JOSH GREEN, M.D.

**SYLVIA LUKE**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA ĀINA





#### STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

# Before the House Committee on ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Thursday, February 16, 2023 9:15 AM State Capitol, VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, Conference Room 325

#### In consideration of HOUSE BILL 85, HOUSE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

House Bill 85, House Draft 1 proposes to prohibit lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests and establishes civil penalties. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.

The Department recognizes the deleterious impacts of plastic debris on wildlife and their habitats as a critical natural resource issue throughout the State. Plastic in the environment degrades both land and ocean-based habitat and impacts wildlife (aquatic and terrestrial) through ingestion, entanglement, smothering, and transport of invasive species. In addition, each step involved in the manufacturing, distribution, and ultimate disposal of single-use plastic products (e.g., bottles and containers) produces greenhouse gas emissions and will increase the current impacts of climate change on our aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

Hawai'i already has some of the highest reported debris accumulation rates in the United States. This measure would help reduce the plastic debris load entering the environment and will contribute to the improved health of our wildlife and their habitats. While the majority of marine debris may arrive from the ocean, it is our responsibility as a State to reduce the amount of plastic debris entering our ocean and the environment from local sources. This measure would help reduce the amount of plastic debris load entering Hawai'i's cultural sites, forests, waters and coastlines, and contribute to the improved health of our wildlife and their habitats.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

#### DAWN N.S. CHANG

CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I KE KIA'ĂINA O KA MOKU'ĂINA 'O HAWAI'I



#### STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

P. O. BOX 3378 HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov In reply, please refer to: File:

# Testimony COMMENTING on HB0085 HD1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Hearing Date: 2/16/2023 Room Number: 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will 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 The Department estimates that one enforcement position should be established and 5 funded annually to implement this proposal. 6 **Department Testimony:** HB0085 HD1 prohibits lodging establishments from providing 7 personal care products in small single-use plastic containers to guests and visitors and establishes 8 civil penalties for violations identified by the Department on inspection. 9 The Department is supportive of measures to reduce the amount of single-use plastic 10 containers distributed in the State that reduces the amount of plastic waste that is incinerated or 11 disposed in State landfills. However, the Department currently does not have the staff and 12
  - funding available to implement the inspection and enforcement component of this bill. The Department respectfully requests funding and the establishment of one new position to receive complaints and conduct follow-up inspections of lodging establishments identified as distributing personal care products in small single-use plastic containers in violation of HB0085 HD1. In addition to conducting inspection and enforcement actions, dispensing citations, and coordinating with the Office of the Attorney General to pursue civil penalties, this position would also be tasked with providing education and outreach to the regulated community.

    Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 20 **Offered Amendments:** None.

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Keʻena Kuleana Hoʻokipa O Hawaiʻi Hawaiʻi Convention Center 1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96815

kelepona tel 808 973 2255 kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253 kahua pa'a web hawaiitourismauthority.org Josh Green, M.D. Governor

John De Fries

President and Chief Executive Officer

# Statement of **JOHN DE FRIES**

Hawai'i Tourism Authority before the

#### **COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Thursday, February 16, 2023 9:15 a.m. State Capitol Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

# In consideration of HOUSE BILL NO. 85 HD1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments in support of the intent of HB85 HD1, which prohibits lodging establishments from providing personal care products in single-use plastic bottles.

We agree with the intent of this legislation as it is in alignment with our Strategic Plan priorities in the Natural Resources pillar, as well as action items in our community-generated Destination Management Action Plans.

Additionally, we are aware of and would like to take this opportunity to recognize lodging establishments already working to eliminate the use of single-use plastic bottles for their amenities.

We support the intent of HB85 HD1, stand ready to assist in educating visitor industry stakeholders and visitors, and defer to our colleagues at the Department of Health on matters related to the implementation of this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these comments.

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50 Operating

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- 3) If an intend program that (because it eff implied in the



2/16/2023

EEP Committee Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection,

**Position: Support HB85.** 

The Surfrider Foundation is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our ocean, waves, and beaches. Surfrider Foundation maintains a network of over 150 chapters and academic clubs nationwide, including 4 chapters in the Hawaiian Islands. The Surfrider Foundation focuses on many aspects of the environment such as coastal protection, plastic pollution, and water quality.

