

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR



**DEAN MINAKAMI**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
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Statement of  
**DEAN MINAKAMI**  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

February 26, 2025 at 10:03 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of  
**S.B. 946 SD1**  
**RELATING TO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT.**

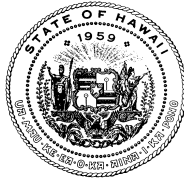
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC **supports** SB 946 SD1, which establishes that the prohibition against discharging wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after 12/31/2026 shall not apply to treatment plants that have a treatment capacity of less than ten million gallons per day.

This bill will allow the County of Maui to move forward with plans for the Waikapu Wastewater Treatment Plan and allow affordable housing to be developed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OLELE

WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0946 SD1  
RELATING TO WASTEWATER MANAGMENT.**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**LATE**

February 26, 2025; 10:03 AM; Room Number: 211

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined.
- 2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health ("Department") supports this measure
- 3 offering comments and proposed amendments.
- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division Clean Water Branch
- 5 (EMD-CWB) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.
- 6 **Offered Amendments:** For consistency, the Department respectfully suggests revising SB0946
- 7 SD1 to match the revisions in companion bill HB0798 HD2.
- 8 The Department does not have any objection to the County of Maui's HB0798 HD1
- 9 recommendation to remove "has a treatment capacity of less than (blank) gallons per day" on
- 10 Lines 14 and 15 since Lines 9 and 10 have been stricken out.
- 11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
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Director of Council Services  
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February 24, 2025

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2025; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
SB946, SD1, RELATING TO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

I **support** this measure to establish that the prohibition against discharging wastewater or raw sewage into State waters after December 3, 2026 will not apply to treatment plants that have a treatment capacity of less than ten million gallons per day.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The current statute applies broadly to all wastewater dischargers, including small and rural treatment plants. This measure refines the law by exempting facilities under 10 MGD, ensuring fair and practical compliance standards.
2. Many smaller treatment plants lack the resources to implement costly anaerobic-digestion and energy-production systems. This measure prevents unnecessary financial strain on county governments and local communities.
3. By refining discharge regulations, this measure enables critical projects—such as the Central Maui Wastewater Reclamation Facility—to move forward without costly delays, ultimately supporting affordable-housing and environmental-protection efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.