

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
KA 'OIHANA WAI
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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February 19, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 2485, SD1: Relating to Solid Waste Management

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports Senate Bill (SB) 2485, Senate Draft (SD) 1, relating to solid waste management. The purpose of SB 2485, SD1, is to establish a temporary working group in the Office of the Governor to address and inform policies and programs to reduce solid waste.

The membership of this solid waste management working group includes representatives from the state and county agencies, including several subject matter experts. A representative from the BWS is also included and we confirm our availability and full participation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2485, SD1.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

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Vincent Kimura
Honolulu, Oahu

Natalie Urminska
Kauai

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee,

The Hawaii Farmers Union is a 501(c)(5) agricultural advocacy nonprofit representing a network of over 2,500 family farmers and their supporters across the Hawaiian Islands. **HFU supports SB2485.**

SB2485 is crucial to tackle the ongoing issue of solid waste management in Hawaii. For Hawaii's family farmers and ranchers, solid waste management is fundamentally a soil health issue. Currently, a significant portion of Hawaii's organic waste stream is buried in landfills or incinerated rather than being repurposed into high-value agricultural inputs.

Sustainable agriculture depends on the availability of organic soil amendments. By diverting green waste and food scraps into localized composting and anaerobic digestion systems, the State can reduce its reliance on expensive, petroleum-based imported fertilizers while sequestering carbon and improving the water-retention capacity of our soils.

Farmers rely heavily on healthy ecosystems, and the successful implementation of SB2485 could support Hawaii's agricultural sector by promoting waste management practices that sustain and support these vital resources.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Hunter Heavilin
Advocacy Director
Hawaii Farmers Union

SB-2485-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2026 3:47:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/19/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Ewall	Testifying for Energy Justice Network	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. The state struggles with waste management challenges in all counties and would only benefit from a more comprehensive evaluation of best materials management strategies.

We recommend removing the pyrolysis and plasma gasification "experts" ("advocates" is more likely) in order to not bias the process toward specific technologies, especially given the miserable track records of those technologies that have been unable to operate commercially and have consistently failed both economically and technically.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Mike Ewall
Executive Director
Energy Justice Network
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February 18, 2026

Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Honorable Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: SB2485, SD1 - RELATING TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
Submitting Comments and Requesting Amendment

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

I submit these **comments** on behalf of Reworld, who is the operator of the HPOWER waste-to-energy facility owned by the City and County of Honolulu. Reworld is the long-time operator of the HPOWER facility, which is tasked with diverting solid waste from the city's landfill while converting waste into energy. The facility processes 620,000 tons of municipal solid waste and recovers 19,000 tons of metals for recycling yearly. HPOWER creates enough renewable electricity to power 60,000 homes or approximately 10% of Oahu's energy needs.

SB2485, SD1 establishes a temporary Solid Waste Management Working Group in the Office of the Governor to examine materials management policies and programs that reduce solid waste and protect the environment, and to present a list of alternative technologies to address solid waste management.

Reworld is supportive of a working group that examines the state of solid waste management in Hawaii. **We respectfully request an amendment to include a representative from an in-state waste-to-energy provider in the membership of the Solid Waste Management Working Group.**

As the Legislature recognizes the need to identify alternatives to landfilling and improve solid waste outcomes, HPOWER's waste-to-energy technology is a vital part of Hawaii's current solid waste management landscape and serves to reduce landfill reliance and recover energy value. Including an in-state waste-to-energy representative will strengthen the working group's technical capacity to evaluate waste-to-energy technologies.

The bill already contemplates experts in pyrolysis and plasma arc gasification. However, we believe that adding a voice representing operational experience in existing waste-to-energy



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solutions will provide a practical viewpoint on waste stream composition, cost, and local operational challenges.

Including a representative from a local waste-to-energy provider will support the Legislature's intent for a comprehensive and practical review of alternative waste management technologies. We urge the Committee to adopt this amendment and pass SB2485, SD1 with the proposed addition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Frazier Blaylock

Senior Director, Government Relations
Reworld (f/k/a Covanta)
4960 Fairmont Avenue #605
Bethesda, MD 20814

TESTIMONY ON SENTATE BILL 2485, SD1 RELATING TO
SOLID WASTE

Position: **Support**

To Senator Donavan Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Sharon Morikawa, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Ways & Means:

Simonpietri Enterprises LLC (SEL) **SUPPORTS** the intention of this measure.

SEL is an O'ahu-based small business developing innovative ways to recycle some of Hawai'i's most challenging wastes into renewable fuels and other beneficial recycled-material products for use in Hawai'i. For the better of the last 6 years, we have been designing the Aloha Carbon integrated plant in Campbell Industrial Park to divert over 2000 tons per day of construction & demolition (C&D) debris from landfilling to be converted into renewable natural gas starting with a small manufacturing plant – the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (Aloha SMRFF) – which will serve as the pilot plant for Aloha Carbon.

The Aloha SMRFF will divert over 200 tons per day of construction & demolition (C&D) waste from landfilling along with invasive and pest infested biomass and remanufacture that waste to displace over 10,000 tons per year of imported fossil fuels, fertilizers, and building materials for Hawai'i. This facility is the first step to demonstrating our Aloha Carbon manufacturing process to manufacture pipeline-quality renewable fuel from solid wastes – 100% of which are generated in Honolulu. Even with modest fuel and fertilizer production, we anticipate this initial project to have sizable benefits that will support the state's emission reduction and energy resilience goals, while simultaneously supporting local agriculture and landscape restoration efforts and creating other economic opportunities.

SEL feels this measure could encourage better management of waste and environmental stewardship which align with our mission as company. As a company whose technical expertise and innovation are focused in the areas of waste management, energy and nutrient recovery, and the circular economy, we would like to see this measure advance and humbly request to participate as part of a diverse and engaged working group.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure, and urge your support for this bill.

Sincerely,



Marie-Joelle Simonpietri
President

[About Simonpietri Enterprises LLC](#)

Simonpietri Enterprises is a Kailua, Hawaii-based woman- and veteran-owned small business with ten employees, focused on technical innovation and first-of-kind project development of emerging clean and renewable technologies. Since founding in 2006, we have helped dozens of small and large

industrial companies in Hawaii, the continental U.S., Australia, and Canada improve the environmental and economic sustainability of their operations through technical and business advice in renewable energy conversion, waste reduction and re-use, and greenhouse gas lifecycle impact reduction. Simonpietri Enterprises' founder and employees have participated in the strategy, planning, design, financing, development, construction, and energy efficiency/greenhouse gas reduction/sustainability renovation for over \$400 million in new renewable and first-of-kind sustainable fuel projects over the past 15 years. Since launching the Aloha Carbon waste-to-fuel technical development process in August 2020, Simonpietri Enterprises is now developing renewable fuel production facilities in its own right, starting with the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (SMRFF) in Kapolei, Hawaii to divert wastes generated in Honolulu from landfilling and transform it to renewable fuel, organic fertilizer, and recycled-material building products.