



Malaki 24, 2026  
9:00 AM

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Re: HR12/HCR10 - URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ESTABLISH  
A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND PROGRAM ADVISORY  
GROUP.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and honorable members of the committee:

The Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club (PKHCC) strongly **supports** HR12/HCR10, urging the City and County of Honolulu to establish a permanent landfill host benefits program and program advisory group.

The club affirms that every community in Hawai‘i is entitled to a clean and healthful environment as guaranteed by Article XI, Section 9 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution. We recall the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs’ Resolution 2019-52, which urged creation of an adequate buffer zone around landfills, and note that Act 73 (Session Laws of Hawai‘i, 2020) established a statewide half-mile buffer prohibiting landfills near residential, school, or hospital property lines.

However, the buffer zone law alone does not address the ongoing challenges faced by residents who live near landfills—residents who endure diminished quality of life, reduced property values, and adverse health outcomes. Hawai‘i must ensure that no population is disproportionately burdened by environmental and health impacts from development and resource use. On O‘ahu, nearly all landfilling and waste processing is concentrated in West O‘ahu, impacting communities with high concentrations of Native Hawaiians and Homesteads.

Landfills in West O‘ahu have contributed to air pollution and groundwater contamination, and communities adjacent to these facilities experience elevated cancer rates and other serious health risks. Incineration and related waste-processing activities emit harmful pollutants and carcinogens that increase the likelihood of respiratory disease, cancer, and other long-term health problems for already vulnerable populations.

The Kekaha Host Community Benefits Fund demonstrates a workable model for compensating affected communities and incorporating community decision-making into environmental planning. Previous local advisory bodies—the Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection (2012) and the Landfill Advisory Committee (2022)—have both recommended consideration of Host Community Compensation Benefits for impacted communities.

For these reasons, the PKHCC strongly supports HR12/HCR10 and supports urging the City and County of Honolulu to adopt a permanent landfill host benefits program and establish a program advisory group that includes meaningful representation from affected communities, ensures transparent oversight, and provides equitable compensation and mitigation measures for those bearing the burdens of waste facilities.

Founded in 1964, the Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club was established to promote the education and social welfare of people of Hawaiian ancestry. Its objectives include supporting high ethical standards in business, industry, and professional fields.

Mahalo for your consideration of our position.

Me ke aloha,

Shauna Kahiapo, Esq.  
Pelekikena

[president@pkhcc.org](mailto:president@pkhcc.org)



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March 24, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Re: HR12/HCR10 – URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ESTABLISH  
A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND PROGRAM ADVISORY  
GROUP

Aloha Chair Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair Amy Perruso, and committee members,  
The board supports HR12/HCR10, which urges the City and County of Honolulu to  
establish a permanent landfill host benefits program and a program advisory group.

In December 2023, the board adopted a related resolution, “Supporting Host  
Compensation Packages for Neighborhoods Impacted by Active Landfill and  
Waste-to-Energy Facilities,” recognizing the disproportionate impacts of waste  
management on Kapolei, Makakilo, Honokai Hale, Ko Olina, and Nānākuli.

On January 9, 2025, the board adopted a resolution urging the Department of  
Environmental Services to create host compensation packages for neighborhoods affected  
by active landfills and waste-to-energy facilities. A special board meeting on February 19,  
2026, reaffirmed the board’s support for HR12/HCR10.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Anthony Makana Paris  
Chair

Encl.



**LATE**



March 24, 2026

TESTIMONY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS  
To the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
In Support of

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**HR12/HCR10 - URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO  
ESTABLISH A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND  
PROGRAM ADVISORY GROUP**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the committees:

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs submits testimony in **support** of HR12/HCR10, urging the City and County of Honolulu to establish a permanent landfill host benefits program and program advisory group.

At our 66th Annual Convention delegates adopted Resolution 2025-41 calling for this action; the measure also advances the constitutional guarantee in Article XI, Section 9 of a clean and healthful environment. While Act 73 (SLH 2020) established a half-mile buffer around residential, school, and hospital properties, buffers alone do not remedy the persistent environmental, health, and socioeconomic harms borne by communities near landfill and waste-processing sites.

Nearly all of O‘ahu’s landfilling is concentrated in West O‘ahu, disproportionately impacting neighborhoods with high concentrations of Native Hawaiians and residents of Hawaiian home lands. These communities face air and groundwater contamination risks, elevated rates of respiratory illness and certain cancers, reduced property values, and diminished quality of life from odors, noise, traffic, and restricted land uses.

A permanent host benefits program would provide sustained compensation and remediation funding, create predictable and transparent rules, and incentivize better pollution controls; the Kekaha Host Community Benefits Fund provides a workable precedent. A Program Advisory Group with community representation would ensure meaningful local decision-making, technical oversight of monitoring and health data, coordination across agencies and stakeholders, and inclusion of cultural and place-based knowledge.

We recommend clear eligibility criteria, dedicated funding streams, allowable uses for health, remediation, infrastructure, economic development and cultural projects, independent monitoring with public reporting, community-majority governance, and enforcement measures tying benefits to facility compliance. Establishing this program will likely improve public health, remediate legacy contamination, stabilize local economies, and advance environmental justice and procedural fairness for impacted communities. The Association urges passage of HR12/HCR10. Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Founded by Prince Kūhiō in 1918, the Hawaiian Civic Club movement is the oldest Native Hawaiian community-based advocacy movement. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs is a not-for-profit confederation of 60 individual and autonomous Hawaiian Civic Clubs and 3,500 members located across Hawai‘i and across the continental United States.

We appreciate your favorable consideration of this measure.

**HR-12**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:39:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Strongly OPPOSE

12 HR URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ESTABLISH A PERMANENT LANDFILL HOST BENEFITS PROGRAM AND PROGRAM ADVISORY GROUP

LEEWARD COAST COMMUNITY DESERVE THE SAME QUALITY OF AIR, WATER, ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTHY LIVING LIKE KAHALA, HAWAII-KAI, KAILUA, LANIKAI...