Bill 40 (2019)
Early Testimony
Aloha Chair Water and Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi,

My name is Anika Ballent, and I am the Education Director of Algalita Marine Research and Education, a non-profit based in Long Beach CA that is focused on creating a world where plastic pollution is unthinkable. I stand in strong support for Bill 40. Plastics are a man-made, petroleum based material that in about 70 years of existence have completely changed the face of this planet. Plastic products usually include a suite of chemicals that change its properties. Many of these chemicals cause cancer or are endocrine disruptors. Single use plastic products have been shown to increase a users chemical load of these harmful chemicals. The scariest part to me, is that these materials have been introduced and become widespread to the point that we are dependent on them within one generation. We do not know the full reproductive and health effects of using, incinerating, inhaling, and eating plastics.

By passing this Bill, not only will the health of the environment, that all humans depend on, improve, but the health of Hawaiians can be improved. I urge you to pass Bill 40.

Thank you,
Anika Ballent
DATE: 27th August, 2019

TO: Chair Tommy Waters, Vice-Chair Heidi Tsuneyoshi and Members of the Public Safety and Welfare Committee

FROM: Suzanne Frazer, President, Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai‘i

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL 40
Relating to plastic
Committee hearing on Thursday 29th August, 2019 at 9AM

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Tsuneyoshi and Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai‘i (B.E.A.C.H.) in support of Bill 40 which bans plastic checkout bags and disposable plastic straws, stirrers and utensils. Thank you Councilmember Manahan for introducing this important bill and thank you Councilmember Waters for hearing this bill.

B.E.A.C.H. has long sought a complete ban on all plastic checkout bags in order to save endangered and threatened marine species that die from ingestion of plastic bags. This ban is critical in order to save lives. There have been two major loopholes remaining unaddressed in previous laws banning plastic bags and we are glad to see in this bill one of those loopholes closed by banning plastic checkout bags for prepared food and bakery goods. These are the bags that we have found the most in surveys of trash at beach parks. The second major loophole remaining is the list of exemptions allowing for checkout bags to be given out at places like farmers’ markets for fruit and vegetables and for other items. When a t-shirt bag is torn off the bunch of bags a small piece is left behind from every bag and these pieces of plastic bags end up scattered all over the ground and blowing around at the end of the market. Sea turtles do not eat whole plastic bags, they eat pieces of bags. Therefore these bag pieces are endangering these animals when they get into the ocean. In order to close this loophole, B.E.A.C.H. recommends amending the definition of a plastic checkout bag to: “means a carryout bag with handles...” and deleting the list of exemptions (A to J). By adding “with handles” the definition then specifies that the bags that are being banned are the t-shirt type checkout bags and not the tear off clear bags on a roll, or bags for drycleaning and other uses that don’t have handles and are not checkout bags. Also the definition states that carryout bags are given to customers for transporting groceries so this is clearly not referring to garbage bags. The public has long wanted to see a real plastic bag ban on O‘ahu and with this bill and these amendments along with Bill 59 starting next year that can finally be achieved.

Plastic straws are stirrers are unnecessary and there are good alternatives available such as a spoon for stirring coffee or a wooden stick. There are bamboo, stainless steel and glass reusable straws available. In addition, paper straws are available again and now come in thicker versions.
Plastic straws and stirrers are always amongst the top 10 most found items at beach parks and they need to be banned.

Plastic utensils are also unnecessary. Many people are now getting in the habit of bringing their own bamboo or metal utensil sets with them which is the best alternative to plastic. Compostable utensils are available which are plant based and not made with fossil fuels or contain harmful chemicals. B.E.A.C.H. recommends amending the definition of utensils to: “utensils are disposable plastic utensils...” and delete the definition of single-use and replace it with a definition of disposable such as “disposable means designed to be discarded and not specifically designed and manufactured for long term multiple re-use”.

We recommend replacing the words “single use plastic” throughout the bill with the words “disposable plastic”. The reason for this is that “disposable” is a common term used on packaging labels to describe utensils (they are not labelled “single-use”). Also plastic utensils are not “single-use”. Although society seems to have become more wasteful in their behaviour these days, when I grew up, nobody wasted plastic utensils or cups - they were washed after an event and reused the next time.

Although this bill contains language related to polystyrene foam food containers, it does not ban them. Polystyrene used to contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFC’s) but in 1988 the industry voluntarily stopped making polystyrene with CFC’s. Therefore we ask that the section of the bill referring to polystyrene foam be amended by removing language related to CFC’s (see Bill 71 Councilmember Pine). Also please add a ban on the sale of polystyrene foam food and drink containers so that the packets of containers sold at places like Costco will also be banned. In addition, please add drinks where it says prepared food so that polystyrene foam cups for drinks will also be banned. Other needed amendments are adding a definition of polystyrene foam and a comprehensive definition of a vendor so as to include school cafeterias, non-profits, clubs, government agencies etc. and to include that it is not just about selling and buying but also includes when plastic containers, bags, utensils, straws and stirrers are given out or provided without charge.

The reason polystyrene foam food and drink containers need to be banned is because they are harmful to people’s health and the environment.

Polystyrene is made from petroleum and contains benzene which is carcinogenic. It leaches a man-made chemical called styrene a chemical that is made from benzene (which comes from petroleum). Styrene, or vinylbenzene as it is also known as, is toxic to the brain and nervous system and has been found to adversely affect red blood cells, liver, kidney, stomach and cause cancer in animal studies. The National Toxicology Program lists styrene as “reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen”.

Styrene is released especially when the container or cup is subjected to heat, so polystyrene foam containers and cups are a very bad choice for hot food and drinks. Oily and acidic foods and drinks also facilitate the migration of styrene from the container into the food/drink. Styrene is found in the fatty tissues of humans. In a 1982 study by the EPA (the National Human Adipose Tissue Survey), 100% of Americans studied had styrene in their fatty tissues.
The chemicals leaching from polystyrene food and drink containers cause harm to people resulting in many different health problems. They turn on autoimmune diseases such as Hashimoto's Thyroiditis and Lupus, they cause various cancers, diabetes and obesity.

Polystyrene food containers have also been shown to have estrogenic activity (EA) meaning that the chemicals from polystyrene act like a synthetic form of estrogen or block the action of naturally occurring estrogen in the body and therefore cause endocrine disruption. In humans, chemicals having EA can cause prostate and breast cancer and many reproductive health problems. Unborn children, babies and young children are especially sensitive to low doses of chemicals having EA.

It's important to amend this bill to ban polystyrene foam containers for all the children especially who have no choice but to eat out of polystyrene foam at school and eat out of it when their parent's buy take-out dinner in polystyrene foam. These children are given no choice but to ingest toxic chemicals which are harmful to their brains, nervous system, immune system and disruptive to their endocrine system.

It is absolutely appalling that sick people in hospitals who are there to get better are being poisoned by food and drinks in polystyrene and that children in schools who are there to learn are ingesting chemicals with their food at lunch and for some, breakfast as well when their hot food at school is served in polystyrene. There are even a number of children and teenagers who are eating out of polystyrene for breakfast, lunch and dinner because of eating take-out or because at home “no-one wants to wash the dishes” so parents get foam containers to put food in at home also. Children and their parents are being exposed to chemicals unknowingly. There are teenagers at 16 and 17 years old who are sent to a pre-military camps in Hawai‘i for 6 months and have to eat out of polystyrene foam for all 3 meals a day for 6 months. These students were horrified to find out about the chemicals in polystyrene and what they are being subjected to on a daily basis.

In the polystyrene plastics industry, workers have been found to have higher incidences of cancer including leukemia and suffer from many adverse health effects from the inhalation of styrene. Styrene causes neurotoxicity and therefore affects people’s nervous system and also impairs the immune system.

New jobs will be created by the banning polystyrene foam through the need for distribution of alternatives such as 100% compostable cups and food containers, paper, metal and reusable containers made of glass, stainless steel and ceramic. There is a whole new market available to tap once polystyrene is gone.

Plastic does not biodegrade, it just breaks into smaller and smaller pieces. Plastic lasts forever. When plastic gets into the ocean it accumulates additional poisons such as dioxins, DDT, DDE and other persistent organic pollutants (POPs). Styrofoam has been found inside of sea birds and fish. The ingestion of plastic not only causes blockages and starvation, but the animals and birds are harmed through the uptake of toxic chemicals such as styrene which leaches from the ingested plastic and accumulates in the fatty tissues of the animal. Then when people consume fish, they get those chemicals in their bodies. The smaller the plastic the more detrimental it is to human
health. Now scientists are finding that nano plastic particles can move through cell walls and affect organs of the body. Action needs to be taken to remove from use plastic items that are unnecessary. Every government around the world needs to be doing this urgently.

There are good, compostable alternatives to polystyrene foam available that are made from sugar cane and other vegetable fibres that do not contain benzene, styrene or petroleum. We also recommend that people bring their own containers made of glass, stainless steel or ceramic for food and drinks.

The small additional cost of buying compostable containers will be passed onto the customer and the public is not concerned about paying around 25 cents more for food in a safe container rather than a toxic one. On Maui businesses testified that they are making a profit through charging for compostable alternatives. Once there is a law banning polystyrene foam, the costs of replacement products will go down as all the food providers will be using them.

People managed just fine before the early 1980’s and late 1970’s without plastic straws, plastic stirrers, plastic checkout bags, plastic utensils and polystyrene foam. If people could manage then without all this plastic, they can now.

Passing this bill with the suggested amendments above will make a big difference to people’s health and the environment as the two of these are intertwined and one affects the other. What is good for the environment is good for our health and visa versa. Plastic is now being found in the water we drink, the air we all breathe and in food we eat. Please help protect human health by taking strong action to ban polystyrene foam food and drink containers, plastic checkout bags, plastic straws, plastic utensils and plastic stirrers. Thank you!

Please accept this as written testimony in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Frazer.
President,
B.E.A.C.H.

Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawaii is an all volunteer, non-profit organization that brings awareness and solutions to marine debris through environmental education, plastic reduction/litter prevention campaigns, and marine debris removal and research in order to protect marine life, sea birds and the ocean/coastal environment.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Jenna, and as manager of Bluetree Cafe, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in 2018 and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

We have seen our shift away from single-use plastics as a selling point for our customers as they are supporting businesses that encourage eco-friendly practices in line with many of their values. Any increases in cost have had negligible impacts on our business. As a local business in Hawaii, we realize the importance of maintaining sustainable practices so that we can grow while also protecting the aina.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Michelle Ching, and as owner/manager of Farm to Barn Café located in Haleiwa, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in April 2019 and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

A few years ago, I started a cold pressed juice business called Jar'd and when I started that business, I made a commitment to do what I could to spread awareness about the long-term effects that single use plastics have on our oceans and marine life by using glass bottles to package my product. Within the last 3 years that juice business won a Best of Honolulu award in 2018 and has now translated into a farm to table café in Haleiwa that I opened in October called Farm to Barn. I’d like to think that a small amount of people on our island are now more conscious about not using that plastic straw or taking their own cups to the coffee shop because they bought Jar'd Juices at some point. The café was built on the mission of providing our local community and visitors alike with healthy, on-the-go drink and food options that are packaged with sustainability in mind. Now through Farm To Barn we are reaching an average of 1,700 unique visitors per month that also translates to over 900 drinks sold on average per month that is either served in glass cups that we reuse or glass mason jars that customers take and we offer a $0.50 discount per jar they return and over 150 metal straws that are given out per week through Hawaii Eco Straws company that is fully funded on donations. As the owner, I do heavy promotion around the fact that we are an ocean friendly restaurant and are farm-to-table so our price point is expected to a little higher side than your average café which allows us to offer a more sustainable and conscious dining experience and as a business we’ve experienced incredible feedback specifically because of ocean friendliness (see Yelp reviews) and growth in sales each month since we opened. The way I see it, banning single use plastics would be an investment into our future (as individuals, businesses and future generations) and protecting our planet and well-being alike. If we continue to offer single use plastics it’s like covering cancer with a band aid. It doesn’t fix the problem it only masks it but eventually it’ll be too late.

Sincerely,
Michelle Ching
Owner at Farm To Barn Café
michelle@jardhawaii.com
808.729.4911
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Racchel Kadler, and I am a co-founder of the Hawaii Eco Straws organization. We are a company trying to encourage people to step away from single-use plastics and begin a conversation on becoming more sustainable. As such, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

The production and disposal of single-use plastics result in an increase in micro-plastics in our environment. The production of single use plastics creates greenhouse gases, a key component in our current climate crisis. The downstream effects of our current climate crisis are still unknown but pose a drastic threat to both our health and safety.

Not only does the production of plastics result in greenhouse gases but as these plastics breakdown, they further release greenhouse gases. A recent UH Manoa study (Royer S-J, Ferrón S, Wilson ST, Karl DM (2018)) investigated the chemicals released during degradation of micro-plastics and found both methane and ethylene are produced. Additionally, they found that when exposed to full solar radiation there were higher rates of greenhouse gas release than solar radiation filtered for UVB or in the dark. Being a tropical island, Oahu has very high sun exposure. This means that the plastics here have even higher rates of greenhouse gas release than other parts of the world due to the full solar radiation exposure. We should avoid bringing more plastics into our waste stream to try and minimize the greenhouse gases we are producing.

Aside from the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change, there are also issues with the prevalence of micro-plastics in our water. Plastics in the water accumulate toxins and chemicals from around them as a coating and barrier from water, as they are hydrophobic. The ingestion of these from small marine animals is then concentrated when larger animals eat the smaller animals. As we move up the food chain these toxins/chemicals become more and more concentrated, where we finally ingest these. This is a huge threat to our public health.

For these reasons I fully support Bill 40, and minimizing single-use plastics being introduced into our environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Raechel Kadler
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Chandra Bertsch, and as manager of Holo Holo Charters, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in 2017 and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

Written Testimony

While some businesses may consider this a significant cost increase to their current operations, the long term benefits are worth the short term increase. Prices will raise and those costs will be passed directly to the consumer, which is necessary to change behavior. Just like the ban of plastic bags at grocery stores, you may forget for a while and pay the extra fee for paper or a reusable bag, but you will begin to train society that going to the store means you bring a bag. It will take time, but it is proven effective in many countries and counties. This will also promote a new industry around reusable items, entrepreneurs will find creative ways to solve this new problem in a cost effective way. As evident with the new boom in reusable straws available in the marketplace. Let Hawaii be a model for others to follow.

