



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HR184/HCR194
ESTABLISHING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM DESIGN
WORKING GROUP TO STUDY, EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE
STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP
PROGRAM.**

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

Hearing Date, Time, and Room Number: 03/24/2026, 9:00 am, 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This resolution 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 supports this resolution.
- 5 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division, Solid and Hazardous Waste
- 6 Branch provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.

7 This resolution proposes to establish a working group to study, evaluate, and make
8 recommendations on the structure and implementation of a statewide mattress stewardship
9 program. A report of the working group's findings and recommendations, including any
10 proposed legislation, is requested no later than twenty days before the 2027 Regular Session.

11 The Department supports resolutions that would reduce waste contributed to Hawai'i's
12 landfills. Currently, four states on the U.S. Mainland have mattress stewardship programs, all of
13 which are operated by one producer responsibility organization (PRO). This proposed working

1 group includes local stakeholders and the single PRO, which would create an opportunity to
2 learn from other states' experiences and determine if a mattress stewardship program could be
3 successfully implemented in Hawai'i, and if so, what its requirements and structure should be.

4 **Offered Amendments:** None.

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



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: HB184/HCR 194 – Establishing the Joint Legislative Mattress Stewardship Program Design 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 HB184/HCR 194**, establishing the Joint Legislative Mattress Stewardship Program Design Working Group.

Discarded mattresses are bulky, difficult to manage, and place unnecessary strain on landfill capacity and local solid waste systems. This resolution takes a constructive approach by convening relevant stakeholders to evaluate how a statewide mattress stewardship program could improve collection, reuse, recycling, financing, and long-term program oversight.

A well-designed stewardship framework can help shift these materials out of the waste stream and toward more responsible end-of-life management. We respectfully urge the Committee to adopt this resolution.

Mahalo for your consideration.

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

HCR-194

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:46:47 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, Support

184 HR ESTABLISHING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM DESIGN WORKING GROUP TO STUDY, EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STRUCTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATEWIDE MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM.