

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

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CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

Testimony of
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, February 17, 2026
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1948, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

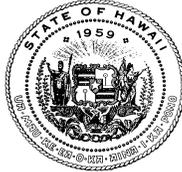
House Bill 1948, House Draft 1 proposes to prohibit lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests and establishes civil penalties. **The 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 primary natural resource issue throughout the State of Hawai'i. 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 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. 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. This measure would help reduce the amount of plastic debris entering Hawai'i's cultural sites, forests, waters and coastlines, and contribute to the improved health of our wildlife and their habitats.

The Department recognizes that Chapter 342H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health (DOH) and defers to DOH regarding implementation of this proposed program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB1948 HD1
RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing Date, Time, and Room Number: 02/17/2026, 09:30 am, 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure may impact the priorities identified in the Governor's
- 2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department's) appropriations and
- 3 personnel priorities.
- 4 **Department Position:** The Department offers comments.
- 5 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division, Solid and Hazardous Waste
- 6 Branch (EMD-SHWB) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.

7 This measure proposes to prohibit lodging establishments from providing small plastic
8 containers with personal care products in any sleeping room accommodation, bathroom used
9 by guests or the public, or to any guests. The new statute would provide an exception for bulk
10 personal care product dispensers and personal care products in containers made from non-
11 plastic materials.

12 The Department supports measures that reduce waste contributed to Hawai'i's landfills.
13 However, we recommend placing this language in Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), Chapter
14 486K, Hotels, instead of the currently proposed HRS 342H, Solid Waste Pollution because this
15 measure does not fit within solid waste statutes. The regulated parties in this measure are
16 lodging establishments, which are unlikely to review solid waste pollution statutes when

1 determining the requirements for their businesses. Placing the language in a more relevant
2 chapter will likely increase compliance, simply by awareness. In addition, this measure
3 regulates lodging establishments' responsibilities for product distribution, rather than
4 management of solid waste. Under this scenario, we defer to the Department of Business,
5 Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) on the proper location for this proposed language
6 and implementation.

7 However, if the Department is tasked with implementing this measure, we respectfully
8 request clarification on the civil penalty provision. The measure states that "any lodging
9 establishment that violates subsection (a) shall be subject to a civil penalty..." We note that
10 subsection (b) also provides limitations on where establishments may provide personal care
11 products in non-plastic containers. Is the intent that the civil penalties in this measure only
12 apply to subsection (a)?

13 Based on the current draft of this measure, the Department would also require
14 additional resources and funding to conduct the inspection and enforcement actions written in
15 subsection (c). From past legislative sessions, we understand that the Legislature may not be
16 interested in adding funding to this measure, in which case, the Department suggests that it
17 may be more appropriate to remove the enforcement language and place the prohibition
18 language in HRS 486K, Hotels.

19 **Offered Amendments:** The Department recommends placing this language in HRS Chapter
20 486K, Hotels, and defers to DBEDT.

21 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 10:41:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney Millerd	Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i supports HB1948. HB1948 serves as an important step away from the throwaway culture that drives unnecessary waste and plastic pollution negatively impacting our coastlines. By reducing single-use personal care plastics in lodging establishments, this measure advances upstream solutions that prevent debris before it reaches our shores, safeguard our ocean, and reinforce a culture of shared responsibility for Hawai'i's coastlines.



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 325
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026 AT 9:30 A.M.**

To The Honorable Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Tourism

COMMENTS ON HB1948 HD1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

The Maui Chamber of Commerce would like to offer COMMENTS on HB1948, which prohibits 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.