Mahalo for considering Bill 40.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name            Franklin Chee
Phone            808-596-8735
Email            fchee@insuranceagencyhawaii.com
Meeting Date     08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee        Public Safety
Agenda Item          Bill 40
Your position on the matter Support
Representing          Organization
Organization         Honolulu Tennis League
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony      Need to keep Plastics product out
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Franklin Chee
Phone: 808-351-0292
Email: franklinchee@hotmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Insurance Agency Hawaii LLC
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: I support Bill 40
Testimony Attachment: 
Accept Terms and Agreement: 

IP: 192.168.200.67
## Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
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<th>Kim Wright</th>
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Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Kim Wright, and as manager of Kauai Beer Company, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

**Written Testimony**

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in Kauai Beer Company and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

Mahalo for considering Bill 40.

| Testimony Attachment Accept Terms and Agreement | 1 |

IP: 192.168.200.67
First Committee Hearing, Bill 40 (2019) Relating to single-use plastics & public safety  
Honolulu City Council  
Thursday, August 29, 2019, 9:00 am, Honolulu Hale

Aloha, Chair Waters, and Committee Members,
My name is Jennifer Milholen, and I am testifying in support of Bill 40 (2019) related to plastic service ware and plastic bags. Honolulu City Council has a long history of hearing bills addressing plastic pollution and mitigation to the floor for discussion and investigation. I appreciate that this bill is being considered, continuing in that tradition while expanding its focus beyond a single targeted product. Focusing on this category of single-use plastic serveware (plastic checkout bags, utensils, straws, and stirrers) is a desperately needed step given the urgency of the climate crisis and its anticipated, devastating impacts. Hawai‘i, along with the global community, has to act boldly in addressing the role that single-use plastics play in greenhouse gas generation and ecological disruption, not to mention weakening public health. This bill is a good place to begin.

We have reached an unprecedented point in human history. A product of our own making, fossil-fuel plastics, has become so ubiquitous that it has worked its way into every corner of the environment, our bodies, every organism, and even the atmosphere. Numerous studies and reports reveal a world where it is literally raining plastic, where humans are eating 60,000 pieces of plastic a week, where every sampled section of vast ocean contains plastics. We have become plastic, we ARE plastic. This isn’t just devastating on a conceptual level. Scientific investigation across numerous fields of study are blaring emergency sirens, their results speaking to a crisis that touches every aspect of our lives: our human health, our public safety, and our environmental stability.

**Public Health:**
Microplastics, formed from plastic primarily originating on land, create hell for the organisms ingesting them. These microplastics and their aggregated toxins, are ingested by humans at a rate of 5 grams per week; the weight of a credit card every 7 days. A broad consensus of peer-reviewed scientific studies indicate that the presence and ingestion of microplastics cause irreversible damage at every trophic level and, once ingested by humans, cause further harm including increased risks for various cancers, a weakened immune system, reproductive problems, and obesity. The people of Honolulu’s health is directly endangered by the continued ingestion of microplastic-filled seafood and salts.

**Public Safety:**
Furthermore, the City has experienced dramatic flooding in recent years. Comprehensive study and reporting from the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HI DOT) Highways Division indicate that damages to infrastructure, property, and risks to public safety were exacerbated by the high volume of single-use plastics, specifically plastic bags and EPS foam containers, blocking storm drains and waste water infrastructure. A report generated by the HI DOT recommends eliminating these single-use plastic products from Honolulu’s waste stream.
through legislative action in order to reduce further danger to infrastructure and public safety, as well as saving millions of dollars in avoided cleanup costs.

Public Safety: Impacts of greenhouse gasses on climate change from plastics

Furthermore, the City is actively preparing, through policy change and planning, to confront the impacts of the climate crisis. If the growth in plastic production continues at its current rate, then by 2050, the plastics industry will likely account for twenty per cent of the world’s total oil consumption. The production, transport and disposal of the trillions of single-use plastics entering the City generates significant quantities of greenhouse gasses (GHGs). Increases in GHGs are directly linked to public safety and health risks from rising seas, flooding, increased intensity and frequency of storm systems, and the resulting spread of disease. The unchecked import and use of single-use plastics in Honolulu constitutes a threat to residents’ and visitors’ safety through the continued contribution of GHGs to the crisis of a destabilizing planet.

Legislative and Policy Precedent:

Furthermore, these measures are consistent with State legislation including HR 226-15, which calls for promoting “re-use and recycling to reduce solid and liquid wastes” and employing a “conservation ethic”; HR 342G-2 (the Hawai‘i Integrated Solid Waste Management Act), which calls for source reduction, recycling, and bioconservation.

The City’s Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan itself calls for a 25% reduction in generated waste prior to disposal, as well as a 1% reduction by weight in single-use plastics from our waste stream. Additionally, the Aloha+ Challenge, signed by the Mayor of Honolulu, commits to a 70% reduction in municipal solid waste by 2030. Across state and county policy, there is an existing precedent for taking action on these materials to mitigate their impacts on the people of Hawai‘i.

Financial:

The costs to the county and the state to unclog storm drains, pick up litter mainly comprised of single-use plastics, and to try and keep ahead of the eyesore of plastics escaping into our beaches and waterways are astronomical; literally millions of dollars. In cities of comparable population size to Honolulu, the costs of cleanup are $14 million a year! As a taxpayer, I find it unacceptable that money is being used to clean up these single-use plastics that don’t need to be there just because it’s the easier choice for vendors. Cutting off the flood of these products into our environment through regulation will indirectly save the county and state millions of dollars in litter control, and stormwater management from unclogging drains and channels.

I appreciate your support of this measure and its passage on to second reading by the Council. Mahalo for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Jennifer Milholen
Waste Reduction Coordinator
Kōkua Hawai‘i Foundation
Aloha Committee members of PS&W,
As the owner of a local company focused on the longevity of Hawaii and its people, we think 7 generations deep in everything we do from ordering to our waste. Ultimately, these decisions cost more in the short term but are invaluable in the long term not only in business, but in environment considering the triple bottom line. The cost of the upfront investment are fixed and not variable, so with time, the investment turns favorable and therefore costs us less after its distributed over short period of time. We have shared this with other industry members are are proud to be one of the most environmentally friendly and sustainable brewers in the nation. We do not do this for marketing, we do this because its simply the right choice. Sustainability is always our default choice.

A very small part of what we have eliminated since the beginning of our company is 100% of single use disposables from bags, straws, foam, plastic utensils, etc. We have also transitioned into a paperless company. Overall its seamless with our customers and most do not even notice that we have do not have single use. One thing we have noticed is the total reduction of our trash compared to any other that uses single use. We virtually have none. In fact, we only have to take our trash out a few times a YEAR since we have so little.

We are supportive of BILL 40 and encourage everyone in business to transition no matter if its the law or not. We get one Aina and so do our keiki.

Steve Haumschild
Founder Lanikai Brewing Company, Kailua HI
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 9:35 AM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nori Sakamoto  
Phone: 8082583471  
Email: pioneersaloonhawaii@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing Organization: Pioneer Saloon at Kaka’ako  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Sakamoto, and I own restaurant Pioneer Saloon in Kaka’ako, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

Written Testimony: We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because not only it is toxic to our environment it is also toxic to human health.

Mahalo,  
Nori Sakamoto

Testimony Attachment:  
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Sakamoto, and I own restaurant Pioneer Saloon on Monsarrat Ave, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

Written Testimony

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because not only it is toxic to our environment it is also toxic to human health.

Mahalo,
Nori Sakamoto
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Derrick Stevens, and as owner/manager of PITCH SPORTS BAR, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using straws in bar establishment and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

We look forward to taking more steps to go completely environment friendly in the very near future.

Mahalo and thank you for your time!

Derrick Stevens
Owner PITCH SPORTS BAR
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Plumeria beach house Kahala Hotel
Phone: 808 739 8888
Email: Mtan@kahalaresort.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Kahala Resort
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony: We enjoy being a part of the Ocean Friendly restaurant program. We are happy to contribute to the well being of our ocean environment. These changes do not affect our bottom line financially, our guest are also big supporters.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Felix Tai and as Operator of Pounders Restaurant at the Polynesian Cultural Center I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in Pounders Restaurant and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

I am advocate and a leader for a James Beard Foundation impact program, the sustainability of tomorrow is dependent on not only what we choose to eat today, but how we live and how each and every choice we make today as well as everything that we ever need is dependent indirectly or indirectly on our natural environment. I am using my voice as a Chef, someone who not only creates food but also to ensure that people are being educated beyond the food on their plate. The Food on your plate is just a layer of the issues we face today. Sustainability will maintain our human lives and nature in a harmonious condition that is productive, this is a requirement for our future, for my children and yours, socially and economically. It is more than a belief, it is a lifestyle. Our choice affects the public safety and welfare of our lives and the beautiful nature which we all are blessed to share with here in Hawai’i. Hawai’i boasts its beauty in the tourism industry and other industry, this bill will sustain that growth in the industries and as a state.

I look at every customer as my guest if they were visiting my home and, in my home, or your home for that matter, I would never intentionally do anything that will degrade the value of the experience they will receive in my home as I want every single guest of mine to leave happier than when they walked in. My choice and your choice to make a difference in this world is an expression of our intellectual and will. We should no longer be ignorant to this matter, People rarely care about what we do because there’s a million others out there already doing what we intend of doing, but people do care
when they know why we do what we do. This is what they buy from us, this is what we sell to them as an operator, as a host to our family, friends, guests, and visitors alike. Many others are following our lead in the change for not using single use plastics, this is critically important, for us to make a relevant and purposeful choice that has a greater development of our future consequentially in economical and physical sense. My choice to support this bill for Hawaii and for our world is an honor for me as Chef and an operator of a restaurant. I have had nothing but a great response and support from my guest when they know how much we care about our choice, this in turn gives them a better experience. Strongly supporting Bill 40 is not just a personal choice of mine, it is my lifestyle, it is my belief, it is about my future and my children’s future, it a hope, a hope that I know many others out there, chefs, farmers, fishermen, ranchers, teachers, elders, community members, a hope for what we choose to do for our community and environment have nothing but the best, the supply chain goes beyond inventory. Why is it important? Because our future depends on it. It is not a movement that one chef or one restaurant can make a change, it is more than supporting a movement, it is only by coming together with small changes, the marginal gains that you will end up with a significant future. A future that is colorful for both me and you and our children and theirs.

Felix Tai
Executive Chef
Pounders Restaurant
Polynesian Cultural Center
Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi, and members of the council,

I am writing you as a small business owner in STRONG SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic goods and plastic bags.

I am currently in the process of opening a fully zero waste store myself, Protea Zero Waste Store. Although my business is not in the restaurant or food industry, it is in the cosmetic and cleaning product industry, which some would say is an even harder transition to make away from single-use plastics. I am taking a risk with this business. My prices, unfortunately, will not be comparable to stores selling similar products in a different structure, but I have done my market research and found that people are willing to pay a little more knowing that the added cost is going to benefit the environment.

I am sure you have seen and heard the detrimental effects that single-use plastics have on our environment, but we are finally learning about and acknowledging the effects that it has on public health. From being present in our food sources and in our bodies, to contributing to global greenhouse gas emissions, as well as being a potential cause for flooding during natural disasters or heavy rain events, single-use plastics are a threat to public health and welfare.

Another issue no one seems to be talking about is the public welfare threat to communities near petro-chemical facilities. While this may not be in our back yard, it is in someone else’s and until we recognize and make this switch away from single-use plastics we are DIRECTLY contributing to the suffering of others. I am from Houston, Texas. My family lives in Houston, Texas. Texas is the leader in the world for petro-chemicals facilities. Houston is the leader in the nation for petro-chemical facilities. Within this last year alone there have been nearly 8 explosions and fires in the Houston-area at petro-chemical facilities. More than 60 people have been injured and 2 deaths have been reported. Air in the Houston area has had more days than not of poor/unhealthy air quality. This is the air that my family is breathing, my nephews ages 1 and 3 are breathing. This issue directly hits home for me, and even if it didn’t, I still wouldn’t want to contribute to the suffering of others. And who knows, this could maybe be us one day. Someone coming to invest money for jobs in Hawaii and throws a petro-chemical facility over on the west side. Then how would we feel about plastics?

Honolulu has the opportunity to be a leader for the state, a leader for the nation, and a leader for the world – that is the city I would be so proud of and the city I know Honolulu truly is. I urge you to pass Bill 40 and lets end this debate of single-use plastics and move on to become a better city all around.

With aloha,

Lori Mallini
Owner of Protea Zero Waste Store
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Gregory Martin and I own and operate Sail Hawaii International LLC (Sail Hawaii), a sailing school based in Honolulu. I am writing this letter to tell you that I fully support Bill 40 and strongly believe it is the best way forward for Hawaii. Being in the ocean tourism business, my clients and I see firsthand every day the shameful effects of single use plastics on our beautiful beaches and oceans. My clients travel to Hawaii from all over the world to sail with us and they are always sadly shocked to see plastic trash in the ocean and beaches. As their host in Hawaii it deeply saddens me to have to try to distract their attention or explain why we can’t figure out how to clean up our mess. My clients have many choices of places where they can go on a sailing holiday and learn to sail and I get the impression that Hawaii doesn’t always live up to some of my clients’ expectations. I’m afraid that if we don’t clean up our act, my clients will find other places to go on a sailing holiday and that would severely affect my ability to stay in business and pay my taxes. Additionally, plastic trash is one of the biggest problems that we see in the Ala Wai Small Boat Harbor where my boats are docked. I do not want to see my tax dollars being used to clean this up, when it can be avoided in the first place. This plastic trash contributes to clogging of boat engine intakes, fouling propellers and makes the harbor unhealthy for workers who have to dive around the boats for underwater work.

On a positive note, we’ve seen a number of restaurants voluntarily choose to become “ocean friendly” and have voluntarily phased out the use of single use plastics. I can tell you first hand that these restaurants always benefit from my patronage and I always choose these restaurants exclusively now whenever I take guests and clients out for meals. I’m certain that if Bill 40 passes and restaurants and other companies are required to phase out single use plastics, the public will appreciate it, businesses will not suffer and Hawaii will be much better off.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,

Gregory Martin
Sail Hawaii International, LLC
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of Public Safety and Welfare Committee,

I am writing as the Executive Director of Sustainable Coastlines Hawai’i and on behalf of our thousands of dedicated volunteers who spend their lives caring for our coastlines. Mahalo for your time and effort to consider Bill 40 related to plastic pollution and its associated effects on our environment, climate change, waste generation, and of course on our livelihoods and health. **We are in strong support of Bill 40** – a phase out plan for single-use plastics in our businesses.

While we fully support the bill, we would suggest that a few amendments could be made to strengthen and clarify the bill. Mainly, we believe that the definition of polystyrene foam is out of date and needs updating. CFCs no longer persist in this material due to regulations and the material is defined differently, while still remaining problematic. We suggest using the language introduced in some of the state wide bills – Polystyrene means a thermoplastic petrochemical material utilizing a styrene monomer, including all polystyrene, meaning any styrene or vinyl chloride polymer that is blown into a foamlike material. Polystyrene includes materials created from techniques including the fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, foam molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene).

Sustainable Coastlines Hawai’i and our extended community are deeply concerned about plastics on our beaches, in our nearshore waters, in marine life that calls these areas home, and in our own bodies from constant ingestion. Over the past decade our community has cleaned almost half a million pounds of debris from our shorelines. That number is staggering and each year the onslaught of plastic to our shores increases exponentially. While we devote many of our resources to education & outreach, having reached tens of thousands of students statewide with in-class presentations, the situation has become dire and action to curb our plastic production at its source is necessary immediately. The issue of plastic pollution is a multifaceted issue that concerns the public safety, our economy, and the state of our resources for future generations.

