs and waters for kama'āina and visitors alike.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



**Testimony of  
Gwen Yamamoto Lau  
Executive Director  
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
and  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND**  
February 13, 2024, 9:05 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325  
in consideration of  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 1894  
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Chairs Lowen and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Cochran and Poepoe, and Members of the Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and provide comments on House Bill No. 1894, relating to cesspools. The Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) **supports** this bill which empowers the Department of Health to develop a public outreach plan regarding cesspool upgrade, conversion, and connection; allows the Department to hire consultants for outreach; and mandates seller disclosures of relevant cesspools in real estate transactions.

HGIA, Hawaii's Green Bank, facilitates the adoption of green technologies through affordable and inclusive financing. Cesspools promote a significant risk to human and environmental health in Hawaii, disproportionately affecting rural and low-income communities. While the state has set a mandated conversion date for all systems by 2050, the current conversion rate of 200 per year is insufficient to meet this goal.<sup>1</sup> In collaboration with clean water advocates, including the Department of Health, HGIA has been made aware of the existence of a financing gap and bills introduced this session, including HB2066 and SB2498, could provide a vehicle for HGIA's administration of an affordable cesspool conversion financing program. However, while cost is a major factor in slow conversion rates, a lack of education is as well.

In administering its solar financing program, HGIA has found that financing cannot be scaled unless communities, especially communities that have historically faced inequities while working with government bodies, are informed about its existence and benefits in a respectful and trustworthy manner. A comprehensive public outreach strategy and website to serve as a single source of information on all aspects of cesspool conversion, including financing, will facilitate the necessary acceleration of cesspool conversions. While HGIA may offer financial outreach, this bill provides for collaboration from industry professionals with technical expertise, public health and wastewater expertise from the Department of Health, and outreach networks from counties and non-profits.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and provide comments in support of House Bill No. 1894.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.civilbeat.org/2021/06/the-work-to-convert-hawaiis-cesspools-continues/>



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

#### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
House Committee on Water & Land  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 9:05 a.m.

By

Darren T. Lerner, PhD

Director, University of Hawai'i (UH) Sea Grant College Program  
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

And

Thomas Giambelluca, PhD

Director, UH Water Resources Research Center

And

Michael Bruno, PhD

Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

#### HB 1894 – RELATING TO CESSPOOLS

Chairs Lowen and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Cochran and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and UH Water Resources Research Center **support HB 1894.**

This bill would authorize appropriate funds to the Department of Health for public outreach and education and update the mandatory seller disclosures in real estate transactions to include information regarding cesspool status and conversion dates.

The upgrade of cesspools underscores Hawai'i's commitment to public health, recognizing that the well-being of its residents is closely linked to the state's ability to effectively manage and treat wastewater to meet the highest standards of safety. Homeowner and public education regarding the risks associated with cesspools, upgrade requirements and timelines is an integral element of achieving the state's cesspool conversion goals.

Mandatory disclosure would motivate conversion prior to the sale of the property, accelerating the statewide conversion and upgrade of cesspools and preventing new buyers from the undue burden of conversion.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO  
P. O. BOX 3378  
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378  
[doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov)

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1894  
RELATING TO CESSPOOLS**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

REPRESENTATIVE LINDA ICHIYAMA, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Hearing Date: 2/13/2024

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's  
2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department) appropriations and  
3 personnel priorities.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports the authorization and appropriation of funds  
5 to the Department to retain qualified consultants to identify necessary public outreach and  
6 education resources and tools, develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy, and develop a  
7 website to serve as a statewide clearinghouse for information and resources for homeowners and  
8 wastewater industry professionals related to cesspool conversions. However, the Department  
9 requests the authorization and appropriation of funds out of the general revenue of the State of  
10 Hawaii to establish full-time equivalent permanent positions to implement this measure.

11 The Department also supports the mandatory seller disclosures in real estate transactions  
12 to include whether the property has a cesspool, including the date by which state law mandates  
13 that the cesspool be upgraded, converted or connected to a sewer system, and the priority level of  
14 the cesspool according to the University of Hawai'i 2022 Hawai'i cesspool prioritization tool<sup>1</sup>.

15 **Offered Amendments:** The Department respectfully suggests the following revisions to the  
16 proposed HRS amendments. Additions appear as underlined and deletions appear as strikeouts.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/cesspools-tool/>

1 SECTION 2, Page 4, lines 11-14: “(2) With the approval of the governor, cooperate  
2 with, and receive money from the federal government, or any political subdivision of the State or  
3 ~~from private sources~~ for the study and control of water pollution”

4 SECTION 3, Page 7, lines 16-21: “(c) When residential real property contains a cesspool  
5 and the cesspool is identified by the maps in the University of Hawaii 2022 Hawaii cesspool  
6 ~~hazard assessment and~~ prioritization tool, subject to the availability of the maps, the seller shall  
7 include the material fact information in the disclosure statement provided to the buyer subject to  
8 this chapter. The...”

9 SECTION 4, Page 8, lines 9-20: “SECTION 4. Notwithstanding section 342D-83,  
10 Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any other law to the contrary, there is appropriated out of the ~~water~~  
11 ~~pollution control revolving~~ general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the establishment  
13 of \_\_\_\_\_ full-time equivalent ( \_\_\_\_\_ FTE) positions within the department of health to retain  
14 qualified consultants, as necessary, to identify necessary public outreach and education resources  
15 and tools, and develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy and website to provide  
16 necessary information to homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about information  
17 and resources regarding the State's cesspool connection, upgrade, and conversion requirements  
18 and deadlines.”

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair  
Addison Bulosan  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Bill DeCosta  
Ross Kagawa



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188  
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Email: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

February 1, 2024

**TESTIMONY OF ADDISON BULOSAN  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ON  
HB 2264, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS  
AND  
HB 1759, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS  
AND  
HB 1894, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS  
AND  
HB 1691, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT  
AND  
HB 1892, RELATING TO CESSPOOLS  
AND  
HB 1893, RELATING TO CESSPOOL CONVERSIONS  
AND  
HB 2738, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
House Committee on Water & Land  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
9:05 a.m.  
Conference Room 325  
Via Videoconference

Dear Chair Lowen, Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of HB 2264, Relating to Cesspools, HB 1759, Relating to Cesspools, HB 1894, Relating to Cesspools, HB 1691, Relating to the Environment, HB 1892, Relating to Cesspools, HB 1893, Relating to Cesspool Conversions, and HB 2738, Relating to Renewable Energy. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Kaua'i County Council.

I wholeheartedly support the intent of HB 2264, HB 1759, HB 1894, HB 1691, HB 1892, HB 1893, and HB 2738, which would greatly affect the Kaua'i community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2264, HB 1759, HB 1894, HB 1691, HB 1892, HB 1893, and HB 2738. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via email to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

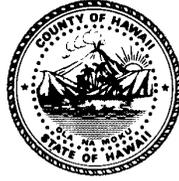
Sincerely,

**ADDISON BULOSAN**  
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AAO:ss

**Mitchell D. Roth**  
*Mayor*

**Deanna S. Sako**  
*Managing Director*



**Ramzi I. Mansour**  
*Director*

**Brenda Iokepa-Moses**  
*Deputy Director*

# County of Hawai'i

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

345 Kekūanāo'a Street, Suite 41 · Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 · cohdem@hawaiiicounty.gov

Ph: (808) 961-8083 · Fax: (808) 961-8086

February 8, 2024

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair, and  
Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair, and  
Members of the Committee on Water and Land

Dear Chair Lowen, Chair Ichiyama, and Committee Members,

I was a member of the Cesspool Conversion Working Group. The Department of Environmental Management supports this bill. HB 1894 codifies **Priority A2** of the group's recommendations into statute.

**A2.** Adopt and implement policies and mechanisms to accelerate cesspool conversions statewide, prioritizing the highest risk areas. Recommendations include:

- Point-of-sale conversion requirements
- **Require a seller's disclosure form for any property sold that has a cesspool**
- Financial incentives including grants, tax credits, and loans to offset the cost of conversion

As the 2050 conversion mandate deadline approaches, the presence of individual wastewater systems such as a cesspool on a property will increasingly become a factor in determining the overall value of a property. Requiring a seller's disclosure of a cesspool and a priority ranking will inform prospective buyers about their obligations to comply with the conversion mandate.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Ramzi Mansour, Director  
Department of Environmental Management  
County of Hawai'i



To: The Honorable Chairs Nicole Lowen and Linda Ichiyama, the Honorable Vice Chairs Elle Cochran and Mahina Poepoe, and Members of the Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and Water and Land.

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HB1894 RELATING TO CESSPOOLS**

Hearing: Tuesday February 13, 2024 9:05 a.m.

Aloha Chairs Lowen and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Cochran and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and Water and Land:

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean.

**The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB1894!**

HIROC is deeply concerned about the harm that cesspool pollution inflicts on our precious coral reefs and public health! Hawaii has over 80,000 cesspools that put

about 53 million gallons of raw sewage into our groundwater, streams and ocean every single day!

**Hawaii's reefs will die in warmer, more acidic, and rising oceans if we don't reduce cesspool pollution and other harmful factors now!**

The legislatively established cesspool conversion working group in December 2022 identified **public outreach and education as an essential component of a cesspool conversion** program and noted that **programs in other jurisdictions found that robust public outreach was necessary for the success of their efforts**. One recommendation of the working group was to fund the development and implementation of a comprehensive outreach strategy, as well as the development of a website to serve as a statewide informational clearinghouse. This Act would authorize and appropriate funds to the department of health to **retain qualified consultants as necessary to identify necessary public outreach and education resources and tools and develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy and website to serve as a statewide clearinghouse for information and resources for homeowners and wastewater industry professionals related to cesspool conversion**. This is important; cesspool owners are likely to be confused if they are not made aware of information related to the cesspool upgrade requirements. They will need education on questions such as the timing of such requirements, how they can obtain an upgrade, what financing assistance is available, and whether they may qualify for an exemption. Industry professionals will also need guidance on how the cesspool upgrade program will work.

The bill also requires residential real estate sellers to **disclose material fact information when there is a cesspool on the property** shown on the cesspool prioritization tool maps, the cesspool priority level, and the date when the

cesspool must be upgraded. **This full disclosure can benefit all parties to transactions, including real estate professionals, by avoiding misunderstandings.**

This important bill will help facilitate and smooth the elimination of cesspools. The **Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB1894** and ask the committee to please pass it.

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)



TO: House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Representative Elle Cochran, Vice Chair

House Committee on Water & Land  
Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

FROM: Lynn Miyahira representing Public Access to SunScreens (PASS) Coalition  
DATE: Tuesday, Feb 13, 2024  
TIME: 9:05 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

**Re: HB 1894**

**Position: SUPPORT**

The [Public Access to SunScreens](#) (PASS) Coalition is a multi-stakeholder coalition composed of public health groups, dermatologists, sunscreen manufacturers, and leading advocates for skin cancer patients. We also support efforts that protect our coral reefs.

**We support this measure.**

Cesspools are a pressing issue in Hawaii that impacts our health, water quality, and coral reefs. With over 83,000 cesspools in the state, discharging about 50 million gallons of raw sewage every day, immediate action is needed to mitigate their negative impact. Untreated wastewater leaking from cesspools into nearshore waters can cause high levels of nitrogen in the water, which leads to algae blooms that suffocate and cover our coral reefs.

HB 1894 funds necessary outreach and education to facilitate the cesspool upgrades with less owner confusion. Outreach and education have been essential for successful programs in other places.

Mahalo you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lynn Miyahira  
Public Access to SunScreens (PASS) Coalition

February 13, 2024

**The Honorable Nicole Lowen, Chair**

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

**The Honorable Linda Ichiyama, Chair**

House Committee on Water & Land

State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

**RE: House Bill 1894, Relating to Cesspools**

**HEARING: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 9:05 a.m.**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Joint Committees:

My name is Lyndsey Garcia, Director of Advocacy, testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawaii and its over 11,000 members. HAR provides **comments** on House Bill 1894, which authorizes and appropriates funds to the Department of Health to retain qualified consultants as necessary to identify necessary public outreach and education resources and tools and develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy and website to educate homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about information and resources regarding the State's cesspool upgrade, conversion, and connection requirements and deadlines. Requires that mandatory seller disclosures in real estate transactions include whether the property has a cesspool, including the date by which state law mandates that the cesspool be upgraded, converted, or connected, and the priority level of the cesspool according to the Hawaii cesspool hazard assessment and prioritization tool.

HAR develops standard forms utilized by the real estate industry in Hawaii. Our Standard Forms Committee continuously reviews or creates our real estate contracts to ensure the forms are current with industry standards and the law. Sellers are required to disclose "material facts" that are within the knowledge and control of the seller or observed from visible, accessible areas. As such, we already include disclosure provisions relating to cesspools in our *Seller's Real Property Disclosure Statement* ("SRPDS") form. Sellers are asked "What type of waste water/sewage system does the property have?" and must provide a detailed response.

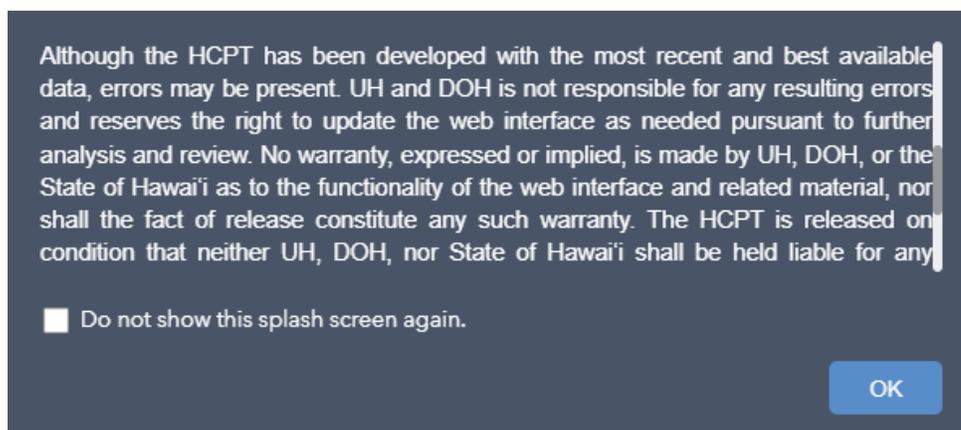
This measure proposes to go beyond the existing material fact requirement and require sellers to utilize the Hawaii Cesspool Hazard Assessment Tool<sup>1</sup> ("HCPT") to disclose whether the property has a cesspool and include the date by which state law mandates that the cesspool be upgraded, converted, or connected as well as the priority level of the cesspool. While we appreciate the intent to provide further