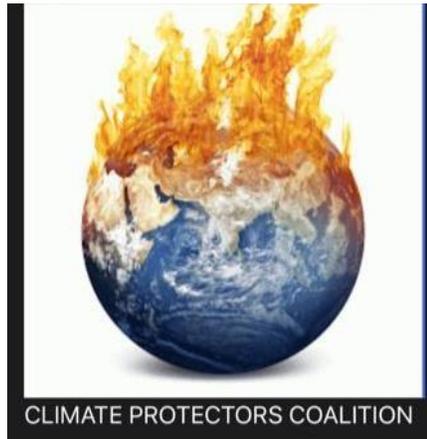
The Chamber emphasizes that we have long supported sustainability efforts and fully support accommodations that are already moving in this direction. We recognize that many establishments have already made the switch. However, before advancing legislation that adds to the overall regulatory burden on businesses, we would prefer the state to conduct a public education campaign to inform accommodations about the benefits of making the switch and to survey them about the reasons some have not yet adopted these changes. Given the growing movement away from individual toiletries, it is important to understand the factors preventing others from making the switch. If many cite cost as a barrier, the state could explore offering incentives or tax credits to help offset the additional costs. If shipping challenges are a concern, a state agency such as DBEDT could potentially provide recommendations or explore bulk purchasing options. Depending on the survey results, the state could consider other ways to support accommodations in making the transition.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our comments on this bill.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



To: The Honorable Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Amy Perruso, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HB1948 HD1 RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS**

Hearing: Tuesday February 17, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee Members:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is to educate and engage the local community in climate change action.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (HIROC) is a group of scientists, educators, filmmakers and environmental advocates who have been working since 2017 to protect Hawaii's coral reefs and ocean.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition SUPPORT HB1948 HD1!

Plastic pollution is a major threat to the oceans, the environment, and human health. Discarded plastics wind up in landfills, incinerators, and the environment, ultimately breaking apart into tiny toxic pieces called microplastics that contaminate water, food, the air, and even our bodies. Furthermore, according to a 2021 report from Beyond Plastics, the plastic industry is on track to overtake coal as a source of atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions.

Hotels and other lodging establishments frequently provide complimentary toiletries that are packaged in single-use plastic containers. This is not consistent with the Hawai'i tourism authority's strategic plan, which cites the goals of promoting sustainable tourism, preserving natural resources, and advocating for responsible tourism in Hawai'i that minimizes negative environmental impacts. Some hotels have already transitioned away from single-use plastics and instead provide bulk dispensers for personal-care products or complimentary toiletries in packaging made of sustainable materials.

This bill would prohibit lodging establishments in the State from providing small (six ounces or less) plastic containers of personal care products to any person staying in a sleeping room accommodation, in any space within the sleeping room accommodation, or in any bathroom used by the public or guests. California, New York, Washington, and Illinois have already passed laws to ban small single-use plastic toiletry bottles.

This bill presents an opportunity to reduce harmful plastic waste in Hawai'i while also making the visitor industry more sustainable.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)



Date: February 15, 2026

To: Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Solid Waste Reduction Task Force of Hawaii Environmental Change Agents

Re: HB1948 HD1 – Relating to Single-Use Plastics

Hearing: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 9:30am

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **support of HB1948 HD1 – Relating to Single-Use Plastics**.

The Solid Waste Task Force follows the zero waste hierarchy which prioritizes waste reduction and reuse ahead of recycling/composting and considers incineration as an unacceptable means to manage solid waste. To achieve zero waste, Hawaii must develop new systems and behaviors that prevent waste from being created in the first place.

For this reason, we support HB1948 HD1 because it reduces unnecessary single-use plastic waste in Hawaii's lodging and visitor industry. Small plastic toiletry containers contribute significantly to landfill disposal, pollution, and long-term microplastic contamination in our environment. This bill takes a practical step toward reducing solid waste by prohibiting the routine distribution of these containers in lodging establishments, while allowing reasonable alternatives such as bulk dispensers for personal care products.

We urge you to pass HB1948 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

~Solid Waste Reduction Task Force of Hawaii Environmental Change Agents
Lindsey Sabec-Kozuma



February 16, 2026

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Hawai'i State Legislature
Via Electronic Transmission

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1948 HD1, Relating Single-Use Plastics
Hearing: Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 9:30 AM CR 325 & Via Videoconference

To: The Honorable Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee

Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region strongly supports House Bill 1948 which prohibits lodging establishments in the State from providing personal products packaged in small plastic containers in any sleeping room accommodations, space within sleeping room accommodations, and bathrooms used by the public or guests.

Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots activist network dedicated to the protection of our oceans, waves, and beaches for all people. Surfrider Foundation has been tackling plastic pollution for over a decade and has established various plastic reduction initiatives to address plastic pollution at the source. Our [Ocean Friendly Hotel program](#) helps hotels to reduce single-use plastic and make more sustainable choices for the ocean. One of the mandatory criteria is that toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, lotion, etc.) are not packaged in small plastic bottles. HB1948 is a proactive measure that directly aligns with our Ocean Friendly Hotel Program.

As of December, the State of Hawai'i received nearly [9.5 million visitors in 2025](#), over six times the state's population. The visitor industry significantly contributes to plastic pollution which often ends up on beaches and in the ocean. This measure applies to lodging establishments defined as hotels, condominium hotels, motels, resorts, bed-and-breakfast homes, and transient vacation rentals. Hawai'i has over 280 hotel-class lodging properties, along with hundreds of bed-and-breakfast homes and tens of thousands of transient vacation rental units operating statewide. By eliminating small, single-use plastic toiletry containers at lodging facilities, this bill would prevent millions of plastic bottles each year from entering the waste stream, creating a scalable, source-based solution to reduce the plastic footprint of Hawai'i's tourism industry—one lodging establishment and one traveler at a time.

Not only will HB1948 reduce plastic pollution, but it will also save hotels money. In 2018, [Marriott stated](#) that they could save about \$2,000 per hotel every year by switching from single-use toiletry bottles to bulk containers. According to Marriot, a large pump bottle

contains the same amount of product as around 10-12 small single-use toiletry bottles. Additionally, we estimate that hotels spend about \$0.37 per ounce on shampoo, conditioner, and lotion bottles packaged in small plastic containers compared to \$0.17 per ounce on shampoo, condition, and lotion packaged in bulk.

This aligns with feedback received from hotels participating in Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Hotels Program. Since switching to refillable bulk toiletries, an Ocean Friendly Hotel in Alaska has noticed significant cost savings and found that tracking bulk containers is more efficient than tracking thousands of tiny bottles. Similarly to Hawai'i, Alaska has limited supply chains and logistical hurdles, making refillable personal care products a common-sense approach to saving businesses time and money, while also reducing plastic pollution.

While a number of lodging establishments may be actively moving towards a more sustainable future, most hotels and motels have yet to adopt refillable toiletry containers. A regulatory approach sets the standard and provides a much needed jump start to reducing the environmental impact generated by lodging establishments. Washington, New York, California and Illinois all have similar regulations to ban or limit hotel toiletries. Considering the scale of the visitor industry in Hawai'i, it is time that Hawai'i follows suit.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB1948 on behalf of the Surfrider Foundation's three Hawai'i chapters and members statewide.

Sincerely,

Hanna Lilley
Hawai'i Regional Manager
Surfrider Foundation



February 16, 2026

**Testimony in Support of HB1948 HD1
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Position: Support**

Aloha Chairperson Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony on behalf of Zero Waste Kaua'i, a nonprofit that educates, advocates, and implements zero-waste practices across Kaua'i, in strong support of HB1948 HD1.

This bill addresses a preventable source of waste in our visitor industry: single-use plastic toiletry containers. On Kaua'i, these items cannot be recycled due to their size and often mixed materials, and instead contribute to landfill waste, marine debris, and microplastic pollution.

