



Chair Mike Gabbard
Vice-Chair Clarence K. Nishihara
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Monday, March 14, 2022
1:00 PM
Written Testimony Only

RE: Strong Support of HB1644HD1 - Ban Poly Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs)

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara & Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Chamber of Sustainable Commerce in strong support of HB1644 HD1. As business owners who believe in strengthening our economy without hurting employees, communities and the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of HB1644 HD1, which would ban the use of Poly Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Hawaii.

As the Hawaii Department of Health stated in its testimony “commenting” on this bill:

On December 14, 2021, FDA released “Testing Food for PFAS and Assessing Dietary Exposure”, which related that “PFAS can enter the food chain through environmental contamination or through migration from food packaging.”

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The Department recognizes the benefit that a prohibition on PFAS containing food packaging products will have on the wastestream. By eliminating these products, the overall persistent environmental contamination from PFASs will be reduced.

These two important factors underscored by the Department of Health, shine a revealing light on the testimony in opposition to this bill.

Contrary to the testimony submitted by other business associations, risking the longterm health of our customers to save a few pennies is not a good business calculation — this is true regardless of a global pandemic.

If we are incapable of operating our businesses without hurting our customers, then we should question our motivations for staying in business.

Hawaii Legislative Council	Kim Coco Iwamoto AQuA Rentals, LLC Honolulu	Elle Cochran Maui Surfboards Maui	Russel Ruderman Island Naturals Hilo / Kona	Joell Edwards Wainiha Country Market Kauai	Maile Meyer Na Mea Hawaii Honolulu
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