



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB1262
RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: 2/13/2023

Room Number: 224

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:** SB1262 amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 342G to: (1)
5 establish benchmarks to reduce the State's solid waste stream by requiring organic waste
6 generators to divert organic waste; (2) adds new definitions for "biodegradable" and "organic
7 waste;" (3) updates the State's solid waste stream reduction goals; and (4) directs counties to
8 incorporate organic waste diversion goals into their Integrated Solid Waste Management
9 (ISWM) plans with unspecified funding appropriated for the counties to implement the new
10 organic waste diversion requirements.

11 The Department respectfully requests clarification regarding the benchmark goal of the
12 State to reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by requiring that organic waste generators
13 divert organic waste material to certified facilities. Specifically, is the benchmark established as
14 an organic waste diversion requirement for waste generators or an overall solid waste reduction
15 goal? The Department estimates that it will be cost-prohibitive and resource intensive to identify
16 and quantify the amount of organic waste generated and reduced by the generators identified in
17 SB1262 as the Department would be required to conduct waste characterization studies of every

1 organic waste generator and regularly track tonnages of every organic waste generator to
2 measure solid waste reductions.

3 The Department also requests that the proposed “organic waste landfill diversion”
4 language be removed from page 3, line 19. The current statutory list in HRS Section 342G-3 are
5 meant to achieve landfill diversion and the proposed addition is duplicative. Similarly, the
6 Department requests that “organic waste landfill diversion” be removed from page 4, lines 18 to
7 19. The recycling and bioconversion components described in HRS Section 342G-26 applies to
8 all solid waste, including organic waste.

9 The Department supports incorporating organic waste diversion goals into county ISWM
10 plans and respectfully requests that the State’s organic waste stream reduction goal of 100% be
11 amended from January 1, 2035 to January 1, 2045, in line with HB0895, a similar bill introduced
12 in the House this session.

13 The State’s 2022 solid waste stream diversion rate was 54.3%, but the diversion rate was
14 24.8% when excluding incineration. We note that HPOWER recycles ferrous and nonferrous
15 metal from the incoming waste and from post-combustion ash. The Department continues to
16 focus on improving the State’s solid waste stream reduction rate and achieving its reduction
17 goals. Specifically, in late-October 2022 the Department executed a contract and encumbered
18 funds to update the State ISWM plan. As part of the procurement and contract process, the State
19 identified eight solid waste stream discussion topics to be addressed in the ISWM plan update.
20 One of the solid waste stream discussion topics is organic waste. A ninth solid waste stream
21 discussion topic will involve the evaluation and assessment of current State recycling programs,
22 and a tenth solid waste stream discussion topic has been left open to address one additional solid
23 waste stream issue that is identified during discussions. The Department’s contractor is tasked
24 with developing a problem statement centered around each solid waste stream discussion topic,
25 performing a comparative analysis that examines statutory and/or programmatic approaches that
26 other states take to address similar solid waste stream issues, and highlighting potential solutions
27 to address solid waste issues while considering the State’s unique demographic and economic
28 variables. An assembled task force that will be assisting the Department with the State ISWM
29 plan update will use the information provided by the Department’s contractor to address each
30 solid waste stream topic. The Department will explore adopting the goals outlined in SB1262 as
31 part of the State ISWM plan update and consult with its partners in the respective counties

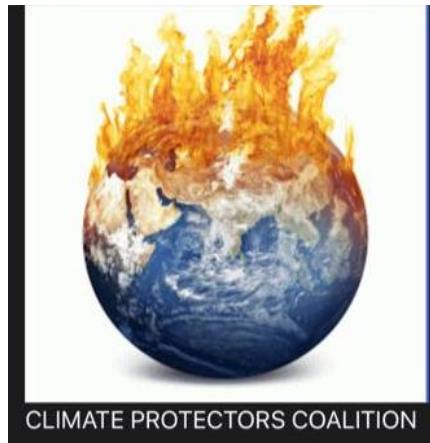
1 regarding the feasibility of achieving the organic waste diversion goals outlined in this bill. The
2 Department estimates that its ISWM plan update will be completed in 2024.

3 The Department respectfully requests that a new subaccount project fund be established
4 in the Environmental Management Special Fund and appropriations to reimburse the counties to
5 implement SB1262 be deposited into the subaccount. In accordance with HRS Section 342G-24,
6 counties shall submit revised ISWM plans to the Department every ten years. Counties that just
7 updated their ISWM plans will not need to submit their next update to the Department for several
8 years. For example, the County of Kaua‘i completed its revised ISWM plan in 2021 and will not
9 update their current plan until 2031. Creating a subaccount project fund will preserve the
10 appropriated funds until it is necessary to reimburse the counties.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

12 **Offered Amendments:** Additions appear as underlined, and deletions appear as bracketed
13 strikeouts.