This bill directly aligns with Hawai'i's commitments under the Aloha+ Challenge, which sets a statewide goal of reducing waste sent to landfills by 70% by 2030. Eliminating unnecessary single-use plastics in lodging establishments is a clear, achievable action that advances this target and demonstrates leadership in sustainable tourism. It also advances the goals of Kaua'i County's Zero Waste Resolution, which calls on County agencies, residents, businesses, and visitors alike to adopt Zero Waste practices in order to achieve a 70% waste diversion rate. With diversion rates stalled at approximately 43% for the past decade, it is clear that voluntary efforts alone are not enough. Strong, thoughtful legislation and policy measures are necessary to meaningfully increase diversion and move us toward our stated goals. Kaua'i faces especially severe waste constraints. Our island has a landfill crisis with estimations that our current single landfill will be full by 2030. Source reduction is essential to extending its lifespan and avoiding significant economic and environmental burdens on future generations.

It is critical that we continue making measurable progress toward our sustainability commitments. Hawai'i has set ambitious goals to protect our environment, strengthen climate resilience, and ensure responsible tourism. Without consistent policy action, these goals remain aspirational. Practical legislation like HB1948 turns commitment into implementation and signals that Hawai'i is serious about protecting the resources that sustain our communities and economy.

On behalf of Zero Waste Kaua'i, I respectfully urge the Committee to pass HB1948 HD1.

Mahalo for your leadership and for the opportunity to testify in strong support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sabrina Day", written in a cursive style.

Sabrina Day
President, Zero Waste Kaua'i
zwkauai@gmail.com

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 11:15:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, SUPPORT

1948 HB RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.

Representative, Chair of the House Committee Nicole E. Lowen
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection (EEP)

Written Testimony for Bill HB1948 HD1

Relating to Single-Use Plastics

Hearing Notice

Tuesday, February 17th, 2026, 9:30am, VIA Videoconference from Conference Room 325 at the State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

My name is Isabella Joachim and I am a senior at Hawai'i Pacific University studying Marine Conservation, policy and sustainability. I am submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of this Bill being passed as it will not only improve Hawai'i's plastic pollution problem, but help society move towards renewable and sustainable practices, like reusable items. This bill, if passed, will remove single-use plastics from lodging, i.e. hotels, Air BNBs, etc, in order to reduce our fossil fuel usage and bring down our state's carbon footprint. As stated in the Bill, the plastic industry is "on track to overtake coal as a source of atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions", which is a shocking statement, especially in Hawai'i where we have limited recycling facilities, usually sticking to burning our waste. This Bill follows in the footsteps of the food industry getting rid of plastic take out, and will improve our environment significantly.

Isabella Joachim
Student at Hawai'i Pacific University

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/14/2026 9:08:29 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Dadds, PA-C	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to prohibit plastic toiletry bottles from being dispensed by hotels in order to eliminate the single use waste burden placed on O'ahu. As an island who already overconsumes plastic, the hotel business plays a factor. Getting rid of this extra unnecessary pollutant could prevent plastic ending up in the ocean and contaminating our oceans

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2026 4:46:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
arleen velasco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Hawaii we burn 20 percent of our plastic which creates toxic ash and pollutes our air. Many of these pollutants reach our ocean and are affecting our coral reefs and marine life. We must minimize plastic use and having refillable containers for personal care products at all our hotels is an easy, cost effective solution. Please pass this common sense law.

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2026 8:07:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Redford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do away with single use plastic containers!

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2026 9:04:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I have been a resident of Hawai`i since 1962 and a resident of Hawai`i Island since 1982. This testimony is in strong support of HB1948. Single use plastic contributes a great deal to the crisis of plastic pollution in our state. In Hawai`i County we have no way to recycle any plastic except number two, most often used in milk jugs. We need to stop bringing single-use plastic onto our island. HB1948 Is a step towards solving this problem. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and thank you for your service to the people of Hawaii.

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/15/2026 9:12:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB1941 HD1. We know that we need to reduce our waste, especially difficult to recycle single use plastics. The lodging industry has easy to access options that create less plastic waste as well as less waste of the products being packaged. We need to take responsibility for the waste we create.