As a country, our citizens produce more than double per capita plastic waste of China and five times that of Indonesia, while (with Europe), housing 95% of the companies, lobbyists, and industries in the plastic economy (WEF 2016). By centering our eye on, Hawai’i, the U.S.
state with the highest rates of waste generation (nearly doubling the national average) and the beaches inundated with the Pacific Gyre’s rapidly increasing plastic pollution (CNN 2016) we are at the heart of the global plastic problem. Up to 80% of the plastic in our oceans comes from land-based sources, estimated at 5-13 million tons of plastic. Hawai’i is uniquely positioned to focus the narrative of plastic solutions and our county has the opportunity to lead the world in a progressive movement that cultivates change at the source of these problems.

The United States environmental protection agency (EPA) outlines a waste pyramid in which reduction and re-use stand as the pinnacle to effective waste management. Our Cities, Counties, and State need to rethink the way they create, handle, and discuss waste. Sustainable Coastlines Hawai’i believes that we can become a leader in a regenerative economy in which we value reuse and recovery over the single-use items. Single-use plastics, like straws, polystyrene foam, plastic cutlery, bags, and water bottles are a fossil fuel driven, carbon emitting industry that has no place in an island economy where space is limited and our environmental health is the most important issue to our economy.

To date, the majority of dialogue regarding solutions to the plastic problem revolves around how we clean up our how we focus attention on regions of the world that have poorer waste management. These solutions may help slow the flow of waste into our oceans or clean up what is already there, but do not help solve the underlying issue. As our ocean fills with more plastic by weight than fish (Washington Post 2016) by 2050, as we have seen a 610% increase in raw plastic production since 1975 (Jambeck 2015), and as 95% of plastic packaging globally (resulting in $80-120 billion cost) is lost after a single-first use (WEF 2016), the solutions must be more geared towards a shift away from the fossil fuel based, greenhouse gas creating industry of plastics.

**Plastics, Public Safety, & Climate Change:**

Plastics are made from fossil fuels. The proliferation of plastic production and the current projected increase will mean that plastic production will account for 20% of the global fossil fuel budget by 2050 (United Nations 2018). A recent study from UH Mānoa researchers, published in PLOS One, illustrates that not only are plastics contributing to greenhouse gases in the production & transportation sectors, they are also releasing methane and ethylene as they degrade in water and sunlight. As the plastics break down into smaller and smaller pieces known as microplastics, they release more methane as there is more surface area exposed to sunlight. This has shed light on the full cycle consequences of plastic from production to disposal as major contributors to the climate crisis. Climate change and its impacts need to be considered as some of the most serious threats to our public safety and well-being. Our coastlines are in jeopardy from sea level rise and our reefs are struggling to survive. Any steps that we can take to be a part of reducing the impact of these issues will allow our county to be part of transitions that positively effects the world.

Additionally, the studies and information are mounting that demonstrates the proliferation of tiny plastics into the entirety of our world from the peaks of the Himalayas to the bottom of the Marianna Trench. Sadly, what we are also finding is that humans are ingesting thousands of pieces of plastic a week through the air and even through the bottled water that businesses claim to be healthier than tap water. Given the chemical properties of
plastics we know that ingesting them is strong reason for concern regarding public safety and health. As you will read below in the section on coral reefs, plastics bioaccumulate toxins and thus we should have great concerns on the human health effects as we continue to ingest them in larger numbers.

**Cost of Plastic Pollution**

The costs of plastic pollution are mounting in multiple sectors - financially, ecologically, and socially. Plastic is costing cities, counties, states, & countries millions of dollars and our global economy billions. Costs are passed to the taxpayers by burdening our stormwater management systems with the need for expensive best management practices and the costs of cleanups. Hawai‘i State Department of Transportation (HDOT) has produced a trash plan that shows polystyrene foam and plastic bags as the top two contributors to the waste stream, while in California, the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) created a plastic cleanup valuation study for 90+ counties in California. The study concluded that CA taxpayers are paying $428 million per year to clean up plastic through storm drain management, street sweeping, and marine cleanups. San Diego County (with population of 1.3 equivalent to Hawaii) spends $14 million alone on plastic cleanup. In late 2018, San Diego passed a sweeping prohibition of polystyrene foam and reduction of other single-use plastics, joining hundreds of municipalities across the globe in stemming this plastic tide.

"The economic damage caused by plastic waste is vast. Plastic litter in the Asia-Pacific region alone costs its tourism, fishing and shipping industries $1.3 billion per year. In Europe, cleaning plastic waste from coasts and beaches costs about €630 million per year. Studies suggest that the total economic damage to the world’s marine ecosystem caused by plastic amounts to at least $13 billion every year. The economic, health and environmental reasons to act are clear.” (UNEP 2018)

**Harm to Reefs & Marine Life:**

A recent study published in the renowned journal of *Science* describes the mounting issues of plastics on our fragile and threatened reefs. The study describes corals as being 90% more likely to be diseased when plastic sits on the reef. The billions of pieces of plastic already in the ocean are scarring reefs and then likely infecting them with the contamination that comes from their chemical properties that allow for microbial colonization of pathogens. In other words, plastics bio-accumulate toxins in the water and thus can transfer such toxins to other organisms like coral. This is yet another toxic consequence of plastics in our oceans, of which many more are described in the points below.

The effects to marine life in our oceans are mounting. 50 to 80 percent of dead sea turtles have ingested plastic. Plastic bags, which resemble jellyfish, are the most commonly found item in sea turtles’ stomachs. Worldwide, 82 of 144 examined bird species contained plastic debris in their stomachs; and in some cases, 80 percent of the population had consumed plastic. Researchers found that 66 percent of Giant Petrel shorebirds regurgitated plastic when feeding their chicks. Commercial fish, such as Opah and Bigeye Tuna, consume plastic, which could significantly reduce global populations. A University of Hawaii study reports “[i]n the two [Opah] species found in Hawaiian waters, 58 percent of the small-eye opah and 43 percent of the big-eye opah had ingested some kind of debris.”
On a recent field trip visiting with the Marine Mammal Research Program, we were guided through the facilities where beached and dead Pilot Whales had been examined. The stomach contents of the three animals found on O'ahu, Lana'i, and Kaua'i revealed between 15-30 lbs of plastic in the gut. Plastic does not breakdown like organic material and as marine animals continue to ingest the plastics their stomachs eventually fill to a state in which they can no longer consume enough food to address proper nutritional maintenance. This is similar to the problem widely shared with Laysan Albatross in Papahānaumokuākea.

HPower and the problems of incineration:

Incineration is a poor choice altogether for dealing with plastic waste. Just based on simple emission calculations on kilowatt/hour, HPOWER produces almost triple the GHG emission of our oil burning plant and just slightly less than coal. This places incineration as one of the dirtiest forms of energy production. In places like Copenhagen, their reliance on incineration actually caused them to go well over their agreed upon Kyoto protocol limits for GHGs. With the State of Hawai‘i institutionalizing the Paris Climate agreement and also agreeing to net-zero emissions, incineration should be phased out of any energy production goals. Finally, as noted in a BBC News article in 2018, plastics in a landfill are mostly inert, as they don’t break down when buried in the landfill and are thus not emitting anywhere near the emissions that come with incineration (further explained in the article referenced earlier in which plastics release the most methane when exposed to direct sunlight) . While we understand that Hawai‘i is limited in its space as a unique piece to this discussion, it needs to be noted that the environmental consequences of incineration are far greater than advertised. Thus, the emphasis needs to be a continued to push towards reduction of waste.

Ultimately, we have to reduce the problem at its source. Single-use plastics are an unneeded convenience that our society must learn to move away from. The alternatives exist and we must exercise some sort of ethic over our consumer behavior. Our kuleana is to protect our public health and public trust resources like our shorelines for all generations into the future and currently we are not fulfilling that leadership role. Sustainable Coastlines Hawai‘i strongly urges the County Council to pass Bill 40 and strengthen it in the process – creating a phase out plan for detrimental single-use plastics and becoming a leader.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Rafael Bergstrom
Executive Director, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai‘i

References:

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Imam, Jareen. “Hawaii has a serious trash problem — and it's coming on ocean waves”. CNN. June 3, 2016


Kaplan, Sarah. “By 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the world’s oceans, study says”. *Washington Post*. January 20, 2016.


Name: JOHN ELKJER
Phone: 8087691966
Email: john@sustainableislandproducts.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Council
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: SUSTAINABLE ISLAND PRODUCTS
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
We have 4 warehouses on 3 of the Hawaiian islands including Oahu. All we do is distribute high quality compostable packaging. We test every piece for its performance and its compostability. I can tell you that our products do work well. This is because we test them for performance and guarantee them to our customers. If they do not work as prescribed, our customers will get their money back. I am writing this because I am confident you will hear from those who say these items do not perform. My point is this....They do perform and perform well, and we put our own money on it every day. Very few if any supplier of plastic does this. If you would like more proof please do not hesitate to contact me. We will be happy to show you the differences.
Please support Bill 40.
Have a fantastic day.
John Elkjer
My name is Maria Burke, and as owner/manager of The Beet Box Cafe Hawaii, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws in 2011 and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic. We also take our responsibility, as a local community business, to protect our customers and the environment seriously, we cannot have more trash affecting our oceans and beaches!

Mahalo for considering Bill 40.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Hailey Berkey and as Owner The Nook Neighborhood Bistro, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We have never used plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws since the restaurant opened in 2014. We not only found that it has been easy and painless but that it has been good for our business. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

The cost argument that the opposition likes to point out; that the cost of enforcing business to use non-plastic based bags, foam, utensils and straws because it is too expensive or will hurt business is simply not true. There are way too business choosing to be on the right side of history without there bottom-line be destroyed. There is plenty of replacement non-plastic based options for comparable pricing. In fact, their cost in lower if you consider the negative affect the current plastic, single-use items, have on our environment. I have felt and argued for a long time now as a small business owner, that the passing of Bill 40 actually creates an equal and fair market place which will benefit the industry as a whole. If we are all subject to the same moral compass when it comes to our buying power we are not able to undercut each other on pricing at the expense of the environment. It also helps create more demand for sustainable products to become more widely available and produced at a lower cost as the companies making these products are able to scale up with the demand.

Please feel free to contact me about my and my companies position.
Mahalo for considering Bill 40.

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Alexandra Kahn and I run a nonprofit which provides environmental education through media and social media. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40 and paving the way towards a more sustainable future for Oahu, Hawaii, and the world. As an environmental storyteller, I have spoken with businesses, customers, and children around the island, asking them about their opinions on single-use plastic and how it affects their future and the future of Hawaii. The answers have varied across the board, but the common theme is that we need to make changes now for the long term goals of Hawaii and for our children’s future.

The information is on the news and social media that shows where microplastics are surfacing- in oceans, on beaches, in our drinking water, in the rain. We are ingesting plastic every day into our bodies whether we realize it or not. Plastics exposed to heat are emitting methane, the most potent greenhouse gas, into the environment and quickening the rate at which our atmosphere warms. These problems will not end unless ultimately single-use plastic ends. And while this goal is a long way off, we can begin to phase out single-use plastic now.

While Bill 40, at first, does not affect the rest of the country, history has shown that our environmental policy affects the other states and that they not only adopt our policies but look to us as a leader in the environment. We were the first to commit to 100% renewable energy, the first to ban some of the most potent chemicals in sunscreen, the first to commit to 100% carbon neutrality. And while these might have higher costs upfront, or cause

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concerns for businesses which have to make changes, the pending outcome of a cleaner,
more efficient, more self-sustaining, more cost-effective Hawaii outweighed any hesitation.
Bill 40 is just another step in the right direction. Hawaii is thought of as a leader throughout
America for our environmental policy, so let’s be a leader once again, so other states can
follow and we can create a better future for our children.

There is a large expense to the city centered around the plastic clean up of storm drains, this
should not be where our tax money goes. Our plastic is currently burned to create H-Power,
but this is an energy source that is not getting cleaner or cheaper with time, as renewable
sources are, so again this should not be where our tax money goes. As an island, we need to
invest in the future, by starting today with a single-use plastic phase-out.

Where I WILL spend money is in support of those businesses which stop using single-use
plastic. I WILL pay the extra cost for the alternative products and packaging because
ultimately I am paying to clean up the plastic and burn the plastic anyway, and I would
rather my money go to preventing the problem in the first place. I already avoid plastic
wherever I can in grocery stores, restaurants and stores. It’s become a regular part of my life
and I urge others to do the same. I go out of my way to support the businesses making
environmentally conscious decisions so the movement can spread further.

So please consider passing Bill 40 so that our money can be used more wisely and so that
we can be better prepared for the future and leave our children a better island and a better
planet.

Mahalo,

Alexandra Kahn
Aloha,

My name is Jodi Wilmott and I am the General Manager of the World Surf League (WSL) North America and Hawaii/Tahiti Nui region. I am also a resident of Waialua, lifelong surfer and advocate for ocean health and coastal stewardship. I have helped champion sustainability initiatives for a decade with community partners, non-profits, the City & County and the WSL at-large here in Hawaii. I support Bill 40 and am committed to making environmental improvements in the ways that I can, one of which is through the WSL, the governing body of professional surfing, and our events in Hawaii.

Through more than 200 hours of Live, global broadcasting from our events in Hawaii (O&O and Linear broadcasts), to an audience of many tens of millions around the world, we take seriously and embrace our unique opportunity to educate visitors towards positive sustainability practices that have global impact. We also educate our fans on the beach at our events, providing full interaction and participation in our sustainability initiatives on site.

The WSL is currently highlighting the tragic state of our reefs through a world-wide campaign at the Tahiti Pro Teahupoo, one of the most watched competitions of the WSL’s Championship Tour. The campaign advocates for greater funding and action for coral reefs by highlighting the danger signaled by fluorescing corals – which is a direct result of climate change – and is being broadcast worldwide with an unprecedented event take-over.

These all-too-important coral reefs are fundamental to Hawaii, and if Bill 40 were passed it would help support the protection of these fragile ecosystems; just one example of a much-needed progressive motion for the environment. By eliminating single use plastics, Styrofoam and plastic bags, we are prioritizing the ocean and surrounding areas, and putting marine health before the bottom line.

I live not far from the beaches of the North Shore that have shocked international audiences due to the immense amount of plastic trash washing up on the shores. This is extremely real for all of us in the state of Hawaii and around the world.

We have the opportunity to highlight Hawaii as a leader in sustainability. Hawaii has already become a frontrunner in the environmental conversation by being the first state to impose a state-wide ban on plastic bags and recently banning two chemicals found in sunscreen that are linked to reef and marine life degradation. We can extend this forward motion if we recognize the importance of passing Bill 40 and the positive impact it will have on our ocean.

Ocean health is vital to human health and I feel lucky enough to work with an organization that not only recognizes this but also possesses the power to highlight Hawaii as a leader in this area. I sincerely hope we can recognize the importance of protecting our ocean and we are committed to partnering with you to take the steps we need to take to get there. It is our responsibility to protect the future of humanity and cherish the natural environments we have inherited.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today.

Jodi Wilmott
WSL GM North America & Hawaii/Tahiti Nui
Aloha,

My name is Savannah Adler and I am a small business owner, student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, an active church member, community volunteer, and event coordinator. I was born in Lanikai, and raised in Kailua. I attended Windward Community College here on Oahu and was selected as one of twelve students to study abroad in Kanazawa, Japan for Shidler's Freeman Japan Scholarship Award in 2010. My Father is a small business owner, Landscape Design and Contractor here on Oahu for 30 plus years, originally from Austria, and my mother was a professor at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and is originally from Northern California and Sao Paolo, Brazil. I wanted to introduce myself to give a little bit of background as to who I am, where I come from, and the expansive worldview I have been raised with. I was fortunate to visit Lima, Peru as a nine-year-old after traveling through Europe for my first time in the same summer. I say fortunate because my experiences in Lima, Peru changed my life, especially after experiencing life in Europe by comparison. Growing up in Hawai'i I was taught by my family, my Kumu Hula, my school, and the culture to Malama 'Aina and Malama O Ke Kai. I was brought up to treat my family, friends, pastor, teachers, classmates, animals, and nature with honor, love, and respect. I learned to swim before I learned to walk and run. The ocean and its many creatures were an awe-inspiring world that I felt so blessed to enjoy and learn from, explore, and now have the opportunity to help protect. My trip to Peru was in vast contrast to my experiences in Hawaii. In Peru, there were plastic trash mounds as medians in the streets and the air was polluted and filled with smog. I played soccer with the children in the streets while wild dogs roamed, starving and diseased, rifling through the plastic waste and consuming what they could to stay alive. It broke my heart to see this reality, where children like me were subject to living in these conditions. I was never the same again, I saw waste differently, I saw the world differently. I was taught to honor others, as I wrote earlier, but this did not feel like honor. As I grew older and attended high school in Buenos Aires I was exposed to large Ghettos surrounding the city of Buenos Aires, where I heard the struggles from the mouths of the less fortunate. After experiencing so many different cultures, waste management systems, social structures, and city planning, it stirred my heart in the direction of environmental stewardship and social welfare awareness.

I currently own and operate a local ocean friendly fashion brand, WeAreWorthy. Our brand pays more for ethically produced and environmentally friendly products. We have found that consumers are eager to learn about our mission and find value in our products, which they are willing to pay more for. I co-founded a student co-op for student entrepreneurs where students can learn about inventory management, marketing, retail management, and sales. We used all reclaimed materials from Re-Use it Hawaii in order to visually express our stand for sustainability within the marketplace in order to educate consumers about these topics. I am currently working one on one with the Ohana Hale Marketplace in Ward to help the entire marketplace go Ocean Friendly, meaning ridding the market of single use plastics by providing alternatives and promoting reusables. There are businesses that are making the change in order to protect future generations, our current generations, and our beautiful islands and planet as a whole. Our shores may be Hawai'i’s, but the ocean shares waste from all corners to all shores. Loving our neighbors does not mean sending trash to their doorstep. I understand that this bill
has to do with the phasing out of single use plastics on Oahu, which I support full heartedly, and additionally hope to see the bill become even more comprehensive and target other issues with plastics in the future. The fashion industry is the second largest polluting industry in the world and 90% of all textiles produced annually are Polyester, which is also plastic. Polyester is made from the same substances that are used to produce plastic water bottles. There are studies showing that plastic from our clothing are breaking up in our washing machines which don’t have filters and are ending up in our rivers, lakes, and ocean. Our waste water treatment facility was not designed to filter plastic fibers and as a result they are being discovered in draft beer, table salt, fish, and our guts. Plastics in all industries need to be taken more seriously. I am doing my part to reduce waste in the fashion industry. Our brand participates on panel discussions to educate the public, does fashion shows for schools on island in order to educate the youth, and participates in international events such as San Francisco Sustainable Fashion Week International supported by the United Nations Global Action Summit. I don’t think is it fair that while I am making the effort and paying extra to do what is right and reduce a material that is infiltrating our water and food supply, a major public safety and health issue, that my tax dollars are being allocated toward cleaning up these very products from our drainage systems. Taxpayers and registered voters are paying the cleanup costs that a lot of the businesses are contributing to with their waste while these other businesses are taking on the cost to prevent this, it doesn’t make sense. I believe we can do the right thing as Hawai’i. We have an opportunity to set an example for the world of proper stewardship of natural resources, loving one another, and properly managing our waste. May God bless all of you in your decision-making process and give you wisdom and courage.

Aloha,

Savannah Adler
Owner
Worthy LLC
808-341-2365
To: Chair Tommy Waters  
Vice Chair Heidi Tsuneyoshi,  
Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Welfare  
Honolulu City Council

From: Victor Lim, Legislative Lead  
The Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj: Bill 40 (2019) Relating to Plastics  
Proposed CD 1 to Bill 40 (2019)

Date: August 25, 2019

The Hawaii Restaurant Association representing over 3,600 restaurants here in Hawaii believe that Bill 40 is premature in that Act 254 (19) as signed by the Governor Ige charging the Department of Health to form a “plastic source reduction working group” to come up with a plan on reducing waste and usage of plastics here in Hawaii before the convening of the 2021 legislative session.

HRA supports the concept that straws of any kind be given out only upon request to dine in customers. The current paper straws that many in the industry are using faces the challenge of durability and have an after taste while costing about three or four times.

In regards to the compostable utensils, the challenge for the industry is not only the much higher costs while easily breaking in use.

The largest user of plastic take out bags are the ethnic restaurants whose food have heat and hot gravies. The paper packaging that cost a lot more do not handle spills in transport very well.

Without the proper composting or recycling facilities here in Honolulu and all of our current trash going towards H Power, we oppose Bill 40 (2019) because we will all pay more for products that really end up in the same place. CD 1 with the property tax breaks is definitely the preferable of the two versions.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our views on these bills.
TO: CHAIR TOMMY WATERS, VICE CHAIR HEIDI TSUYENOSHI, & THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE

FROM: ADRIAN HONG, PRESIDENT OF ISLAND PLASTIC BAGS, INC.

DATE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 29th

RE: BILL 40 AND PROPOSED CD1 RELATING TO PLASTIC

POSITION: STRONGLY OPPOSE

Chair Tommy Waters & Members of the Committee;

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of Bill 40. My name is Adrian Hong and I am president of Island Plastic Bags Inc., a second-generation, family business in Halawa Valley. If Bill 40 passes, it will have a negative impact on the health of consumers, disadvantage people with disabilities, cause unreasonable hardship for businesses, and be difficult to enforce.

Restaurants, bakeries, and other businesses that provide prepared food were exempted from previous bans because the use of single use, plastic bags for them is a sanitation issue. Take out containers often leak gravy, grease, and other liquids that paper bags are not designed to contain. Reusable bags are a problem because consumers don’t wash them. If consumers use reusable bags for takeout food, it is likely that we will see a rise in food poisoning as reusable bags become contaminated by microbes. For more information about a study conducted on this matter, please click the following link: https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/01/06/reusable-grocery-bag-germs/4341739/.

Banning plastic utensils and straws would greatly disadvantage people with disabilities and immune deficiencies. Some individuals are not able to drink from a glass like the rest of us do, either because they are afraid of getting sick due to their diminished immune systems or because they physically can’t. We shouldn’t make their lives harder by not providing simple, cost effective products that make their life better. Instead of outright banning plastic straws and utensils, I recommend restaurants be required to ask customers if they want straws and utensils instead of always handing them out. That would reduce costs for businesses, make it less likely straws and utensils will become litter, and allow people that need the products to have them.

As we all know, paper straws are not a viable substitute. After two minutes, you are drinking as much paper as you are water. It also makes no sense to switch consumers from plastic cutlery to compostable cutlery when there is no composting facility on Oahu that will accept compostable plastic. That is why the City & County of Honolulu banned compostable bags. Whether plastic or compostable, the cutlery is going to be burned at HPower.

The uncertainty caused by the City & County of Honolulu continually changing the regulations around plastic hurts my business and many other businesses. Every two years we have to change which products we manufacture and which products we stock. We continually have to inform our customers
about what products they can use this year. This has caused a large loss in sales for Island Plastic Bags and makes it difficult for us to plan ahead. Do I manufacture locally or purchase from overseas? Do I want to commit to bringing in new equipment to make a new product when it could be banned in two years? These types of concerns are not restricted to my business. Restaurant supply companies, restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and other businesses continually have to change what they stock and who their vendors are. This takes away focus from other areas of their businesses.

Enforcement of this bill would also be difficult. How will the department enforce these new rules on thousands upon thousands of food establishments? It is difficult enough to enforce the current bag legislation on the grocery stores. Unless the City & County of Honolulu is prepared to give the department a huge budget increase to enforce this bill, I have trouble seeing how the current department’s resources will be enough to educate consumers and businesses as well as enforce the regulations.

I recommend that Bill 40 proceed no further. The negative impacts of the legislation will not exceed the benefits of the legislation. I also recommend that the City & County of Honolulu wait till the plastic source reduction working group created by SB 522 concludes its work before introducing any further legislation on plastics. Useful recommendations about how to mitigate the negative impacts of plastics while keeping the benefits of plastics should come out of the work done at the working group. The City & County of Honolulu is already going to participate in the working group.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Sincerely,

Adrian Hong
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Joy Gold</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joy@joygoldunlimited.com">joy@joygoldunlimited.com</a></td>
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<td>Organization</td>
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<td>Organization</td>
<td>KYD, Inc dba: K Yamada Distributors</td>
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**Do you wish to speak at the hearing?** Yes

**Written Testimony**

**Testimony Attachment**  
20190827154948_KYD_2019_Bill40_CD1_PSW.pdf

**Accept Terms and Agreement**  
1

**IP:** 192.168.200.67
Special Meeting  
Committee on Public Safety and Welfare  
August 29, 2019 – 9:00 am  
Honolulu Hale  
Bill 40 and Proposed CD1, Relating to Plastic  
Position: Oppose

Chair Waters, Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi and Members of the Public Safety and Welfare Committee:

KYD, Inc. dba: K. Yamada Distributors opposes Bill 40 and the proposed CD1, Relating to Plastic. Bill 40 seeks to better manage land-based litter that migrates to waterways and the ocean and strives for responsible waste management policies and programs.

A large part of uncontrolled litter rests with visitor, resident and homeless population behavior of improper disposal of trash. As a kamaaina family business, we live here and care about our environment. Rather than support bans, we encourage public/private sector programs for increased infrastructure, prevention/education and enforcement of litter laws.

The recent Honolulu City Auditor’s Study of Single-Use Polystyrene Food Containers and Plastic Bags provided economic impact information and insight to this discussion. Bans of one type of material in favor or another will not reduce the litter in our Oahu waterways.¹

The unintended consequences of the proposed bans include:

- Sanitation and health issues in transporting prepared foods  
- Increased cost to businesses and consumers for alternative containers, straws and utensils when all properly disposed single use food service ware go to HPower  
- Shortage of available product inventory since it takes 4-6 weeks to ship products from the mainland; increasing the carbon footprint compared to locally made food packaging  
- Supply chain disruption when shipped products are not available for local businesses  
- Increased theft of retail products that are slipped into reusable bags without payment; this theft is already occurring in stores

In addition, there is a popular misperception that consumers can bring their personal, reusable containers for takeout or meal – leftovers. In fact, FDA regulations² restrict food service businesses from accepting personal, reusable consumer takeout containers due to sanitary and health reasons.

These are some of the reasons to defer Bill 40 and CD1 for deeper fact gathering and discussion through Act 254. Act 254 (2019 State Legislature) establishes a plastic source reduction work group that includes state, county and private sector stakeholders to make recommendations to reuse, reduce, recycle and recover plastic waste.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/PS_Ban_Study_Final_Report.pdf  
² FDA Regulation Title 21 CFR 177.1640
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Please amend the bill to ban polystyrene food containers on O‘ahu to save marine life and ultimately human life. Polystyrene is a known carcinogen, this should not even be a discussion when it comes to banning something that causes cancer. I have had family members die from cancer and some that have fought it off but it is something that we should be trying our hardest to get rid of and prevent so if we can get rid of one carcinogen I don’t see why not, cancer is one of the most dominant diseases and must be stopped. All in all, banning polystyrene on O‘ahu will help marine life, human life, and the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,

Aidan Range
Senior at Radford High School
401 Ohana Nui Circle
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha,

my name is Alessia and I support Bill 40. Unfortunately, our beautiful island is overwhelmed with plastic and micro-plastic. I'm concerned for my own health and for the health of our ocean.

The World Health Organization says that microplastics are "ubiquitous" and have been detected in fresh water, wastewater, food, air, bottled water, tap water and more. As a tax payer, I believe that you’re responsible to act and put an end to something that will affect the health of all of us. I do not want to eat microplastics with tuna while I’m eating poke.

In order to reduce plastic, I’m doing my part at home, but also I’m avoiding all food establishments in Oahu who use single use plastic containers, cutlery and straws. I used to love some local and well-known poke and Hawaiian food establishments, but because of their use of plastic and styrofoam containers I decided to give my money, instead, to more sustainable eateries. I’m happy to pay the extra few cents for the compostable containers, it’s very important to me.

I noticed, also, that the Ocean friendly restaurants are very successful and they gained more clients based on their sustainable choices.

In addition, the place where I currently live, was completely flooded a year ago because the nearby stream was clogged with trash and debris and I recently found out, through a HI DOT report, that plastic bags and foam containers are the top two litter categories found.
clogging drains and stormwater systems and were directly related to the floods. Prevention through single use plastic reduction would be much more cost effective than unclogging and cleaning up for both, the City and the private citizens.

You have the opportunity to help this island today and create a much healthier environment for the keiki to grow up in. We can lead the way.

Mahalo.
Alessia
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 8:50 AM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Alika delossantos-hoopai  
Phone: 808-747-6782  
Email: alikaboii22@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

On our island plastic is a real problem, they get into the water and kill our native fish which is affecting the coral all around the island. We need to amend polystyrene foam food containers because when we throw it away it goes to the landfill and the foam is not biodegradable so it stays on this island and eventually makes its way to the ocean where anything from turtles, fish, sharks, and fish that us Hawaiians and tourist love to eat and could make us sick and even die.

Sincerely,

Alika Delos santos-Hoopai  
Senior at Radford high school  
99-411 AIEALANI PL  
Aiea

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement  

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support the bill 40, which is the banning of plastic bags for take out foods, straws, stirrers, and utensils. I support this because in the NYT it is written that "all over the world sea turtles are swallowing bits of plastic floating in the ocean mistaking them for jellyfish or are unable to move around them." Plastic bags need to be ban because of of careless people are with them, the first time it really affected me was when the a lady and her son had a plastic bag and left it in the ocean at black sand beach right with a turtle was heading, while i manged to grab the bag, i started to winder how we got so careless with the marine life around us. We can also ban plastic straws because it ends up in ocean where fish end up getting hurt and as Diana Lofflin once said "Straws are something anyone can give up easily without having it affect their lifestyle, ".

While we are on the subject can you please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu because according to seasickfish.com its states that "When polystyrene travels down waterways and storm drains into the ocean, it breaks down into smaller, non-biodegradable pieces that are ingested by marine life and other wildlife thus harming or killing them"

Sincerely,
Amari Helmany
Senior at Radford Highschool
Ohana Nui Circle
Honolulu, Hi 96818
Written Testimony

Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.
Dear council members:

It is time that Honolulu join other main cities of the entire world to address the issue of plastic pollution. An extensive array of studies and scientific literature has determined that our addiction to plastic has become a burden to our oceans and our landfills as it never can degrade. Plastic and other toxic materials such as styrofoam or polyethylene get carried by the wind to our streams and ocean waters killing wildlife, and have been found in fish consumed by humans, and it's now a health safety concern. I urge you to ban single use plastics and single use polyethylene as it consists of a safety hazard to humans, the environment and wildlife. Most of these plastics can't be recycled and are ending up on a landfill where they are being burned causing an ever increasing damage to our planet by causing carbon emissions and further contributing to climate change. Please take the step to ensure our Hawaiian Islands are safer for future generations. Thank you.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Mrs Anderson Jennifer Lynn
Phone: 9109889911
Email: squeaksbuddy@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
Bill 40 needs an amendment to also ban polystyrene foam containers. These containers are just as bad for the environment and for people. It provides an unnecessary amount of trash. We got along just fine before plastic and the oceans weren’t being destroyed by plastic pollution. We are and evolving species and can come up with something different to do that won’t kill the environment.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Andrea Nandoskar
Phone: 8083586203
Email: birdofparadise@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Transportation
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
Please support this bill and amend to prohibit the sale of food or drinks in polystyrene foam containers as well as have a 2 year phase out period for the thicker multiple use plastic bags which may take longer to break down but cause more inherent harm since they contain more plastic, harm sea life, humans, and collect toxic chemicals as well as break down into unmanageable microplastics. Amend to incentivize small local businesses to develop plant-based bioplastic replacement items through pilot trials. Let's grow our entrepreneurial spirit through a local green economy!
Mahalo for your consideration!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support Bill 40 and it needs to be amended. I believe that Bill 40 will do nothing but help improve the environment and improve the community. By eliminating plastic we can reduce the amount of litter that is on land and sea. People have become too comfortable using plastics having the mentality of just using it and then throwing it away. Instead, people should invest a little more on things like metal straws that are reusable. Bill 40 has to be amended because a ban polystyrene foam has to be made. Polystyrene foam is harmful to people and to the environment, it cause can cancer and lead to other health issues. If the Bill gets amended, it not only helps the community but the wildlife as well which is very important to us.

Sincerely,
Andy Ruiz
Senior at Radford High School
1040 Makalika Loop
Honolulu, HI, 96818
To Whom It May Concern,

I support this bill.

As a resident that positively contributes to the local society, as a law abiding taxpayer and as a local homeowner that cares about my community, I would like to express my concerns about the current policy in hopes to provide a better, cleaner, healthier and happier future for generations to come that will reside in this paradise.

Having been born in Eastern Europe, very close to Russia, right around the Soviet Union times, life as we knew it was very dreary, simple and frugal. I remember growing our own vegetables, even right there in the city. I remember reusing and repurposing things, so that new items wouldn’t need to be purchased. I remember having barely any rubbish to dispose of at the end of the week, as we repurposed or composted as much as possible. It was a way of life – taught from an early age, by grandparents, as well as by government - in middle school.

When I moved to the United States decades ago, I was taken back by the consumerism culture. I immediately became afraid for the environment. Growing more mature, I became more aware and concerned of the harm that humans are causing to the environment.

I believe it takes generations to make a visible change; therefore, I would like to contribute by standing up for what I believe in today. I believe that by passing Bill 40 to phase out single use plastics will make an enormous positive impact not only on the eco system, ocean life, sea levels, cleaner air, and infrastructure, but also on the society – this would be the perfect nudge for us as a society to make a small change by bringing our own reusable utensil set to our favorite lunch spot, or by refusing that plastic bag at checkout.

Being aware of the statistics and the ample research to prove the negative effects of plastic, it has become quite obvious that the health and safety of humans all over the world is being jeopardized. And why? Because of our decisions, as consumers, to keep using single use plastic due to its convenience. I have been fortunate to have travelled to various places, and it hurts to see the visible pollution that other communities have to endure due to our decisions. As a governing agency protecting the people, it should be the ultimate goal to provide a healthy future. I would appreciate if the government policies in place would help me and my community make healthier choices. A simple nudge to reduce single use plastics is a great start to teach us that we can start reversing the negative impacts we’ve already caused. Like the recent policy of phasing out the plastic bags – ever since it started to cost people a few cents extra, all of a sudden, the necessity to use them during each shopping trip vanished! And nobody turned over in their grave! I believe it will have a similar result with eliminating the single use utensils.

I understand that the businesses are afraid of the increased cost of the compostable utensils and containers, but from a taxpayer’s perspective, I am currently one of many residents absorbing this
burden of a cost. Massive amounts of my tax dollars are going to keep the HPower running, cleaning the oceans, beaches, streets, drains, as well as resources spent on healing an ill population that has been negatively impacted by consuming microplastics, inhaling toxins and eating fish that had plastic in their diet. I will advocate for a healthier population.

I believe that the respect, love and appreciation for this planet, nature and eco system should be built from an early age. This concept should be a part of the education. But in order for it to be relatively easy and convenient for the public to conform to, it should be made easy to follow – by enforcing stronger sustainability policies.

Within the recent years, Hawaii has already been a great role model to other states with our forward thinking on green energy and zero carbon footprint goals. I believe the public is ready to inspire other states to do better with their reduced use of plastics. I believe this will inspire more innovation to come up with alternatives and result in healthier decisions. This will ultimately lead to more businesses, more jobs and healthier and happier population.

I truly appreciate your time to hear my voice, and I truly believe in our government to make safe and healthy choices for our people. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Anete Jayaweera
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Angela
Phone: 8083527754
Email: Angelamaecoasay@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Business
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: Rule in favor of the ban on plastic checkout bags for food and drinks, straws and stirrer nerds, all disposable plastic utensils. There are many occasions where I would see multiple plastic objects floating in the oceans. Marine life is heavily effected by plastic and we need to protect them.

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Angela Huntemer
Phone: 808-224-3101
Email: angelahuntemer@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PITS
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

Please do everything you can to move towards a complete ban of as many plastic products as possible on our islands. I participate in beach cleanups. We know that most of the beach trash comes from "away" apparently a place where it was supposed to go to and stay...It is still important for individuals and governments to take responsibility for STOPPING the demand, use and production of plastic products. Mahalo. Angela Huntemer

IP: 192.168.200.67
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<th>Angela Huntemer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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**Written Testimony**

Dear Council Members, Please pass Bill 40. It is imperative that we ban on polystyrene foam food and drink containers. They are a disgusting waste of resources and are awful pollutants Please ban all plastic checkout bags - no exceptions! The way that Walmart and some other retailers have been getting around that id really shameful. Please do everything you can to move towards a complete ban of as many plastic products as possible on our islands. I participate in beach cleanups. We know that most of the beach trash comes from "away" apparently a place where it was supposed to go to and stay...It is still important for individuals and governments to take responsibility for STOPPING the demand, use and production of plastic products. Mahalo. Angela Huntemer
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 2:25 PM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Annika Bauer  
Phone: 7143908415  
Email: annika-bauer@cox.net  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: I support banning single use plastics because it’s the right thing to do for the future of our planet, children, society. It’s just the beginning of transforming a mind set.

Testimony Attachment: 1

Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

The plastic ban bill should be passed because it is bad for the marine life. The plastic end up being entangled in it and sometimes end up dying by ingesting it which is bad for the environment. I support this bill to ban plastic checkout bags for take-out foods, disposable plastic straws, stirrers and utensils because there are people who litter, which then the plastic gets blown away and eventually ending up in the ocean. These plastic materials needs to be banned because there are thousands or even more people that probably use one of the items that are plastic and really people need to start using recycling bags and metal straws which is purchasable and reusable. This goes for polystyrene as well because it can get really messy and it is harmful to humans due to contamination by the chemicals that goes in your food so it needs to be amended to ban the bill.

Sincerely,
Anuel Legaspina

Senior at Radford High School
4337 Keaka Drive, Honolulu 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Ashley Dumlao
Phone: 808-551-9026
Email: Ashley.dumlao@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony: I just wish to save our honus and beaches. Our ohana and the school my keikis attend go to the beach in our neighborhood to pick up micro plastic and opala once a week. This ban would help and bring us in the right direction!

IP: 192.168.203.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Ashley Martinez  
Phone: 4023124113  
Email: info@ainalife.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: PITS  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment: 20190827074116_bill40_testimony.pdf  
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I am writing in support of Bill 40. Change is scary right? Although if change is to protect and sustain our paradise home for our future children I think it’s worth it? My husband (a surfer, filling his pockets with more and more plastic from the ocean every time he surfs) and I started our own business, ‘AINA Life. We are 30 years old, working service industry jobs, to put all of our income into our Reusable Produce Bag Business (100% Organic Cotton, 100% Biodegradable). A sustainable business.

We have no money to our name, yet the health of our bodies and our planet is our top priority. We only eat and shop at Ocean Friendly, businesses that encourage reusables and I can say that all of our friends are exactly the same. Banan and Down To Earth sustain us. We will spend the extra money to know that we doing our part to divert waste into our eco-systems.

It also is frustrating that even though we are putting in our conscious effort, our tax dollars are going to clean up the waste of others and businesses that continue to pollute with plastic.

My husband and I have opted to not have children, not because we do not love them, but because we do not want them to grow up in the environment we are creating for them. Our government, businesses, and communities need to join together and consider where our dollars are really going and how we can do better for each other and the future.
Aloha! I support Bill 40. We are responsible for the health of our people and our island. By banning single use plastics we can eliminate so much unnecessary waste that harms out people, our oceans, animals and island home. There are alternatives and we can do better as a people for ourselves and future generations! Aloha!

Testimony

Accept Terms and Agreement 1
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Ava, and I live in Honolulu, I am testifying in emphatic support of Bill 40.

It is crucial for our islands to stop using foam, utensils, and straws, not only as a powerful action to save and protect our ecosystems and children, but also to stand as an important leader for the whole country.

Mahalo,
Ava
Written Testimony

Plastic are throwing off the natural balance of our echo systems and killing sea life. There are plenty of chemicals in plastics that can harm people well before it gets polluted and ends up in the ocean. Bill 40 should also have an amendment to also ban polystyrene foam containers which can cause cancer because of the chemicals. There are other resources we can use instead of plastic and with less risk. We call us use something biodegradable or go back to cardboard. Some food courts have reusable containers so that if you are just going to eat then leave, you aren’t wasting harmful resources. Plastic is not a necessity, but in fact a harmful product.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
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<td>Email</td>
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Written Testimony

As a student studying marine biology at UH Mānoa, these issues directly affect me. There have been studies done by UH students about the micro-plastic in the ocean and it’s been proven in a LOCAL study that these micro plastics are releasing methane, which is 20 times more dangerous than carbon dioxide, as they break down. I’ve been to countless beach clean ups and have seen so much plastic on the shores and in our ocean. It’s disappointing to see especially because these items are being used only once and then thrown away carelessly. For those that make the choice to eat fish, this micro-plastics are also very dangerous to consume. Finally, I am a resident and taxpayer in the state of Hawai’i and I feel that it is extremely unfair that some of my hard earned money is going towards cleaning up the messes that big businesses have made on this island because of their selfish use of single use plastics. The cost of cleanup and removal of these items is in the millions and could easily be reduced if these items were phased out. We need to make a difference because this issue is directly affecting not only our oceans but also our coastlines. If we don’t make a difference now, we’ll be ruining the beauty of Hawai’i for future generations.
# Speaker Registration/Testimony

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Benjamin Endemann</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(808) 381-4202</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Benjaminkolise808@gmail.com">Benjaminkolise808@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Date</td>
<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
<td>Public Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agenda Item</td>
<td>Bill 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your position on the matter</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representing Organization</td>
<td>Self</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

Dear members of the Honolulu City Council

Please provide plastic recycling methods. If not then please ban plastic bags, take-out plates, cups, and other plastic items that may harm our Islands. We would all want nice and clean waters/beaches as well. No one likes a beach with tons of plastic. I live in Aiea Hawai'i and I would appreciate it if you would amend the bill.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Endemann

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I support this bill because our county needs to do more than just clean up the plastic pollution in our oceans. I organize families, children and many other people within my community of Ewa to clean up our shorelines of plastic pollution. We find plastics that have just washed up and others that have obviously been there for many many years. We cannot continue to clean up the mess of others. We need to stop the input of plastics into the oceans.

I support this bill because our county needs to do more than just clean up the plastic pollution in our oceans. I organize families, children and many other people within my community of Ewa to clean up our shorelines of plastic pollution. We find plastics that have just washed up and others that have obviously been there for many many years. We cannot continue to clean up the mess of others. We need to stop the input of plastics into the oceans.

Many alternatives to plastics exist today making it easier and easier for businesses to accommodate to rules against plastics. Many businesses have already done so. After personally cleaning up so much trash from our coastline, I have made lifestyle adjustments to reduce my use of single use plastics, but I don't expect everyone to have the same type of experiences as I do. It is therefore up to the city to regulate the use of these harmful pollutants and prevent them from being used in the first place.

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**Written Testimony**

Many alternatives to plastics exist today making it easier and easier for businesses to accommodate to rules against plastics. Many businesses have already done so. After personally cleaning up so much trash from our coastline, I have made lifestyle adjustments to reduce my use of single use plastics, but I don't expect everyone to have the same type of experiences as I do. It is therefore up to the city to regulate the use of these harmful pollutants and prevent them from being used in the first place.

---

**IP:** 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Sunday, August 25, 2019 5:14 PM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Beth Anderson  
Phone: 8082620786  
Email: bethkailua@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40 banning plastics  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Our oceans, reefs, and marine life are in serious trouble. Plastics are contributing to this. We can't keep ignoring these issues and pretend things are going to improve on their own. Plastics are all over beaches in once pristine areas like Midway Island. Every single bird there has bits of plastic in their digestive system. Autopsy examination of deceased albatross chicks on Midway Island shows large amounts of plastic in their stomachs. It is killing them. More and more chicks are dying each year. This is an example of just one species. We know about the honu with the plastic straws stuck in their nostrils. And, we know about the Pacific garbage dump in our ocean that is the size of Texas. Friends have told me about beaches on Molokai covered in bits of plastic. And, I have seen plastics bits on the beach here in Kailua, where I live, for the past 40 years. All of these problems are just getting worse and we need to do something about it in order to save our oceans, our marine life, our planet. Please Support Bill 40 and begin the effort to eliminate the disastrous effects of plastic on the environment. There are bio-degradable or recyclable substitutes for these plastic products. They may cost more, but when plastic is killing species, coral reefs, and littering pristine beaches, what is the cost of that? Our planet is taking a lot of abuse. I'm not sure how much more it can take and continue to sustain life. It takes fossil fuel to produce plastics and, as we know, carbon levels from the burning of fossil fuels in our atmosphere are out of control and causing catastrophic conditions on the earth. Our oceans here in Hawaii are 3 degrees higher than normal and coral reefs are dying because of this stress on them. This temperature rise is due to global warming and fossil fuel use. This is another reason to decrease plastic use and eventually eliminate it altogether until biodegradable plastics are available and affordable. Please support Bill 40. It is the very least we can do for our oceans and marine life. Thank you for doing what is right.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support Bill 40 because humans have been the cause of environmental degradation, and the down fall of our planet. Banning plastic is one way we could help with the chaos, the issues with plastic cause health issues for humans as it could cause contamination, damages the environment on land and in the sea, and we lose money producing all of these plastic items that could easily be turned into a reusable items. Plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and also please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food container on Oahu. Plastic takes a long time to decompose and can leach toxic chemicals in our soil and water.

Sincerely, Brandon Revilla
Senior at Radford High school
94-529 Lumiaina St. #D204
Waipahu HI 96797
Dear members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support Bill 40 due to the severe impact it has had on our ecosystem. The plethora of plastic use in the past years has severely damaged numerous life processes for all species. Due to plastic being non-biodegradable it breaks down into tiny particles that imitate the look of plankton in our oceans, this not only contaminates our food chain but all causes premature death to a number of creatures. Starvation, suffocation, and drowning can be the cause of death for animals that mistaken plastic debris as food. The pile of plastic in our landfills cause soil pollution, once plastic comes into contact with water it releases numerous chemicals into the soil making it less fertile, damaging our crops and contaminate groundwater. The burning of plastics contribute to climate change, and further polluting our air, making us more susceptible to illnesses. I wish to also amended to add an on ban Polystyrene foam.

Sincerely,
Bree Kipili
Senior At Radford High School
91-1007 Auhola St.
Ewa Beach, Hawaii, 96706
I support the bill to ban single use plastic on Oahu. The environmental impact on our health and wellbeing is devastating. We can not in good conscience overlook the opportunity to act.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Regarding "Bill 40" we should ban plastic ware/bags, not only that but, we should also amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam. This is because it is not only killing our fish and our unique aquatic animals but it is also affecting our coral reefs that play a large part in keeping our environment functioning. Another thing is if we didn't have plastic, then we would not have to burn it creating even more toxins for our environment, making our air so much healthier. A bio compostable alternative could be paper straws, reusable bags, bring your own containers to put your take out. There are many other ways for use to not kill our environment by switching to safer alternatives.

Sincerely,
Cade Fulcher

Senior at Radford High School
5607 Tulip Ln Honolulu, HI 96818
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Caleigh Dillon, I live in Waialua, and I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

I want our island to stop using foam, utensils and straws because these items, often used as one-off disposables, end up in our landfills and our oceans, where they will outlive us all. They pollute our land and our water, endangering marine life and risking the beauty and health of our home. A plastic-filled sea and overflowing landfill is not the world I want our children to inherit. There are easy alternatives to these products. Please vote "Yes" on Bill 40.

Mahalo,
Caleigh
Aloha, my name is Cameron Woods. I am born and raised in Aiea, and currently attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40. As a Public Health major, I have learned so much about how the health of the environment directly affects our own health. One explicit example is that single use plastic increases the occurrence of littering. Many people hold little value to plastic straws, utensils, etc., and are more likely to leave it on the beach or throw it out the window. With littering comes associated problems such as the spread of bacteria, as the plastic trash now becomes a host for bacteria to thrive. Additionally, plastic trash make it so these originally beautiful places are now full of unsightly and unsanitary trash, and people can no longer enjoy the outdoor environment. Furthermore, because plastics essentially never degrade, this means that environmental organizations, or frankly animals that consume the plastic, will be the ones to have to remove the plastic from our environment.

There are countless other ways that plastics directly affect the health of the environment and ourselves. However, instead of explaining them all, I’ll leave you with one personal story.

Seven years ago, I went to Makapu’u beach for the first time. I instantly fell in love with the crystal clear water and vast white sand beach. In the following years, Makapu’u would be my go-to beach and would instantly make me happier. However, these past couple years, I have noticed that trash, from micro plastics to large pieces of trash, has been accumulating on the beach. The past couple times I visited Makapu’u beach this summer, it was impossible to find a place to lay down the towel that was not on pieces of plastic. During my final visit of the summer, we ended up leaving the water early because we could not find
a place to swim that was not layered with plastics. My friends and I exited the ocean with micro plastics in our hair, on our bodies, and in our bikinis. It was disheartening to reflect back on the Makapu’u beach I fell in love with seven years ago, and see the state it is in now.

Although we can’t reverse time, we need to act now to stop the damage we have and are doing. Now is the time to stop using plastic utensils, straws, bags, and foam.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I, Camila Carracedo, live in Kapolei & support to ban plastic bags. A ton of debris flows into the ocean creating multiple islands of trash floating around. Since it's in reach of marine life, they're able to get caught in it. Later causing serious damage to then killing off species intensely. We should stretch to also fight for polystyrene foam containers to be banned as well. They're used in most to all food trucks on the island of Oahu. A solution that can help is to switch out the containers for something similar to what Starbucks has provided for their customers. They can buy tumblers (reusable cups) to bring in for ordering while in return no plastic is used. A metal straw is included with each cup. Food trucks could take in this option to not only still make profits, but also make a program worth bringing in a higher number of customers. Finally, the effect of the problem is not just marine life getting sick, it's also human life as well. There has been a chemical compound named BPA (Bisphenol A) found in many hard plastic products commonly used on daily bases. The toxic chemical has been shared to cause Alzheimer's, childhood asthma, metabolic disease, type 2 diabetes & cardiovascular disease.

Sincerely,
Camila Carracedo

Senior at Radford High School
92-809 Puhoho Street Kapolei, HI 96707
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Carie Sarver
Phone: 810-919-6336
Email: carie.sarver14@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: While I believe this bill could and should be much more robust and apply to many other types of single use plastics I fully support this measure as a starting point for cleaning up our lands and waters.

Accept Terms and Agreement: 

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 12:58 PM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Carla Prentiss  
Phone: 5305750179  
Email: itz_my_business@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

I would like to see single use plastic banned, because there are so many other environmental friendly products that could replace everything. It may cost more, but in the long run, our children of the future will have a world that they can be healthy in, and be proud of. Plus, who wants to swim in an ocean full of garbage and plastic waste? Animals are dying because of us, and we need them. If animals die off faster and faster each year, who's to say that we are not next.

Written Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Name | Carol L. Smith  
---|---  
Phone | 808-478-8447  
Email | clsmith@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date | 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee | Public Safety  
Agenda Item | Bill 40  
Your position on the matter | Support  
Representing | Self  
Organization  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? | No  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement | 1
Aloha! My name is Catherine Lenz. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of Bill 40. Earlier this year I took my young children on their very first trip to Hawaii (Oahu) from the Mainland. We came to visit my sister, a student of marine science at UH, whose research happens to be concerned with the welfare of marine ecosystems. We spent part of everyday of our visit in the water, because water recreation is my family's favorite form of exercise. Sadly, one of our strongest memories from this visit was of being surrounded by plastic garbage as we swam and played in the waves. Each visit to a swim beach became a cleanup effort as we collected handful after handful of floating plastic debris. It was heartbreaking to see such beautiful places treated like a dump, and we were saddened to have to share stories of our experiences with the plastic pollution in Hawaii with friends and family back home. My family is grateful for your consideration of bold solutions to plastic pollution in order to protect the wellbeing of today's residents and visitors of Hawaii, as well as those for many future generations to come. Mahalo for your support of Bill 40!
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name catherine m southern
Phone 8089893285
Email nekoyoga@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee Public Safety
Agenda Item BAN ON PLASTICS
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony let's be proactive! once upon a time, we drank with waxed straws, we had paper takeout and glass containers. in light of the FARreaching affects of plastic on our environment and on wildlife, i forward this ban on plastics!!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I grew up on Oahu in the 1960's swimming in clear clean ocean water fronted by pristine sandy beaches. Single use plastics clutter beaches all over the island and imperil all sea life found in our Pacific Ocean. As a species we are interdependent with our oceans and the food and fauna that co-exist there and are dying off at an alarming rate due to these plastics. Please pass Bill 40 for our children and grandchildren's future connection to our island's natural ocean resources. Mahalo
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 9:13 PM  
Subject: Business, Economic Development and Tourism Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Celia Gustavsson  
Phone: 6047276244  
Email: celiagustavsson8233@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Business  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No  
Written Testimony: keep oahu and it's waters clean! the pollution is not only affecting hawaii, it affects the whole world!!  
Testimony Attachment: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Celia Gustavsson  
Phone: 6047276244  
Email: celiagustavsson8233@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No  

Written Testimony: (I did the wrong committee before whoops) keep our ocean clean at all costs! think about the welfare of the earth in higher priority than business and economy. in the long run it is worth every bit of energy put into it  

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement:  

IP: 192.168.200.67
Hawaii needs to be a global leader in reducing plastic consumption and this bill is a major step in the right direction. Reducing use of plastic also combats global warming because 1) plastic is made from petroleum/oil; 2) factories that manufacture plastic run off fossil fuels; and 3) importing plastics across the ocean requires the use of fossil fuels.

I support this bill, but with the amendment that “single-use” be changed to “disposable “, because plastics bags can be used multiple times but are still disposable. I would also add that this bill should include Polystyrene cups and containers because those are equally harmful for our environment and are also petroleum-based.

Thank you for your time and for thinking of Hawaii’s future.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Charlie Taylor, and I live in Kaimuki. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want Oahu to stop using foam, utensils, straws and plastic bags because they never decompose and contribute to countless deaths of seabirds, marine mammals, and other sea life. Oahu is blessed with amazing beaches and water and we need to keep it pristine for future generations (and tourism dollars).

Mahalo,
Charlie Taylor
My name is Christian. I am a 17 year old student from the Ahupua’a of Kailua. Older generations have created countless environmental problems that they have handed down to us. All over the world, youth like myself are taking a stand to protect the limited number of resources we have left on our planet. Plastic pollution is a massive problem with a simple solution. We must change our throw away culture and switch to a more sustainable way of life. Plastic is a material that lasts forever, but is often used for less than 10 minutes. That is a design failure. Please do not support the plastic industry which is taking advantage of our communities and destroying the future of our keiki.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Christine Froschl
Phone: 206-913-9766
Email: kiki1hfgmai1.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

As an ocean conservationist I believe that we as a society can be better and do better when it comes to fulfilling our ocean ethic. The ocean sustains every human being on this planet and we need to take care of this place we call home. There are no excuses anymore; we know too much and have access to so many resources to help change our destructive behaviors to just view marine pollution with apathy or worse, indifference.

Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Christine Silguero
Phone: 7135780051
Email: christine.silguero@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
As someone who has moved to Hawaii to enjoy the beauty this island has to offer, I have been disappointed to see the city take care of this beautiful treasure. For this to be a place for locals and tourist to enjoy for the years to come, we must work to reduce or waste and impact on not just the trash that ends up in our landfills, but the trash that ends up in our oceans and on our beaches. It is the sad truth that many won't take the personal responsibility to save this island, and that is why its up to the city to take the initiative. Hawaii has been a symbol to the rest of the world as one who treasures the sacred things, such as community and the aloha spirit, not lets show the world how to treasure our land.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
With eco-friendly options readily available, there is no need for allowing products that harm our environment. With Hawaii's sustainable initiatives, it's a no brainer that this is the direction our state needs to move toward a cleaner environment. Being on an island with little room for waste we need to cutback on all products that don’t breakdown for years and just sit in our landfills or need to be burned. As someone who regularly attends beach cleanups and does what we can for our environment shows you how bad plastic pollution really is here and how we, Hawaii needs to be an example for the rest of the world. Not only do HAWAI'I residents benefit from our clean and pure environment but the tourists who save their money all year long to travel to our islands and enjoy a slice of paradise for a few days will lose its purpose and desire to visit should we not start today and help keep HAWAI'I healthy. Once these rules become law, it will lower costs for the eco-friendly products due to a higher demand for them here. This will then be a cost reasonable for all businesses and eliminate the real issues on why we aren’t moving forward with this until now.
Dear Board Members,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Christine Moran and I was the Waste Reduction Manager for the City of Santa Cruz, in California. I am locally known as the person who advocated for, and wrote the Environmentally Acceptable Food Packaging Ordinance that banned polystyrene and plastic “to-go” packaging in all restaurants, hotels, and businesses in the City of Santa Cruz. The County of Santa Cruz, and Scotts Valley used this Ordinance as their boilerplate as did close to a hundred other municipalities nationwide. I presented a class on “How to prepare an Ordinance to Ban Polystyrene for your City or County,” which was attended by over 200 Waste Reduction professionals at the California Resource Recovery Association Statewide Conference in Sacramento.

In the early days I wrote extensively in local newspapers explaining the impact that plastics and polystyrene have on our bodies and our environment. I brought in speakers to speak about the plastic gyres and I went on the speaking circuit talking to Save Our Shores, the Kiwanis Club, schools, restaurant associations and hotel management groups. I received awards from Surf Rider, Save Our Shores and Pack Your Trash. I began a long-term correspondence with the State Restaurant Association, and wrote articles in their magazine about the future of biodegradable food packaging.

Meanwhile I hosted meetings between restaurant owners and restaurant suppliers and got the suppliers to stock biodegradable products before any ordinance passed, including Costco who was surprisingly open to the idea!

To make a very long story short, what I found out is this. Restaurant owners are initially reluctant because it requires work to do the changeover to paper, bagasse products, foil, and biodegradable products. BUT, once done, they find some amazing advantages. First of all the public and the tourists enthusiastically endorse the switch because it means that they can vacation and take care of their environment at the same time. They want to take care of the place they visit.

Business owners may worry that biodegradable products will be more expensive but prices for paper plates, etc. are coming down. So we encouraged them to charge 25 cents extra for To-Go orders—they liked that. To-Go orders do not require setting a table, cleaning up, water, or a lot of wait time which would offset the small extra cost of biodegradables. Additionally, paper products take up a smaller space than polystyrene, which is a plus for storage. Biodegradable products are good for people and the environment. When seagulls pull out bags from the trash, at least the products will degrade and not be plastic in the ocean.
All of this doesn't even begin to address the environmental or health issues associated with plastic in our environment. Styrene leaches from the cup to the drink and into our bodies-- there is styrene evident in every man, woman and child that is tested today. Our oceans, as you know, are full of plastics that make their way into our very bodies and that of the fish we eat.

**Passing Bill 40 isn’t a bold step, it’s the right step and the only step for leaders.**

On a final note, compliance is everything. My assistant and I would visit motels, restaurants, liquor and beach stores checking for compliance with the ordinance, (which includes polystyrene coolers). If out of compliance, they were given a warning; the second warning came with a $100 fine. But, the owner could either pay us the fine, or go buy biodegradable products over $100 and give us the receipt because we didn’t want their money, we wanted them to change their habits, and they did.

This was the most positive project for the people and planet that I have ever worked on. It was groundbreaking then. Now, faced with mounting plastics in our oceans, this should be a matter of course. Your businesses rely on a beautiful coastline, it is your bread and butter, no one goes there to see plastics floating up on the shore.

Please pass Bill 40 and stop the onslaught of plastic. We want to visit your beautiful island again, trash free!

I am at your disposal and willing to answer questions from the Board or individual Board Members.

Sincerely,

Christine Moran, Retired, City of Santa Cruz, Public Works – 26 years.  
10310 California Drive  
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

Irisfarm1012@gmail.com  
831-246-4895
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Cobalt Zucker
Phone: 8083520525
Email: cheetah23000@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: I support bill 40 and the reduction of plastic and styrofoam usage
Testimony Attachment: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers. The less plastics we use, means that the environment can go back to the was it was. Bill 40 needs an amendment to also ban polystyrene foam containers. Polystyrene is also a carcinogen that causes cancer. One time I went scuba diving with my dad at near Makaha beach, on the boat ride out, we saw a polystyrene container floating in the ocean, near the container we had seen a baby sea turtle near the container. Luckily we were able to remove the container from the water before a turtle or any other life form ingested it. On the same dive, on the way back to the harbor we came across a plastic fishing net floating in the ocean, we attempted to remove the net but the current was too strong and the net had submerged under the surface, unfortunately I have no clue as to what happened with the net, I don't know if any marine life had gotten tangled up in the net, or if someone else retrieved it.

Sincerely,
Colin Kristolaitis
Junior at Radford High School
127 Clarey Pl
Honolulu, HI 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Colt Brokaw  
Phone: 575-636-4957  
Email: colbro95@radford.k12.hi.us  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Honolulu County disposable plastic ban: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing Organization: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: Yes

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am a resident of the state of Hawaii and I see that plastic is harming the environment and killing off local wildlife. Not many people realize that Hawaii is very special when it comes to local fauna and wildlife but when plastic gets put in these said environments it could potentially be very dangerous, some plastics degrade in the water becoming microscopic and unnoticeable. If fish were to swim in the ocean with the degraded plastics, the fish will possibly inhale the plastics causing them to die. This bill will greatly support the islands and the living beings staying on them and I would amend that we would also need to ban the polystyrene foam along with the plastics.

Sincerely Colt Brokaw  
11th Grade/Radford High School  
766 Ohana Nui Circle

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Cyrus Ralston  
Phone: (808) 352-7540  
Email: cyrral62@radford.k12.hi.us  
Meeting Date: 08-27-2002  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Dear members of the Honolulu City Council,

I strongly agree in the passing of Bill 40. The reason I say this is solely for the love of my island, I have seen walls of plastic bags lined up along the coast before. Seeing that broke my heart and I believe the ban of "plastic checkout bags for take-out food, disposable plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils ". If the Bill is passed I think that we wont see change right away but in the long run we will better our environment and start the snowball effect for something great like if we could amend the banning of polystyrene foam as well. And I believe once the bill has passed the alternative we find will be the much safer for our island we love so much.

Sincerely  
Cyrus Ralston  
Senior at Radford High School  
1125 Ukana Street 96818  
(17)

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu Council,

I Live in Honolulu, I support Bill 40 for the following reasons plastic straws, stirrer, and need to be banned because they are killing marine life and giving cancer to humans and making them die too. we also need to amend this bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on Oahu. Polystyrene contains the toxic substances Styrene and Benzene, suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins that are hazardous to humans. Hot foods and liquids actually start a partial breakdown of the Styrofoam, causing some toxins to be absorbed into our bloodstream and tissues.

Sincerely,
Dakota Scott
Junior at Radford High School
4439 Kobashigawa St
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dale Takanishi</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8082233049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dktakanishi@gmail.com">dktakanishi@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
<td>Public Safety</td>
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<td>Agenda Item</td>
<td>Bill 40</td>
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<td>Your position on the matter</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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**Written Testimony**

Scientific evidence has shown that plastics are harming our environment. For the protection of future generations, we need to prohibit sale of plastics (one-time consumables) and institute stiff fines for polluters.

At least require that plastic bottles have warnings on them about proper disposal and fines for violators.

**Testimony**

**Attachment**

Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
My name is Daniel Luque, and I am a Business Owner of Pata Sudaka Surf Camp from Kaimuki. I stand in strong support of Bill 40, and I believe that passing Bill 40 is crucial because every time I take visitors to the beach, plastic is everywhere, I notice people really don’t like their kids or their love ones to swim or to play when is garbage at the beach, this fact has decrease my business and affect my income. For this same reason we decide more than a year ago to support ocean friendly restaurants, we only eat in this kind of restaurants and I know for a fact they are doing great with their Business.

I also know all this plastic bags are going to the subs and they getting stock; the time and money is wasting on cleaning this subs is crazy and at the end I’m paying for this with my own taxes, I really feel affected as a tax payer.

The micro plastics are in the rain and in the ice and in the rivers, also in the fish we eat and that is straight connected with a very bad health issue.

I’m really wondering if you care from the people of Hawaii, our Keiki?

I urge you to pass Bill 40, to protect the land that we all call home.
Mahalo for considering Bill 40.

Sincerely,

Daniel Luque Uriguen

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Daniella Griffay</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>941-281-8029</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgriffay@gmail.com">dgriffay@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Bill 40/SB522</td>
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The written testimony states: Hawaii should be leading the charge against single use plastics but we are falling far behind other states and cities. When I was a kid I could walk on the beach here and pick up shells. I would make a sand turtle and decorate it with shells. The other day I was walking on the beach and I came across a sand turtle but instead of shells it was decorated with plastic. This is the world we have left for our children, one full of plastic. We need to do better and show our children how to do better.
August 28, 2019

Honolulu City Council
via http://www.honolulu.gov/ccl-testimony-form.html

RE: Bill 40, Relating to Plastic -- Support, with suggestions

Dear Councilmembers,

I am glad to the council move forward Bill 40 and take another step towards reducing the scourge of single-use plastics in our environment. For a bit of convenience, we have been making the community at large and sea life pay the price. The community at large experiences unsightly and long-lasting garbage on our beaches and roadways with attendant tax consequences and sea life is impacted as plastics break down, appear as food, and accumulate toxins. So I applaud this next move forward in addressing these problems. I do feel the communities I am part of are ready to embrace doing our part if the council will lead.

I do have a question about the differentiation between polystyrene containers that contain or are manufactured with the use of chlorofluorocarbons and those that are not. The main issue I see is with polystyrene no matter how it is made -- how easily it escapes the managed waste stream and the problems it poses to sea life if ingested as food. The volume alone regardless of components interferes with sea creatures ability to properly absorb nutrition from real food. I hope you will address this question in deliberations.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

David Atcheson
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: David Chee
Phone: 808-554-6859
Email: davidkschee@hotmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

I strongly support Bill 40. Plastic waste needs to be reduced NOW! Let's be the positive start! I want future generations to look back upon Oahu/Hawaii and say that we (their ancestors) did what we could to give them a bright future, not that we ruined their aina. Please support Bill 40.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: David Glenn
Phone: 253.209.2793
Email: daveglenn45@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40

Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

As a tourist to Hawai'i, I greatly respect and admire the county of Honolulu for exploring the possible ban on certain single use plastics. Not only do single use plastics pollute our environments, they may impact human health. Our plastic addiction means we consume plastic when we eat fish, ingest it in our water, and even inhale plastic particles as we breath. A ban on non-essential plastics means a cleaner environment and healthier people. Please support the ban on some single use plastics.

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
TO: Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Tsuneyoshi and Committee Members

NAME: Dean Otsuki

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL 40
Relating to plastic.
Testimony for Public Safety and Welfare Committee meeting on Thursday 29th 2019, 2019 at 9AM.

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Tsuneyoshi and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of Bill 40 which would prohibit the use of plastic bags for take-out food, plastic straws, stirrers and utensils. I would also like to see amendments to this bill to ban polystyrene foam containers for food and drink and plastic check out bags with handles given out by vendors at farmers markets.

All the above plastics are not needed as there are other alternatives. When I'm eating out I use my reusable bamboo utensils (fork, spoon, knife, chopsticks) with a reusable wrap. I've been using these for the past 10 years. They are lightweight and I carry them with me in my bag and/or car. If I need to stir something I just use one of the utensils.

As for using a straw I also carry a glass straw along with my bamboo utensil set. There are other reusable alternatives such as straws made of metal and bamboo. Restaurants can use paper straws or use reusable straws which can be washed.

If I'm getting take-out food I will put the container of food in my insulated bag which I've been using for over 10 years. Same for leftovers from restaurants. If something spills, I use a damp cloth to clean it up.

When I go shopping at farmer's markets I bring along my insulated bags along with my reusable organic cotton produce bags. The produce bags are great because I can also use these to store my produce in my cupboard or refrigerator.

There are better, healthier alternatives like compostable containers for polystyrene food containers on the market today that don't have the toxic chemicals in them like styrene. Compostable containers are 100% plant based so if they do get into the marine environment they will not harm marine life as compostables are non-toxic. Alternatives to polystyrene foam containers are glass, porcelain or metal. I bring my own reusable container glass containers when getting take-out food.

Please pass Bill 40 to help keep our land and ocean environments clean.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

[Signature]

Dean Otsuki
Aloha Council members,  

My name is Deborah Kahilihiwahiwa Ritsuko Bear Barbour. I reside in Kaneohe Hawaii and am a graduate of Punahou School and University of Hawaii. My heritage is the Northern Ponca Bear Clan, Oglala, Lakota Apple Clan, Yonsei (4th generation) from Japan, adopted Hawaiian. Mahalo for having this hearing to address the health concerns of our people here on Oahu. I am testifying in support of Bill for an Ordinance 40. I see this as a great step to move in a healthy direction of phasing out harmful plastics on our island home. I of course would love to see this as just a first step as the Big Island and Maui have already taken care of their residents by phasing out foam containers that contaminate our environment with a known carcinogen called styrene.

You are going to hear and hopefully read so many arguments of the scientific reasons that all the plastics are now being found in our food supply, in our ocean creatures and our corals. These are manmade substances that are in a sense “invading” living things. Please consider a small thing like not using plastic straws or not using throw away bags as part of helping life all around us. Malama Honua.

I am a mother of 6 amazing daughters and 5 amazing grandchildren. Speaking from an indigenous person’s perspective we look forward 7 generations when making decisions for the longevity of our ohana. I know this may be a new concept for your decision making process but I would like to suggest you consider it. You can make a great difference in the health of our keiki in a simple way by passing this bill as a first step. Please vote yes for a good future for the people of our islands.

Mahalo,
Deborah Kahilihiwahiwa Ritsuko Bear Barbour
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Denise  
Phone: 8087398848  
Email: danderson@kahalaresort.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  
Written Testimony: We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and straws and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Diane Nushida-Tokuno. I live in Kaneohe. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils and straws because of the extreme harm it causes to the natural environment. In every news source you hear of all the plastic debris that finds its way to the ocean. Ingested by birds and sea creatures, making them ill and polluting our oceans. My family and I eat a lot of fish, and it’s now known that by consuming certain fish we are ingesting micro plastics into our system. Plastics have no use, except for convenience. It’s ruining our environment, wildlife and the quality of human life.

Please be conscious of our future and of the planet’s future and do the right thing.

Mahalo,
Diane Nushida-Tokuno
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of
the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Diane O'Rourke, and I live in Kaaawa, I am testifying in
strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to phase out single-use and all types of foam
containers, utensils, and straws because we have the opportunity to be
on the forefront of sustainability and simply because it is the right thing
to do for our island communities and environment.

Always With Warm Aloha,
Diane O'Rourke
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Dolores Dy-Liacco
Phone: 808-373-1005
Email: dollydyliacco@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
It is crucial that Hawaii take the initiative to act and take the lead in protecting the oceans and land by banning single use plastics and styrofoam for the future of the islands and planet. There is not much time and the state of Hawaii now has a chance to be a responsible steward of the islands and the environment.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
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<th>Doreen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>7325675376</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Doreenrox16@gmail.com">Doreenrox16@gmail.com</a></td>
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**Written Testimony**

Please also amend Bill 40 to include a ban on polystyrene food and drink containers, as well as to include a ban on the ‘t-shirt style’ produce bags (not referring to the kind used on a roll in grocery stores) used sometimes at farmer’s markets.

**Testimony Attachment**

Accept Terms and Agreement 1
Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8084983011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dymeek2@gmail.com">dymeek2@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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Dear members of the Honolulu City Council, just stop using plastic because people care about the environment and to make it better for the animals, and everyone else just stop using plastic. Chemicals in plastic which give them their rigidity or flexibility (flame retardants, biospheres, phosphates and other harmful chemicals) are oily poisons that repel water and stick to petroleum-based objects like plastic debris. So, the toxic chemicals that leach out of plastics can accumulate on other plastics.

Sincerely Dymeek London

Senior at Radford High School

Written Testimony

Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Water and Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi,

My name is Dyson Chee, and I am a high schooler from Ala Moana. I stand in strong support of Bill 40, and I believe that passing Bill 40 is crucial because I have seen with my own eyes beaches littered with single-use plastics. Fishes are consuming these plastics, and the chemicals embedded within it, and we are consuming those fish. Single-use plastics are a cancer for future generations, and the best way to prevent its spread is to eliminate it now, before it becomes even more problematic.

With the threat of climate change hanging over our heads, passing this bill will propel the City and County of Honolulu towards its sustainability goals. Plastics are made of petroleum and byproducts of natural gasses, both of which contribute to climate change and threaten the safety and security of everyone living in the world, but particularly in Hawai‘i where we have minimal land to retreat to in the face of rising seas. My parents are considering buying a home in Ala Moana, but now that we have to factor in rising seas, there have been arguments on how much time this property has left until it is claimed by the sea. 50 years? 30 years? 100 years? This has been detrimental to the welfare of my family, and the saddest thing is that I cannot give them a solid number, no matter how much research I do, because the situation seems to be getting worse and worse and the time we have less and less. Plastic production is contributing to climate change, there is no doubt about that. We have a chance to make a difference. I urge you to pass Bill 40, to protect the land that we all call home.
Mahalo for considering Bill 40.
Dyson Chee

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support the cause to help the world to be a cleaner place by banning all unsafe plastic straws and utensils, and even plastic take out bags that harm the ocean. I especially amend to want to ban polystyrene foam. By doing this, I think that we can prevent any ocean mammals of all types such as turtles from death, or even going extinct.