- 14 1. “§342G-3 Goals. (a) (2) Seventy per cent by January 1, 2030; through source reduction,
15 recycling, [~~organic waste landfill diversion,~~] and bioconversion.”
- 16 2. “§342G-3 Goals. (b) (3) One hundred per cent by January 1, [~~2035~~] 2045.”
- 17 3. “SECTION 5. Section 342G-26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending
18 subsection (c) to read as follows:
19 ‘(c) The recycling and[~~;~~] bioconversion[~~, and organic waste diversion~~] component shall
20 identify and assess.’”



To: The Honorable Chairs Mike Gabbard and Glenn Wakai, and the Honorable Vice Chairs Tim Richards, III, and Brandon Elefante, and Members of the Committees on Agriculture and Environmental Protection and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing SB1262 **RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE**

Hearing: Monday February 13, 2023 1:30 p.m.

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Richards and Elefante, and Members of the Committees on Agriculture and Environmental Protection and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB1262.

Hawaii has a goal, as part of the Aloha+ Challenge, to reduce our solid waste steam prior to disposal by 2030 by 70% through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion of organic waste.

Organic waste, including primarily food and green waste, contributes to the creation of methane in landfills. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas that is approximately 80 times worse than carbon dioxide for climate warming. Therefore, it is critical for mitigating the climate emergency, as well as conserving our limited landfill capacity statewide, that the counties and others divert organic waste from their landfills.

This bill would work toward those targets by embedding in statute existing statewide goals and further benchmarks to track and require progress toward reducing solid waste production and increasing organic waste diversion. The goals would be to reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by forty percent by 2025 and seventy percent by 2030 and reduce the organic waste stream prior to disposal by forty percent by January 1, 2025, seventy percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2035.

The bill requires each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks. The bill includes an appropriation.

The Legislature has found we are in a climate emergency. We need to act now to mitigate the emergency! This bill represents a good first step toward reducing the amount of solid waste and particularly organic waste being disposed. Please pass this bill!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
The Honorable Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Re: **SB 1262 – RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE**

Hearing: Monday, February 13, 2023, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Position: **Strong support**

Aloha, Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice Chairs Richards and Elefante, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment; and Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i stands in strong support of SB 1262. This measure establishes statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion; and it requires each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks and it appropriates funds.

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform plank on the environment provides that its members are to "protect and preserve Hawai'i's environment and achieve energy sustainability, advance measures to re-establish a healthy climate and environment for humans and fellow species, including actions to urgently address climate change, and work towards 100% renewable energy goals.

We believe that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy and safe environment. We believe that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well-being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i. We support policies that create a more sustainable society. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems.

We believe in the resource management principles outlined in the Public Trust doctrine of [Article XI, Section 1 of] the Hawai'i State Constitution." [OUR PLATFORM | DPH \(hawaiidemocrats.org\)](https://www.hawaiidemocrats.org/our-platform)

Municipal solid waste is waste generated from domestic, commercial, and construction activities by households that is collected and treated by municipalities.

Organic waste is any material that comes from either a plant or an animal and can be decomposed by microorganisms (biodegradable) into carbon dioxide, methane, and simple organic molecules, or consists of the remains, residues, or waste products of any organism.



February 13, 2023

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Organic Waste Management increases the structure, texture, air circulation, and water holding capacity of the soil, its storage, maintenance, and use are easier than dung manure, it is free from pathogens, toxic elements, and weed seeds, and earthworm manure reduces the loss of nutrients.

Establishing statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion; requiring each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks; and appropriating funds therefor are consistent with the state and counties' duties under the Public Trust Doctrine under Article XI, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, and the DPH Platform environmental plank to restore, preserve, and protect our native ecosystem.

Please support and pass this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

/s/ Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick
Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:30:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Dean	Testifying for Recycle Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No need for any explanation, obviously, mixing rich, healthy organic materials with toxic plastics and debris is foolish and must be stopped immediately, anyone can see that. We're 400 tons over our maximum 200 ton limit at the landfill. Save money and the planet, vote yes on SB 1262.



