

HCR-157

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 10:35:34 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	&D	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!

We need to reduce construction and demolition waste, which is harmful to land and climate, especially with closure of C&D landfill.



Date: March 22, 2026

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

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

Re: HR148/HCR157 – Requesting the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to Convene a Demolition Waste Reduction Working Group

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

The Solid Waste Reduction Task Force of Hawaii Environmental Change Agents submits testimony **in support of HR148/HCR157**, requesting the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to convene a Demolition Waste Reduction Working Group.

This resolution reflects the zero waste hierarchy by recognizing the importance of preventing waste at the source and prioritizing reuse, salvaging, deconstruction, and recycling before disposal. In Hawaii, where landfill capacity is limited, construction and demolition debris remains a significant waste stream and presents an important opportunity for waste reduction.

By convening a working group, this resolution would support coordinated discussion among stakeholders on practical strategies to reduce demolition waste, expand opportunities for material recovery and reuse, and advance more circular approaches to building materials management. These efforts can help reduce landfill dependence, conserve valuable resources, and support broader sustainability goals for the State.

The Solid Waste Reduction Task Force **respectfully urges** the Committee to adopt this resolution.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

~Solid Waste Reduction Task Force of HECA
Lindsey Sabec-Kozuma

Comments before
March 24, 2026 House Committee on
Energy and Environmental Protection

**SUPPORTING
HR 148 & HCR 157**

Relating to Construction & Demolition Waste
Working Group

Mike Ewall, Esq.
Founder & Executive Director
Energy Justice Network
215-436-9511
mike@energyjustice.net
www.EnergyJustice.net

Aloha Honorable Committee members. Energy Justice Network is a national organization supporting grassroots groups working to transition their communities from polluting and harmful energy and waste management practices to clean energy and zero waste solutions. In Hawai'i, we've been working with residents, members and member groups since our support and involvement was first solicited in 2015.

We encourage EEP to approve these resolutions.

As the person who developed the Zero Waste Hierarchy which is now used as an international standard for what Zero Waste means, I encourage you to use this as an opportunity to advance deconstruction, ideally through a deconstruction mandate policy accompanied by policies requiring increasing percentages of recovered materials in new construction and renovation, along with needed infrastructure and incentives.

We have resources on construction and demolition waste, including the hazards associated with it, and lots of on deconstruction on our website here: www.energyjustice.net/waste/cd

Some amendments we'd encourage you to consider:

- 1) Split up the working group seat for a representative of the "demolition and deconstruction industry." These are opposite industries – one destroying buildings and creating demolition waste, and the other carefully dismantling buildings for material recovery. It's especially important that someone from the deconstruction industry be represented. An expert like [Sara Badiali](#), who literally wrote the [book](#) on deconstruction, would be ideal. Other leading groups in the field include [Build Reuse](#) and [Institute for Local Self-Reliance](#). Adding in positions for either of these groups, or [Zero Waste USA](#), would help ensure strong representation from those who understand Zero Waste alternatives.
- 2) On page 2, lines 29-30, amend it to read: "Identify and implement solutions to reduce construction and demolition waste statewide that are aligned with the Zero Waste Hierarchy;"

Find the Zero Waste Hierarchy at www.zwia.org/zwh

- 3) On page 2, lines 32-33, amend it to read: "Develop strategies to scale deconstruction and materials reuse to reduce landfill dependency without incineration;"

Note that incineration, including pyrolysis and gasification technologies, can increase toxicity through formations of dioxins and furans, can convert chromium III to carcinogenic chromium VI, and can release arsenic from wood treatment chemicals into the air and water, making landfills more toxic and dangerous when ash is disposed of. See www.energyjustice.net/files/incineration/cd.pdf for more on toxic hazardous associated with burning construction and demolition wastes. As the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute has [documented](#), treated wood has 200 times as much arsenic as clean wood.

HCR-157

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:44:06 AM

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

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

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, STONGLY SUPPORT

148 HR REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO CONVENE A DEMOLITION WASTE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP.