



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO  
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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB0085  
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

REPRESENTATIVE SEAN QUINLAN, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

Hearing Date: 2/2/2023

Room Number: 423

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. The Department estimates that one enforcement position should be  
4 established and funded annually to implement this proposal.

5 **Department Testimony:** HB0085 prohibits lodging establishments from providing personal  
6 care products in small single-use plastic containers to guests and visitors and establishes civil  
7 penalties for violations as identified by the Department on inspection.

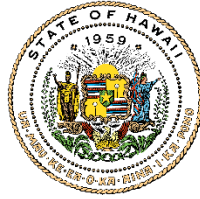
8 The Department is supportive of measures to reduce the amount of single-use plastic  
9 containers distributed in the State to reduce the amount of plastic waste that is incinerated or  
10 disposed in State landfills. However, the Department currently does not have the staff and  
11 funding available to implement the inspection and enforcement component of this bill. The  
12 Department respectfully requests funding and the establishment of one new position to receive  
13 complaints and conduct follow-up inspections of lodging establishments identified as distributing  
14 personal care products in small single-use plastic containers in violation of HB0085. In addition  
15 to conducting inspection and enforcement actions, dispensing citations, and coordinating with  
16 the Office of the Attorney General to pursue civil penalties, this position would also be tasked  
17 with providing education and outreach to the regulated community.

18 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

19 **Offered Amendments:** None.

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

**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  
TOURISM**

**Thursday, February 2, 2023  
10:00 AM**

**State Capitol, VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, Conference Room 423**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 85  
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

House Bill 85 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) appreciates the intent of this bill and offers the following comments.**

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. House Bill 85 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 comment on this measure.

**DAWN N.S. CHANG**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT

**LAURA H.E. KAAKUA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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



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**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 TOURISM**

February 2, 2023  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol Conference Room 423 & Videoconference

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

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Aloha Chair Quinlan, Vice Chair Hussey-Burdick, and members of the Committee on Tourism,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments in support of the intent of HB85, 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, 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.



**HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM**  
**A S S O C I A T I O N**

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

House Committee on Tourism  
House Bill 85  
February 2, 2023

Chair Quinlan, 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 are not in support of mandates or 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.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer these comments.



January 31, 2023

Representative Sean Quinlan, Chair  
House Committee on Tourism  
Hawaii State Legislature

**Support for HB85**

Dear Chair Quinlan and Members of the House Committee on Tourism,

The Kohala Coast Resort Association is in support of HB85, prohibiting lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers.

During the last three years, the member properties of our Kohala Coast Resort Association have transitioned away from single use plastics, and instead provide refillable dispensers for guests. In addition, our properties have transitioned away from single use water bottles, and instead have refillable water stations for guest use throughout the resorts.

We recognize that it is everyone's responsibility to take care of our island home, and are grateful to do our part to help with this environmental initiative.

The Kohala Coast Resort Association's members employ 5,000 people, supporting 20,000 Hawaii Island residents, at their hotels, timeshares, restaurants, retail shops, golf courses and spas along the Kohala Coast. Additionally, in 2022, KCRA members paid \$60 million in state and county TAT, and \$40 million in state and county GET.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie P. Donoho". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Donoho, Administrative Director



January 31, 2023

To: The Honorable Sean Quinlan, Chair  
Members, House Committee on Tourism

From: Kris Quigley, Regional Director, State Government Affairs  
Plastics Industry Association

Re: HB 85 – OPPOSE – Scheduled for Hearing February 2, 2023

We respectfully write to express our opposition to House Bill 85 – relative to single use plastics. The Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) represents the entire supply chain of manufacturers of all plastic products. We are firmly committed to manufacturing products that meet the environment, social, and business needs of consumers.

Plastic is the popular choice to meet consumer demands and there is a reason for this; the material can do things other material cannot. It's efficient for manufacturers to produce and cost-effective for business to incorporate into their operations; and it is environmentally friendly to produce in terms of water/energy usage, greenhouse gas emissions and transportation costs and efficiencies.

Unfortunately, cities, counties, and states across the country are considering policy proposals to target marine debris concerns and plastics that are improperly disposed of that end up in landfills. Some of these proposals include product bans and material deselection which unfortunately are misguided and fail to address the mismanagement of discarding products.

Before banning plastic products, PLASTICS advocates for consumer education about proper disposal practices; reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering plastics. As your committee works to address litter and waste problems, we stand by to provide instruction on the role our products play in society and how to best arrive at a solution that makes environmental and business sense.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [kquigley@plasticsindustry.org](mailto:kquigley@plasticsindustry.org).

Respectfully,

Kris Quigley  
Regional Director, State Government Affairs  
Plastics Industry Association

**HB-85**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:40:09 AM

Testimony for TOU on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Suzanne Frazer	Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawaii (B.E.A.C.H.)	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Quinlan, Vice Chair Hussey-Burdick and Members of the House Committee on Tourism,

My name is Suzanne Frazer, I'm the Co-Founder and President of BEACH - an award winning non-profit organization founded in 2006 which brings awareness and solutions to plastic marine debris.

I am writing in support of HB85. Requiring accomodation establishments to provide bulk dispensers for shampoo, conditioner and soap will be a win win - it will save the hotels money (as buying individual bottles of shampoo etc. costs a lot more than refilling a dispenser) and it will result in less plastic waste. To impact the marine environment with this law, it would help if all cruise ships that dock in Hawaii are also required to provide bulk dispensers and not individual plastic containers.

I'd like to point out that small plastic bottles are **not** single-use plastic. **They are disposable** but not single-use. Single-use applies to the following: a package that is ripped, torn, broken and can't be used again, or something that is dirtied and can't be cleaned eg. the plastic wrapper around a bar of soap would be single-use as once it's ripped off and torn it can't be used again for the same purpose.

In regards to other suggestions to improve this bill, I consulted with Dr. Anthony Andrady one of the top experts in the world on plastic about his view on the definition of plastic given in this bill. If you have to use a definition of plastic this is the one that he gave me to share with you which is more accurate:

**"Plastic" means any organic polymeric compounds with additives that can be shaped by applying heat and/or mechanical force."**

Thank you for hearing this bill and for this opportunity to provide testimony in support.

Aloha,

Suzanne Frazer.



**HB-85**

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:25:12 PM

Testimony for TOU on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Miles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Quinlan, Vice Chair Hussey-Burdick, and Members of the Committee,

**I am testifying in strong support of HB 85 relating to single-use plastics.** Hawai'i has the opportunity to be a global leader in environmental sustainability, and one important step towards this is waste reduction. This bill is a small but very meaningful step towards decreasing the resources and energy required to produce single-use plastic containers, as well as the waste that goes into our island landfills and washes up on our shores.

Mahalo to the committee for hearing this bill and my testimony today.

Sincerely,

Wendy Miles, PhD

**HB-85**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:57:08 PM

Testimony for TOU on 2/2/2023 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

We must do all we can to decrease the amount of plastic we use and keep it out of our oceans as it's killing our world thank you for this legislation