As an organization that has strongly championed efforts in Hawai'i to reduce single-use plastics, Surfrider Foundation strongly supports HB85. Shockingly, over 91% of plastics are not recycled. The hospitality industry in Hawai'i generates millions of single-use plastic personal care products each year, with the majority ending up in our local landfills or being burned at H-Power. For example, a single 200-room four-star hotel can use about 300,000 pieces of single-use plastic in a month if it is at full-capacity and does not invest in any eco-friendly alternatives.

In early 2021, New York state banned single-use plastic containers of soap, shampoo and other toiletries provided by hotels by 2024. Per the New York law, hotels will have to make the switch to refillable dispensers and environmentally-friendly containers for all body and hair care products. Smaller businesses with under 50 rooms are given an extra year to get ready for the change. California passed a similar law in 2019. The New York bill notably had the backing of the hospitality industry.

Multinational hotel chains like Marriott International are already making the switch, after the company conceded that it sends <u>500 million toiletries</u> to landfill every year. Pump dispensers can now be found at over 1,000 of its hotels, a seventh of their worldwide portfolio. However, laws such as HB85 are necessary to ensure that the hotel industry at large commits to reducing its single-use plastic footprint.

HB85 represents an important step towards eliminating unnecessary single-use plastics and improving the sustainability of the hospitality industry in Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB85, submitted on the behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's 4 Chapters in Hawai'i and all of our members who live in the state and visit to enjoy the many coastal recreational opportunities offered by all of the islands' coastlines.

Sincerely,

Camile Cleveland Volunteer Policy Coordinator Surfrider Foundation, O'ahu Chapter

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:12:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
marina scott	Surfrider Foundation Maui Chapter	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

2/16/2023

**EEP Committee** 

Hawai'i State Capitol

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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**Position: Support HB85.** 

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Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB85, submitted on the behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's 4 Chapters in Hawai'i and all of our members who live in the state and visit to enjoy the many coastal recreational opportunities offered by all of the islands' coastlines.

Sincerely,

**Marina Scott** 

**Rise Above Plastics Coordinator** 

**Surfrider Foundation, Maui Chapter** 

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 5:14:32 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Bohlen	Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

Support! to reduce plastic pollution that harms the reefs and ocean and contributes to climate warming.



Testimony of
Lisa H. Paulson
Executive Director
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

House Bill 85 HD1: Relating to Single Use Plastics

February 16, 2023, 9:15 am

Conference Room 325

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry for Maui County. We represent over 180 property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. **MHLA supports House Bill 85 HD1**, which prohibits lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests.

Many of our properties are already moving toward eliminating small plastic bottles for their amenities. Due to the current supply chain issues, it may take even more time than allotted for the necessary hardware and product to be widely available. We request the initial implementation date be moved to 2026.

Additionally, we ask the committees to consider funding that would support local small businesses in assisting these accommodations with their transition from small plastic bottles to dispenser-size containers of their products.

For the reasons stated above, MHLA supports House Bill 85 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Submitted on: 2/15/2023 4:35:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mufi Hannemann	Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Testimony of Mufi Hannemann President & CEO Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection House Bill 85, HD1

February 16, 2023

Chair Lowen, and members of the Committee, mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's oldest and largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers—represents an industry that has led the way on sustainability and environmental efforts. Tourism businesses of all types have opted to adopt green practices, update their infrastructure, and set new, sustainable policies. This was all done of their own volition and will continue to be the norm as we move forward.

As a principle, we oppose government mandates and the government inserting itself into the operations of private business. However, we do support the intent of this measure and share this position with numerous resorts—many of whom have already started to shift away from single-use plastic bottles.

Additionally, while we appreciate the measure's language that sets start dates in 2025 and 2027, we would ask the Committee's consideration in providing more time for these policies to be implemented.

#### HLTA supports House Bill 85, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Submitted on: 2/9/2023 12:24:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

HD1 strong support. Canadian hotel rooms have larger pump containers of shampoo, conditioner and liquid soap mounted in the showers.

Submitted on: 2/9/2023 4:39:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

This bill is a stupid idea that is bad for tourism and business.