<sup>1</sup> Shuler, C., Renteria, A., Mezzacapo, M., Allen, K., Whittier, R. (2021). 2021 Hawai'i Cesspool Hazard Assessment & Prioritization Tool: Web Application. <https://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/app/>

education on cesspools, we believe there may be challenges with using the HCPT for sellers to provide information to homebuyers. For example, **the state mandated deadline for upgrading, converting, or connecting is not currently provided on the HCPT.**

In addition, under the current law (HRS 342D-72(b)), the **Department of Health (DOH) may provide a homeowner with an exemption from the requirement to convert their cesspool; however, it is not clear that the HCPT includes information for each exempted property** in an easily accessible way for sellers or homebuyers to view. Moreover, the HCPT **may not indicate whether a homeowner has already closed their cesspool** and converted to a DOH approved wastewater system.

Furthermore, the HCPT companion tool that looks at cesspool risk factors (Input Data App) has a disclaimer stating that, "Although the HCPT has been developed with the most recent and best available data, errors may be present. UH and DOH is not responsible for any resulting errors and reserves the right to update the web interface as needed pursuant to further analysis and review..." As such, this may **expose sellers and by extension real estate professionals to liability should the HCPT contain any errors** or should there be changes to priority levels or deadlines over time.



Instead, HAR believes that by enhancing public outreach and educational resources, such as creating a dedicated website as contained in measure is a great way to inform homeowners with cesspools. This will help to educate homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about the state's cesspool upgrade, conversion, and connection requirements. Additionally, by providing accessible information and resources, homeowners or homebuyers of properties with cesspools can better understand their options and obligations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and provide comments on this measure.

**HB-1894**

Submitted on: 2/2/2024 3:48:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2024 9:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 1894, as considerable resources will be needed to accomplish a conversion of cesspools statewide at the pace desired. It would be good to see included in this bill, or another, funds specifically designated to hire community organizers to facilitate the creation of neighborhood wastewater treatment districts to organize the planning, funding and implementation of neighborhood scale treatment plants in high priority conversion zones where housing density makes neighborhood facilities more practical than individual treatment units.

**HB-1894**

Submitted on: 2/5/2024 9:27:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2024 9:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryan Dadds, PA-C	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support for the county to develop a comprehensive public outreach strategy to educate homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about State's cesspool upgrade requirements and deadlines. It needs to be requiref mandatory seller disclosures for properties with cesspools. We have to convert cesspools to seaer and septic yo stop the pollution of our waterways.

**HB-1894**

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 1:24:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2024 9:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Maureen Brock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1894 Cesspool Conversion & Mandatory Seller Disclosures.

**HB-1894**

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 6:29:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/13/2024 9:05:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jotis Russell-Christian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Hawai'i State Legislature,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the proposed legislation regarding Cesspool Conversion and Mandatory Seller Disclosures. This initiative stands as a crucial step towards safeguarding public health and environmental sustainability.

Developing a comprehensive public outreach strategy to educate homeowners and wastewater industry professionals about the State's cesspool upgrade requirements and deadlines is commendable and imperative. By fostering a thorough understanding of the urgency and benefits associated with cesspool conversion, this strategy will empower individuals to make informed decisions that contribute to the greater well-being of our communities.

Furthermore, the introduction of mandatory seller disclosures for properties with cesspools is a pivotal component of responsible and transparent real estate transactions. This measure ensures that potential homebuyers are equipped with the necessary information to assess the environmental impact and compliance status of a property, promoting accountability and ethical practices within the real estate industry.

In essence, supporting this legislation aligns with the overarching goal of fostering a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable living environment for current and future generations. I urge the committee to consider the long-term benefits of this proposal to our communities, both in terms of public health and environmental stewardship.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to advance legislation that addresses critical issues affecting our state.

Sincerely,

Jotis Russell-Christian

(808) 639-1243