

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 348
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and
Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 348,
H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is 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.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region, Hawaii Reef and Ocean
Coalition, Climate Protectors Hawaii, Kauai Climate Action
Coalition, American Hotel and Lodging Association, Hawai'i Hotel
Alliance, Windward Coalition, and twelve individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Department of Health, and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committees find that the plastic industry is on track to
overtake coal as a primary source of atmospheric greenhouse gas
emissions. Contributing to this trend, single use plastics are
goods made from fossil fuel-based petrochemicals that are



considered a major threat to the State's delicate ecosystems. Your Committees believe that hotels and other lodging establishments who frequently provide complimentary toiletries that are packaged in single-use plastic containers do not follow the State's commitment to sustainable tourism. This measure will align the hotel and transient lodging industry with the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Strategic Plan's goals of promoting responsible tourism by instituting a prohibition on small plastic containers of personal care products to any person staying in a sleeping room accommodation.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date for lodging establishments with more than fifty sleeping room accommodations to July 1, 2026, to enable lodging establishments to use their existing stock of personal care products;
- (2) Clarifying that the definition of "personal care product" does not include lotion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committees note the comments raised in testimony by the Department of Health regarding the lack of staff or funding necessary for proper implementation for the inspection and enforcement of this measure. Your Committees respectfully request that subsequent Committees to which this measure is referred examine the potential funding and establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to receive complaints and conduct inspections of lodging establishments.

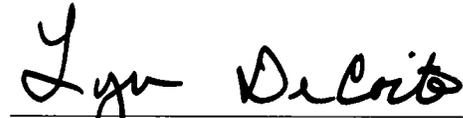
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 348, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 348, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Judiciary.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Economic
Development and Tourism and
Agriculture and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



LYNN DECOITE, Chair