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:08:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Carissa Cabrera	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of the Commitees,

I am testifying in strong support of HB85 today and urging committee leadership to move this measure forward. Uniquely positions in the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre, Hawai'i suffers the burden of single use plastic on our coastlines, giving us a frontline visual to the ways plastic pollution is deteriorating our oceans. It is now found that humans consume on average a credit cards worth of plastic a week, as well as microplastic pollution has extended into human organs, with studies finding microplastics in placentas, our bloodstream, and disrupting our endocrine systems. This is a global problem, but the solutions begin with transitioning to reusable and refillable options - options that are market-competitive and move us toward a more circular waste system.

My primary comment on this measure is to provide an amendment that plastic alternatives must have the infrastructure to be disposed of properly. Many restaurants have shifted to commercially compostable materials, even though Hawai'i does not have a permitted commercial composting facility at this time. As a result, these "greenwashed," items still end up in landfil and contributing to our waste crisis.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Carissa Cabrera

<u>HB-85-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2023 8:17:34 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Daniel Amato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB85

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:55:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Elizabeth Benyshek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha, I am writing to express my strong support for HB85 HD1, which would elminiate small plastic bottles in hotel bathrooms. Reducing plastic is incredibly important, and this product is one that can easily be changed out with larger reusable bottles. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Elizabeth Benyshek

Chair, Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 10:58:30 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jarrod Feinstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The absurd and ceaseless amount of single use plastic coming from the hospitality industry is unnecessary and needs to stop. It consistently adds to the pollution and degradation of our beaches and land. We must take accountability and make the necessary changes!

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 1:49:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mark White	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Stop picking on the tourism industry. These items are safer and more sanitary than bulk dispensers.

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 2:57:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

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

#### Comments:

I support hotels eliminating single use toiletry plastic bottles. These plastic bottles end up in the ocean and we find them on the beach many times during our clean ups. They should use right now wall dispensers to replace and eliminate single use plastic.

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 3:23:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ashley Romero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I strongly urge you to support HB85. I am a conservation professional studying biology and have a big interest in sustainability. Single use plastics are one of the biggest contributions to pollution in our environment today and in today's consumerist society, the pressure by large companies and corporations to use single use plastics is astounding. There are many more sustainable alternatives for big businesses such as the hotel industry that would make a change in the future of our planet. I am living on Kaua'i and just the other day we had a whale wash up on the beach with pounds of plastic in it's stomach that likely contributed to its death. Thousands of seabirds and other marine life are constantly ingesting plastic debris and being killed. We are seeing te impacts of plastic pollution not just here on this island but around the world. This pollution is contributing to the harm and destruction of humans, animals, and the entire environment. This is a fact that is too often ignored in favor of convienence or profit for large companies. If we continue to ignore these issues we will face even greater consequences than the ones we are already experiencing. There are numerous studies on the terrible repercussions of plastic pollution and many examples of these repercussions in action. We need to drastically reduce our consumption and waste and HB85 is a step in the right direction. There are many alternative more reuseable and sustainable solutions that the hotel industry can move towards and still be able to profit. These solutions will not only be better for the planet, but also for the economy and industry in the long run. I urge you to support HB85 and work towards solutions that prioritize the future and health of our people and planet.

Mahalo,

Ashley

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:12:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lorraine Waianuhea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha kakou,

I am writing in strong support of HB85 because it aims to reduce single-use plastics used in the hospitality industry here in Hawaii. This is important to me because Hawaii already has too much plastic waste. Many times this waste finds its way into our streams and then oceans where they pose hazards to human and animal health. Hawaii should have clean beaches and streams free of plastics. Passing HB85 would be a good step in the right direction to achieving this goal.

Please pass HB85.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony,

Lorraine Waianuhea

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:34:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Dear Honorable Representatives,

I am in opposition of this bill. Although I agree with what this bill proposes, I was totally perplexed why we were waiting until June 30, 3000 to enact this bill. Is this a typo? It seemed so strange to me that with all the other green bills that I have been in opposition with because no incentives, we have been making cultural changes over the past 5-10 years in this direction. We should just do this now. If the date should be moved up considerably, I would then be in favor.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:29:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Nadean Lane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

As we all know plastics are horrible for our environment, wildlife and our personal health. Please ban the use of these unnecessary single use plastics. I support HB85

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Hearing on Feb. 16, 2023 at 9:15 am

#### SUPPORTING HB 85 HD 1

My name is John Kawamoto, and I support HB 85 HD 1.

The wasteful use of plastics, particularly for single-use items, has created an environmental crisis. Consider the following:

- Plastics are now found throughout world and are accumulating in all marine ecosystems.
- Plastic marine litter eventually breaks down into smaller bits and ultimately becomes microplastics.
- If plastic pollution continues at the current rate, there will be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050.
- Plastic pollution is killing, maiming, and harming marine life through ingestion or entanglement.
- Plastic is now found in some seafood and sea salt. Long-term human health risks have emerged.

Most of the plastic used and consumed is used once. However, these products never completely go away. They can last for generations, long after their single use. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the estimated decomposition rates of plastic debris found on coasts are:

- Foamed plastic cups: 50 years
- Plastic beverage holder: 400 years
- Plastic bottle: 450 years
- Fishing line: 600 years
- Plastic grocery bag: 10 to 20 years

All our plastic waste is causing significant harm to ocean life, for example:

- For decades cases of sea birds feeding plastic food to chicks, and whales and sea turtles harmed or killed by plastic bags, have made the news. More recently, coral reefs have been found smothered by plastic bags, and turtles have been found with straws jammed into their nostrils.
- Marne debris is negatively affecting more than 800 animal species.
- When plastic ingestion occurs, it blocks the digestive tract, gets lodged in animals' windpipes cutting airflow and causing suffocation, or fills the stomach, resulting in malnutrition, starvation and potentially death.
- Entanglement of species in marine debris is a global problem affecting at least 200 species. It can cause decreased swimming ability, disruption in feeding, life-threatening injuries, and death.

The harmful effects of single-use plastics are not worth their convenience. This bill takes a step toward banning all single-use plastics.

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 7:42:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

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

#### Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB85, which is an effort to reduce single use plastics in one of our top areas of waste-production - tourism.

It's time for tourist industry big business leaders to take responsibility for their contributions to our pollution and waste problems in Hawai'i. Requiring refillable or non-toxic packaged items on request for visitors is an obvious, doable step towards reducing the waste load i our islands. Please vote yes for this bill.

mahalo,

Danielle Surface

96818

Submitted on: 2/13/2023 9:21:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Adam Scott Wayson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Single use plastics are becoming micro plastics and bioaccumulating in our food... time to stop

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 1:22:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sunshine Eckstrom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Please support HB85 and help stem the tide of plastic waste! This bill would be a great start to reducing the impact of small hotel plastic toiletry bottles on the environment. Let's take this important step forward!

Submitted on: 2/14/2023 8:11:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ruth Love	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Customers enjoy these small samples in their hotel rooms. We are still recovering from covid 19 downturns in tourism. It just doesn't make sense to limit the businesses ability to attract and keep customers at this time.

Thank you,

Mrs. Ruth Love

<u>HB-85-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/14/2023 9:51:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:		
Aloha,		
I support this bill.		
Mahalo nui,		
Cards Pintor		

Submitted on: 2/15/2023 7:47:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/16/2023 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lynda Williams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

I support this bill hundred percent. There are other east solutions to providing shampoo and soap to visitors without creating more plastic waste polluting the ocean and putting marine mammals at risk. Thank you!



HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 325 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 AT 9:15 A.M.

To The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair The Honorable Elle Cochran, Vice Chair Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

#### SUPPORT HB85 HD1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS HB85 HD1** which prohibits lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests.

The Chamber is excited that more hotels are supporting this measure and are willing to work with the state. We ask that you continue to work with the industry to get this done as is it an important measure that we all want to see achieved. When this came up before, we understood the industry needed more time, but see they are willing to work with the state to achieve this goal.

The Chamber notes that, according to the Hawai'i Tourism Association, lodging establishments already working to eliminate the use of single-use plastic bottles for their amenities. Tourism businesses of all types have opted to adopt green practices, update their infrastructure, and set new, sustainable policies. This was all done of their own volition and will continue to be the norm as the state moves toward a greener environment.

For these reasons, we **SUPPORT HB85 HD1**.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

Pamela Jumpap

President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.