Thank you,

Sarah Adams

To: Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: February 16, 2026

RE: House Bill 1948 HD1
Measure Title: RELATING TO SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.
Report Title: Personal Care Products; Small Plastic Containers; Lodging
Establishments; Prohibition; Fines

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support House Bill 1948 HD1. Thank you for introducing this bill.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 7:36:00 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of HB1948 HD1. This bill prohibits hotels from providing toiletries in single use plastics.

Single-use plastics are not consistent with Hawaii Tourism Authority's strategic plans of promoting sustainable tourism. This is a great opportunity for us to reduce plastic waste in Hawaii, which already has some of the highest reported debris accumulation in the US. We need to listen to our keiki who have called for us to reduce reliance on single-use plastics over and over again. We must take care of our islands.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 8:00:56 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris Burke	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Small plastic toiletry containers contribute significantly to waste and long-term plastic pollution in Hawai'i. This bill takes a common-sense step by reducing unnecessary single-use plastics in lodging establishments, while allowing reasonable alternatives such as bulk dispensers.

I urge your support of HB1948 HD1. Mahalo for your consideration."

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 8:48:56 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Penny Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Getting rid of single-use plastics is great - unconstitutional searches of private homes and unreasonable fines are not

This bill seems to allow inspections of private homes under the pretext of checking plastic bottle sizes in private bedrooms and bathrooms. Vacation rentals in private residential homes are not commercial or public spaces. Inspections, ie searches of private residential homes would be unconstitutional, not to mention the invasion of privacy. This part of the bill seems to be part of the series "Lets harass vacation rentals out of business", sponsored by the Hotel industry.

Also, most likely there would be enforcement issues as a consequence of these inspections. Local retailers like Walmart, Target and others sell small sized plastic personal care items, which any guest can buy and bring to the vacation rental. Guests also often bring their own personal care items from home and TSA requires the small sizes.

The inspections and resulting fines would disproportionately harm small operators, ie a single vacation rental in a private home, while they are minimal for a 500 room Hotel operation.

The "Inspection" and "Fines" sections of this bill are highly problematic and should be removed.

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 10:00:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a good step towards being single-use plastic free. Please support this measure.

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 10:45:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Mitsumori	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HB1948 HD1, which would reduce unnecessary single-use plastic waste in our lodging industry.

I have stayed in several hotel in Hawai'i and elsewhere that use large, refillable pump bottles for personal care products such as soap, shampoo, and conditioner. Their larger size enables more attractive packaging of the content and the brand.

They are also more accessible, as they don't require hand dexterity to grasp and twist tiny caps on and off, not to mention having to bend over and hunt for them when they roll onto the floor.

You also don't need to call housekeeping to give you extra supplies if there are actually two of you in the room, and only 1 bottle of each product.

It is not just the waste caused by the single-use containers, but also the volume of wasted product. As someone who often stays a single night for business trips, it is wasteful to have each stay result in several half-full plastic containers and a slightly used bar of soap going into the landfill.

There is no reason to have single-use containers. Larger pump bottles are already in use, and make more sense from the perspectives of accessibility, sustainability, marketing, and efficiency.

I encourage you to SUPPORT HB1948 HD1.

Mahalo,
Michele Mitsumori
Hilo

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 4:48:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha committe members, I strongly support HB1948 HD1 .

This is a win win. The establishment saves money by buying in "bulk"(large refillable containers) and the environment is free from single use plastic!

Win Win.

Thank you for considering and supporting HB1948 HD1.

Pamela Burrell, Kalihiwai, Kaua'i

LATE

HB-1948-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 9:14:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kai Paisley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill because, to me, it is a simple win-win solution to reducing plastic pollution from our hotels. Other states that have adopted similar policies have seen outstanding success. Across the board hotels will save money and the community will benefit from significantly less plastic waste in our environment. This is a practical, common-sense step that protects our beaches, ocean, and communities while encouraging more sustainable business practices.

Please pass this measure!

Mahalo nui loa,

Jessica