Environmental Caucus of
The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Energy & Climate Action Committee

Monday, February 13, 2023, 1:30 pm

Senate Committees on Agriculture and Food Systems and on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

SENATE BILL 1262 – RELATING TO ORGANIC WASTE

Position: Support

Me ke Aloha, Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, Vice-Chairs Richards and Elefante, and members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Food Systems and on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

SB1262 targets the current high level of waste in Hawaii, and requires counties to develop plans to reduce it, providing funds for the purpose. Hawaii was not always so wasteful, but along with much of the world adopted wasteful production, consumption, and disposal habits. Some estimates place our waste at a full 30% of all extraction, production, and consumption. With a crisis of landfill space and with waste incineration polluting the atmosphere, at a time when climate scientists have issued a Code Red for immediate halving of our emissions in 3-5 years, we risk the runaway extinction of all life adapted to the current world. We need to return to more modest and sensible relations with our consumption of earth's resources. We used to do this. This bill is a step in the right direction.

The Energy & Climate Action Committee urgently supports strong measures to curb waste. Currently, counties are responsible for managing our waste, and are the proper place to begin re-assessing our prodigal treatment of materials. SB1262 calls for counties to assess new possibilities for diverting much of the waste stream for more productive use. Green waste and food waste can be transformed into soil amendments to both enhance food productivity and sequester greenhouse gases.

Hawaii faces serious food security issues with accelerating climate change interrupting production we take for granted around the globe, and no price we can pay can guarantee our continued service. Hawaii imports 85-90% of its food, and as we saw with the pandemic shutting down our economy, after 2 days our shelves are empty. We operate on a "just-in-time" model, and it was only by the grace of very hard work and compassionate friends in North America that we averted starvation. As it was, the long lines of people hoping for a handout were an experience we do not wish to repeat.

This should be totally unnecessary, as Hawaii has every food-growing biome on the planet right here in the islands, and we were once totally independent, with an enviably robust population. Years of plantation and "Green Revolution" agriculture have depleted our soils, and the diversion of streams from plentiful production of staples have decimated our heritage crops. This can be reversed with the reintroduction of circular economic reprocessing accumulating wastes into formerly fertile landscapes for enrichment and adequate moisture retention against dwindling rainfall expectations.

It is indicative that many agricultural interests are supporting this movement, and the budding waste reduction movement sees this as a start for a more general transformation of how we produce, use, and reprocess essential materials. SB1262 is on the cusp of this broader movement that will change attitudes, reduce pollution, restore landscapes, and improve the nutritional health of our working families, reducing health costs and improving cultural vigor.

Given the challenges facing the counties on multiple fronts as we engage the necessities of adaptation to climate change, this is an important moment to use available surpluses to jump-start the planning process, surely to be followed with growing opportunities to take advantage of federal “Inflation Reduction Act” funds in acquiring new equipment. We want to be prepared to make strides to maintain leadership in these matters.

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this matter.

/s/ Charley Ice & Ted Bohlen, Co-Chairs, Energy and Climate Action Committee
Charley Ice, Acting Chair, Agriculture and Food Security Committee
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party



Date: February 12, 2023

To: The Honorable Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of Agriculture and Environment Committee

From: Zero Waste Hawaii Island

Re: Hearing SBI262

Strong Support

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and Members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee,

Zero Waste Hawaii Island's mission is to connect diverse Hawaii Island Communities to support equitable systems redesign and policy change to achieve zero waste. We are writing in **strong support of SBI262** which will increase organic waste diversion from landfilling/incineration in the state by setting targets and a timeline to reach 100% organic waste diversion by 2035. It will also require counties to update their Integrated Solid Waste Management Plans to reduce organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks. It is important to set targets and eventually ban organic waste from landfilling. County level government looks to the leadership of the state to prioritize how they manage waste and are not likely to take aggressive steps without being required to.

It is critical that we keep organics out of landfills, as they are an important resource. As local agriculture ramps up, so does the need for closed loop systems to recover organic matter from landfills and create more soil amendments. When organic matter is sent to the landfill, it produces methane, a green-house gas 26 times more potent than CO₂. When composted correctly, these materials create soil that actually sequesters carbon from the atmosphere, making it a powerful tool in addressing climate change.

Please pass this important bill that will address the problem of landfilling and incineration of organic waste which is an important resource that we should take steps not to waste.

Mahalo nui loa,

Jennifer Navarra
Program Director
Zero Waste Hawaii Island



House Committee on Agriculture and Environment / House Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Supports: SB1262

Monday, February 13, 2023 1:30 p.m. Conference Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard/Wakai, Vice Chair Richards/Elefante and Members of the Committees,

We support SB1262 which establishes statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion. Requires each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks. Appropriates funds.

The responsible management of organic waste is a critical part of our long term waste management for Hawai'i. Our islands only have so much capacity and land mass to accommodate additional landfills and their environmental impacts.

HAPA fully supports efforts across the board to reduce landfill waste, increase composting, address climate change and support regenerative agriculture and efforts such as SB1262 are part of the solution. Bills like SB1262 are how we establish a sustainable, profitable and regenerative agriculture system for Hawai'i while improving our land management practices.

