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WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2297  
RELATING TO DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE.**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT  
Hearing Date: 2/4/2022 Room Number: 224

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unknown
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports this measure as it provides other
- 3 options for penalties to deter illegal dumping.
- 4 **Offered Amendments:** None
- 5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Arryl Kaneshiro, Chair  
Mason K. Chock, Vice Chair  
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February 2, 2022

**TESTIMONY OF FELICIA COWDEN  
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON  
SB 2297, RELATING TO DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
Friday, February 4, 2022  
1:00 p.m.  
Via Videoconference  
Conference Room 224**

Dear Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **OPPOSITION** of SB 2297, Relating to Disposal of Solid Waste. This testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kaua'i County Council.

While it is completely wrong to dump trash illegally, the forfeiture of the vehicle is an extreme consequence—a fine is more appropriate, even a misdemeanor crime for repeat offenders. Typically, illegal dumpers are in a cycle of poverty. The removal of transportation can trigger a cascade of life stability and thus creates more problems than it solves.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of SB 2297. Should you have any questions, please feel to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

**FELICIA COWDEN**  
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AAO:jy

**SB-2297**

Submitted on: 2/3/2022 11:53:01 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha nui,

I support this measure and attempt to address this very real and negatively impactful issue in our communities. I know it is not an easy one to address, but we must continue to work on solutions that will help to curb these illegal behaviors, including consequences such as these, but also looking at monitoring programs of illegal dumping hotspots, adjustments to the availability of refuse stations and added supervision of the areas by HPD/Security. I know if our agriculture heavy community, there are many back roads where items are dumped regularly. Others of the community and myself have cleaned up many illegal dump sites around the island and sometimes it feels like there is just no end to the madness, however I am hopeful that this is the start to a greater discussion and action planning to come.

Mahalo nui,

Kimeona Kane