

SB-966

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 3:43:02 PM

Testimony for AEN on 2/8/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LIBRADO COBIAN	Testifying for AAC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB966 Bill and Propose the same with Trash left by homeless on the Streets . Why is it that if you dump trash with a vehicle it's against the law BUT if you dump it piece by piece with a shopping cart or dolly or by hand ITS OK . Let's be consistent . Dumping trash or leaving trash is illegal disposal regardless if it was a single dump load by a truck . Li Cobian



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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

Re: **SB 966 – RELATING TO DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE**
Hearing: Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 1:00 p.m., Conference 224, via videoconference

Position: **Strong Support**

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i stands in strong support of SB 966. This measure allows as punishment for felony disposal of solid waste, imprisonment of not more than five years. It allows as punishment for felony disposal of solid waste and petty misdemeanor disposal of solid waste, forfeiture of any vehicle used in the commission of the offenses.

As provided in the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform adopted at the DPH State Convention on May 28, 2022, our policy is 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."

Illegal dumping involves the unauthorized disposal of numerous types of waste. Typical materials dumped include building materials from construction sites, such as drywall, roofing shingles, lumber, brick, concrete, and siding. Other frequently dumped materials include automobile parts, household appliances, household waste, furniture, yard scraps, and medical waste.

Effects of illegal dumping include health, environmental, and economic consequences. While legal waste disposal locations, such as [landfills](#), are designed to contain waste and its byproducts from infiltrating the surrounding environment, illegal dumping areas do not typically incorporate the same safeguards. Due to this, illegal dumping may sometimes lead to [pollution](#) of the surrounding environment. [Toxins](#) or hazardous materials infiltrating soil and drinking water threaten the health of local residents. Additionally, illegal dump sites that catch fire pollute the air with toxic particles. Environmental pollution due to illegal dumping causes short-term and long-term health issues. Short-term issues include [asthma](#); [congenital illnesses](#); [stress](#) and [anxiety](#); [headaches](#), [dizziness](#) and [nausea](#); and [eye](#) and [respiratory infections](#). Long-term concerns include [cancer](#) and [kidney](#); [liver](#); [respiratory](#); [cardiovascular](#); [brain](#); [nervous](#); and lymphohematopoietic diseases. Beyond negative health outcomes due to pollution and toxic waste, illegal

dumps pose a physical threat. Unstable piles of material and exposed nails threaten harm to humans, specifically children who may be attracted to illegal dumps as play areas.

Allowing as punishment for felony disposal of solid waste, imprisonment of not more than five years per offense and allowing as punishment for such conduct, forfeiture of any vehicle used in the commission of the offenses are consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and the policies of the Democratic Party of Hawaii as curbing illegal dumping by imprisonment of not more than five years per offense and forfeiture of the vehicle used in the criminal act would curtail future illegal dumping that threaten our healthy climate for humans and the environment.

/s/ Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick, Co-Chairs, DPH Environmental Caucus

SB-966

Submitted on: 2/6/2023 6:25:42 AM

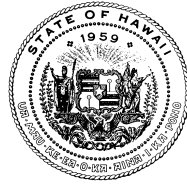
Testimony for AEN on 2/8/2023 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Support.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII



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

KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY

In reply, please refer to:
File:

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0966
RELATING TO RELATING TO DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE**

SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Hearing Date: 2/8/2023 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 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 5 **Offered Amendments:** None