By diverting organic material from landfills we save this resource and generate valuable compost. This can divert up to 54% of household waste from the landfill and create rich fertilizer for healthy, nutritious plants.

Keeping organic matter out of the landfill will reduce carbon dioxide and human-made methane emissions, which are greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate change and are also a critically important part of regenerative agriculture.



For counties like Kaua'i, increased diversion of all waste from their landfill is critical and urgent. With the Kekaha Landfill once again at capacity, the county of Kaua'i is scrambling for solutions to avoid a potential garbage disaster. The support from the legislature can assist the county in achieving diversion goals for organic waste.

Please support SB1262. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', is written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:31:57 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gretchen Losano	Testifying for West Maui Green Cycle, Zero Waste Maui	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the Agriculture and Environment Committee, and Honorable Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante and members of the Public Safety Committee,

I am the owner of West Maui Green Cycle Compost Facility in west Maui and the founder and program manager of our School Food Waste Diversion Program on Maui. I am in full support of SB 1262.

This bill is crucial for organics waste diversion in Hawaii. On Maui, have a landfill where all of our organic waste is currently going. The volume of food waste, which could be an incredible resource, not only for composting, but also for feeding pigs and other animals, is instead being sent to the landfill where it is creating harmful greenhouse gasses, meanwhile we are importing sub-par compost from the continent for our agricultural operations. The large producers, namely hotels, supermarkets, and medium to large sized elementary schools, are producing an exorbitant amount of waste. It is not uncommon for hotels in Wailea and Ka'anapali to produce 1000lbs of food waste per day, per hotel, and mid sized elementary schools (600-700 students) to produce between 300 and 500lbs per day, per school. This is madness. If there are diversion opportunities near these locations, diversion should be mandatory. Unfortunately, some businesses need to have mandates in order to "do the right thing," and throwing valuable resources into a hole in the ground in the middle of an island should no longer be an option. It's 2023, it's definitely time to hold these large producers accountable for the waste they produce.

We are fortunate in Hawaii to be able to learn and evolve from SB 1383, the organics waste diversion mandate in California, that was passed in 2016 and fully implemented in 2022. I am personally in active contact with several of the organizations who were responsible for the rollout of the mandate, and we are able to learn from their experiences in order to plan a much more efficient implementation in Hawaii. We have to start somewhere, and these timelines are honestly not very aggressive at all, and completely manageable. It is either legislation that

encourages infrastructure, or infrastructure that encourages legislation, and in this field, it is usually the former. When compost businesses know we can count on feedstock, we are able to justify expansion. And in some cases, we can do it quickly. For example, my compost facility is prepared to double our capacity within 3 months should this bill pass. Please support SB 1262.

Mahalo,

Gretchen Losano

Owner, West Maui Green Cycle

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 3:36:08 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 4:25:00 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Thank you.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/10/2023 7:14:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:20:09 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Mitsumori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support Bill 1652 as it seeks to embed in statute existing goals related to waste reduction as a means of helping Hawai`i to meet UN Sustainable Development and Aloha+ Challenge goals.

Act 1652 sets needed goals in reducing the solid waste stream, with milestones in 2025 and 2030, through source reduction, recycling, organic waste landfill diversion, and bioconversion.

It also mandates assessments by counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 1652.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/11/2023 7:54:05 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB1262 to divert organics from landfills and incinerators. Organics in the landfill emit methane whereas organics that are composted make a valuable soil amendment which provides nutrients for plants, stores water, and sequesters carbon. As Hawaii is working to be more self-sustaining by encouraging farming, adding compost to the farmers' tool box will greatly increase their ability to provide nutritious food. My only suggestion for a change to this bill would be to make it happen sooner. Organics are too valuable to throw away or burn!

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:20:17 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I'm born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom a Kanaka Maoli.

I'm writing in SUPPORT of SB1262.

me ke aloha 'āina,
Nanea Lo, Mō'ili'ili

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:32:06 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Stone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Comittee Members and mahalo for receiving my testimony in strong support of SB1262. Properly utilizing organic waste as a resource is a foundational step in Hawaii's sustainability goals and climate change resilience -- Please support this bill. Mahalo,

Monica Stone

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:21:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurie boyle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SB1262 for the urgent reason that this will be a major step in the right direction to reduce our organic and inorganic waste pollution in an attempt to meet our 2035 goals. We need to pass smart legislation that addresses our garbage crisis and our climate crisis exacerbated by our lack of proper reuse and recycle requirements that could help avert asthma and cancer caused from burning trash and CO2 and Methane release from improper composting of our organic waste.

Mahalo for your attention to this critical matter.

Laurie R. Boyle

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:30:19 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

I strongly support this Bill.

Turning our food and green waste into regenerative healthy soil is a win, win, win for our state.

Healthy soil=healthy people= healthy planet

regards,

pamela burrell, Kalihiwai, Kaua'i

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:36:59 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB1262. As an organic gardener, I have composted my organic waste for most of my life. It makes no sense to fill up our land fills with material that can become an asset as fertilizer.

Please malama aina by supporting SB1262.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 8:48:07 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marsha Hee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Committee Members:

I strongly support SB1262 legislation that will increase organic waste diversion from landfilling/incineration in the state by setting targets and a timeline to reach 100% organic waste diversion by 2035.

Respectfully,

Marsha Hee, Hawaii Island resident

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:13:32 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Ho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB1262, which aims to reduce all organic waste produced within the county by facilities generating more than a specified amount of organic waste per year in alignment with established state benchmarks. Appropriating funds is necessary to accomplish this.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:17:58 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members,

Please support SB 1262 to establish statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion.

Thank you for you attention and consideration.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:29:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill encourages the simple act of changing waste into resource. Our volcanic islands can use more rich organic material and reduce CO2 emissions at the same time. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 10:51:55 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment (AEN) and the Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM),

Mahalo for hearing SB1262. Establishing goals and a plan for organic solid waste reduction will help us move forward with a clear direction enabling effective decision making.

Personally we carefully compost all possible organic materials in the green bin. It's good to know the materials will be made into compost. We appreciate the efforts so far giving us the opportunity to reduce our organic waste.

Virginia Tincher

Aina Haina, Oahu

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:00:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa DeSantis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

I support SB1262.

Mahalo for your time,

Lisa DeSantis, Waimea, Hawai‘i Island

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:22:37 AM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Navin Tagore-Erwin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support this bill to advance organic waste diversion in Hawai'i. Organic materials need to be composted to support our agricultural community, create jobs, change behaviors, reduce impacts on our landfills, and mitigate climate change. The surplus of compost and mulch will also drive down the costs of products over time and support local food production.

If we care about food sustainability, then we need to support organic waste recycling.

Mahalo,

Navin Tagore, Kahalu'u.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:27:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Trujillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha from the garden isle,
mahalo for considering this testimony in favor of SB1262
please move this bill along and support it's passage
SB1262 can help our local population decrease the amount of methane gas produced via
landfilling our green waste, food scraps and other compostable materials in our waste stream.
setting reduction rates and diversion goals will extend the use of our landfills and help county
waste managers eliminate excess organic material in the landfill or incinerators. foodwaste, yard
clippings and unrecyclable paper products do not belong in our landfill and SB1262 will help to
reduce the amount of organic materials getting buried in our landfill. composting these materials
is a better alternative and helps to sequester carbon and reduce the impacts of green house gases
associated with decomposing organics in our landfil. please pass SB1262 and help us do better
for the future of our island home.

with respect and aloha,

j trujillo
kapa'a, HI

96746

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 12:43:17 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Montague	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support removing organic waste from the landfill and composting it. The seasoned compost could then be used for gardening. I would suggest that each transfer station have its own compost operation, if there is space. This would maximize the number of people who could make use of it. Also, having the compost available at each transfer station reduces the chance of spreading invasive pests around the island. Individuals dropping off organic waste will have to be informed not to toss it out into the compost area in plastic bags and to refrain from putting other non organic trash into the compost.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Paul Montague

Ocean View

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 1:25:41 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

This Bill is a must to be pono about our disastrous waste management programs. Over 95% of all waste goes to our landfills and burning it adds insult to injury. I compost ALL my food waste but most people don't.

I urge you to take positive action and pass this bill. I am appalled to live on a poisoned island.

SB-1262

Submitted on: 2/12/2023 9:48:03 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/13/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, AEN & PSM Chairs, and Committee members. Mahalo for hearing this important bill that establishes new State diversion goals and requirements for compostable organic materials. I stand in support of this measure. Removing compostable feedstocks from each County's waste streams prior to disposal is logical and essential to slow the rapid progression to maxed out landfills and the contentious siting of new ones. Waste-to-energy is a costly and polluting solution, leaving source reduction and diversion to bioconversion infrastructure the right move for Hawai'i. The timeline of this measure allows the necessary infrastructure and diversion strategies to continue developing and effectively manage diverted organics through composting and other bioconversion systems by the law's effective date.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Milholen - Composting & Diversion Strategist - U.S. Composting Council Member

Senate District 12 & House District 24