Written Testimony

Sincerely,
Edgar Alcoran

Senior at Radford High School
304 Salt Lake Blvd, HI 96818

IP: 192.168.200.67
We've all heard it already hundreds of millions of tons of plastic is produced every year, most of which cannot be recycled, and end up in the ocean. Micro-plastic particles are in our food sources and thus in us. We need to use less plastic, move towards environmentally sustainable products and services. And find ways to recycle more efficiently what we have already imported. This state has really strict import laws regarding agriculture why should it be any more lax when it comes to environmental protections? It shouldn't. The culture of convenience has produced a society where people can be lazy, ignorant, and careless with the environment. We must hold businesses and ourselves accountable for our choices which negatively impact the environment.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Elizabeth Croom  
Phone: 7722170476  
Email: katiecroom@icloud.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1  

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: ELIZABETH MCLEMORE
Phone: 8082252883
Email: LIZ@DRLIZ.US
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: Should include all plastic including polystyrene
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Emily Gfesser
Phone: 561-758-5569
Email: emgfesser@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

I believe that we have the power to reverse the damage that has already been done. Please ban single-use plastic products; there are better alternatives (like reusable cups/bags). I have been traveling around Europe for two years and at outdoor venues, concerts, festivals, etc. a reusable cup/plate/cutlery is given to you for a small fee. If you return the item(s), the fee is given back to you. This has cut out single-use plastic. It is a wonderful system and I think it should be implemented in all places. We need to be the change. If not us, then who?

Written Testimony

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Emily Perry
Phone: 8023767655
Email: emily.11.perry@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment: 20190828085318_Bill_40.docx
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Bill 40 is a phase out plan for a handful of single use plastic items in the City and County of Honolulu that is for the public safety and welfare of all of the citizens and visitors on the island. Microplastics are seeping into our ecosystems and can now be found in the most remote locations of the land and the sea. This is a threat to our public health as it leaches into our water systems and food systems through consumption. There is research that shows marine organisms that ingest microplastics have disrupted metabolism, cell growth, and reproduction. As this moves up the food chain, it biomagnifies and becomes more concentrated until the final consumer, humans.

In concerns of public welfare, businesses which are using plastic bags are putting a cost burden on the everyday taxpayer. Hawaii DOT found that plastic bags and Styrofoam containers were in the top litter categories that were clogging drains and stormwater systems. These costs for cleanup are unfairly put on the taxpayers when the businesses are responsible for putting the material out.

We want to shape the world to become a better place for our keiki and for the future. By reducing the amount of single use plastics that are used and put out into the environment, it is a step closer to a better future.
Single use plastic is unnecessary and Hawaii doesn’t deserve to be littered with it. Every beach is covered with it and if we can change that, we absolutely should.

Please also amend Bill 40 to include a ban on polystyrene food and drink containers, as well as to include a ban on the ‘t-shirt style’ produce bags (not referring to the kind on a roll at the grocery store) used sometimes at farmer’s markets.
My name is Erica Nakanishi-Stanis, and I work for an educational non-profit that serves high school students in Hawaii. I stand in strong support of Bill 40, and I believe that passing Bill 40 is crucial. As a part of my work, I take our keiki around the world to show them what other nations are doing to protect their people, environment, and economies in the hopes that they can learn best practices to be applied at home. They often return inspired to make change in their own homes and communities, but reflect that creating systemic change is what is really needed - and yet not accessible to them. The disappointment they express at seeing how we pollute and waste is disheartening, because even they can see far enough into the future to understand that the way we live now is not only unsustainable, it's dangerous.

The use of non-recyclable, non-reusable polystyrene and single use plastic cutlery is no longer necessary or justifiable in the vast majority of cases. There are enough accessible, reusable alternatives at this point that the burden of planning ahead and changing patterns of behavior could fall on the consumer without being an unreasonable burden. Additionally, restaurants should not be daunted by the idea of having to use real dishes and cutlery (dishwashers, anyone?). As for packaging - there are now also alternatives in food packaging that allow enough flexibility for businesses to use more sustainable materials that don't pose a threat to our health and land. As a Council I ask you to consider which you hold to be more important - the political ill will garnered by forcing businesses to do something hard, or the health of your constituents, the environment, and the success of the sustainability goals you set as the City and County.
Hawaii, more than most states, has a population that lives in proximity with nature and understands the value of protecting one's self by protecting the 'aina. We have seen our national leadership fail time and again to take decisive action to mitigate the disasters that climate change poses. Please help our island to act with more foresight and leadership than that. Sometimes making the right decision means making an unpopular choice, especially when money is on the line. Opponents of this bill will likely cite financial costs and business interests as reason enough to stop this bill, when in reality, what's at stake is bigger than just a bottom line. We cannot continue to put the interest of saving money for a select group of people ahead of the health and well-being of the whole. Not when this is a change that CAN be made for the long-term benefit of all.

We have a chance to make a difference. I urge you to pass Bill 40, to protect the land that we all call home.

Mahalo for considering Bill 40.
Erica Nakanishi-Stanis
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support the Bill 40, because banning plastic would be good for the community and the marine life, due to the fact that if it is banned it would mean less plastic that's going into the ocean affecting the marine life. By approving this bill, I believe that their will be less plastic and trash in the ocean than their already is. I believe that if you eliminate the polystyrene foam it would help the people from catching leukemia and lymphoma, which they would catch from heating up food or drinking out of cups with polystyrene. When you ban the plastic forks, straws, and bags it will help not let these materials get caught in any marine life's digestive system or into their own skin. Take seabirds for example, 60% of them consume plastic in the ocean, and scientists have predicted that in 2050 the number will rise to 99%, it is also known that 100,000 marine life creatures have died per year due to consuming plastic, but these were the ones that they could find.

Sincerely,
Erik Guerra
Senior at Radford High School
598 Meyerkord loop
Honolulu Hi, 96818
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Evan Brown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(757) 739-0599</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:evancbrown97@gmail.com">evancbrown97@gmail.com</a></td>
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Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Banning the items listed in the proposed bill would bring about many positive effects for marine wildlife and people. However, these items are not the only items that cause health problems to animals and the environment. Due to recent studies at the National Institute of Environmental Sciences, styrene has been proven to be a carcinogen. Styrene is used in products such as polystyrene foam containers and can harm the lives of animals and people. I believe that adding an amendment to Bill 40 that bans polystyrene foam containers along with the ban of the other plastic products listed would greatly influence life and the environment positively in the coming years.

Sincerely,
Evan Brown
Sophomore at Radford High School
27 Makalapa Dr, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96818

Written Testimony

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Fawn Liebengood
Phone: (503) 750-6103
Email: fawn_liebengood@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-28-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Faye Engelhardt
Phone +491628846421
Email peppergohm@gmail.com
Meeting Date 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee Public Safety
Agenda Item Bill 40
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1
Dear Honolulu City Council members,

Plastic has become a major threat to our health, as humans, and the health of our State of Hawaii and the whole world. We have the power to ban these harmful items, but corporate leaders have lobbied and shut these attempts down. They will expand their already enormous profits at the expense of the earth. Hawaii needs to be a front-runner in environmental support. Much of the world's plastic ends up at our shores in Hawaii. How are we supposed to tell others to ban their plastics that end up in our state, when we still pollute Hawaii ourselves? If up to the majority of residents, these plastics would already have been banned. Only selfish corporations have kept plastic alive. Corporations aside, it may be inconvenient at first to use plastic alternatives (which exist by the way). It will be much worst than an inconvenience later when the marine life die and we get plastic chemicals in all our food. One of the worst yet still legal plastic items is polystyrene foam containers. Not only are these a proven carcinogen our food gets put into, but it also does not biodegrade in a sustainable time frame. This plastic everywhere is not only unsightly, but their chemicals get absorbed by marine animals upon consumption. The chemicals make their way up the food chain up to us, where we consume the harmful chemicals and plastic. For our and the earth's sake, we need them banned.

Sincerely,
Gabriel Quejada

Junior at Radford High School
11 Makalapa Drive, 96818, Honolulu, Hawaii
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on Oahu to help prevent the cause of marine pollution and human life. According to (seasikfish.com) the foam breaks down into smaller, non-biodegradable pieces that are ingested by marine life and other wildlife thus harming or killing them. Also, The toxin (styrene) can adversely affect humans in a number of ways that raises serious public health and safety questions regarding its build-up in human tissue.

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Guerrero
Senior at Radford High School
5314 Tamarind Lane
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Georgia Sartoris
Phone: 8087750471
Email: georgia.sartoris@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-19
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: 85822
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:

It is very important to the beauty and health of our islands to stop single-use plastics from use. They are beginning to pollute the water and the land. Please pass this bill.
I have seen the first hand effects in the field of the issues that surround single use plastic and micro plastics. We have to find a solution to this issue and I strongly support bill 40. If we want to have healthy ecosystems for our future generations we need to act now. Difficult choices need to be made today in order to preserve our future environment, the way we are perceived within the tourism industry needs to be in a positive light to continue economic growth. If we continue to progress at the current rate we will exhaust landfills, pollute our ocean, poison our food and tarnish our reputation among tourists who come to experience Hawaii because of it's healthy unique environment. This a chance for you to make a positive difference and for government to do what is necessary to support the scientific community.
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

As a once resident of Oahu, now Kauai, near your family’s place Mr. Kobayashi, in Waioli valley, I write to you today.

This Bill 40 I wholeheartedly support. The Hawaiian islands we call home, that we love so much, are sacred and in need of help. What we love is being destroyed by us, by plastics, by consumption and greed. We’re smart enough to know better, that the plastic single use, oil pollution waste is desecrating our islands, our streams, our oceans, and our food. Waioli and what we call home is so special because of its natural beauty. The fact that plastic pollution is not spoiling certain places is why we enjoy Hawai’i nei.

It’s barbaric and suicidal to continue single use plastic and foam containers. We’re smart enough to know it chokes and kills animals, it’s clogging roads, polluting streams, dumped in the ocean, and in our food. There is no denial. No cover up can betray us to the mess we are creating. We are paying for trash that will not go away. The next 7 generations will still be cleaning up after us. Toxic. Poison. Wastelands. This is sad, and not wise. I support the Bill 40 which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods. I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. These products don’t fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai’i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT
even suggests eliminating these products so we don't have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.

We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety. Let's be honest, Hawaii does not even have Plastic recycling!

It gets brought to California aka dumped in ocean. Many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai’i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

Haley K. Wai’oli, Kauai county district
Marine Biologist
Heiau Preserver
Speaker for the Aina

Member of Sierra Club of Hawai’i

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Hannah Mizuno
Phone: 8083423514
Email: Hannahmizuno22@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.
Hannah Testa
6788582447
hannah4change@gmail.com
08-29-2019
PublicSafety
Bill 40
Support
Self
No

Hawaii is known for the beautiful beaches. But recently my trips have been smothered with plastic pollution on the beach. Eco-tourism is a huge part of Hawaii and greatly impacts your economy. Plastic pollution impacts the environment, the animals, as well as human health. Plastic leeches toxins and chemicals and has been linked to cancer, obesity, heart disease and more. We as a society are destroying our only home. As a youth activist, it is scary to watch the fate of our planet be sold to business instead of handed to my generation. The whole world is shifting in this direction, the question is are you going to be a leader or a follower.
# Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Harith Jayaweera</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>7014124773</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:harith.jayaweera@gmail.com">harith.jayaweera@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>I support this testimony but I would like to see it include a pathway to completely phasing out single use plastics in Oahu.</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I strongly support the ban of plastics. I have always seen a bunch of trash that are mostly plastic around beaches and parks that I go to. There were times where I would sometimes see either birds or cats getting caught on plastic and also dead fishes from polluted waters by trash. The ban to plastic such as checkout bags used for take out foods, disposable plastic straws, stirrers and utensils are great but I would also recommend banning polystyrene foam food and drink containers which can have negative affects to the environment and to us as well.

Sincerely,
Hazel Mae Tolentino
Senior at Radford High School
3420 Salt Lake Blvd
Honolulu HI, 96818
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Plastic and other types of debris have been an issue in not only the ocean, but in our world as a whole. For Hawaii, the biggest issue are the plastics that take away from the beauty and natural aroma of our wonderful beaches and oceans. Not only do plastics harm marine life, they also harm human life as well. The longer plastic stays in the water, the smaller it gets; but it never truly goes away. Fish and other small marine life mistake these plastics for food and it winds up in not only their system, but the system of any organism who eats these fish (which includes the people of Hawaii). If people are not really worried about this problem, there is also a problem of tourism going down. If plastics destroy beaches, oceans, marine life, ecosystems, and other habitats, tourist are not really going to want to come all the way here to look at how plastic is destroying our world. I know for a fact that if tourism goes down, then the economy of Hawaii will be in trouble. Also, please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers from Hawaii because of the plain fact that polystyrene is one of the causes of cancer.

Sincerely,

Helen Wilson

Senior at Radford High School
501 Ohana Nui Cr.
Honolulu, HI 96818
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Hideki Kimukai, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

I do research Thermoplastics decomposition in natural environment with the Nihon University research team. Plastics contain chemicals that will persist and generate secondary chemical pollutants through their decomposition process. Styrenes are found to be toxic to humans and for our ecosystem.

Please protect our precious natural resources as well as our health.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Isabela Ure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>18084983065</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:isabelaure02@gmail.com">isabelaure02@gmail.com</a></td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

My name is Isaiah Salado, a resident on the island of Oahu. An issue that has been recently going on is the banning on plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, Stirrers, utensils and to amend and ban the bill on polystyrene foam and food containers. Over the past 18 years of living on the island of Oahu, I have noticed that our beaches have been getting dirtier and dirtier. For example Waikiki beach our main tourist spot always has rubbish floating around in the water long with Makapu’u but the worst we have is on our North Shoreline. Besides the banning of plastic we also wanted the banning of Polystyrene foam due to the fact that when its hot it will leach into our foods and drinks not only harming our health but also to our ecosystems.

Sincerely,
Isaiah Salado

Senior at Radford High School
96813 2254 Star Road
Honolulu

Isaiah Salado
Senior at Radford High School
96813 2254 Star Road
Honolulu
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Jack Kincus
Phone: 9787618653
Email: Jackk1@steds.org
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: Single use plastics are slowly destroying our planet and it’s oceans! Please pass this bill to ban various types of single use plastics to help keep our waters healthy!

IP: 192.168.200.67
### Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Jacqueline Bosman</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>81571500943</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbosman3@gmail.com">jbosman3@gmail.com</a></td>
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**Written Testimony**

Single use plastic is the top contributor to our plastic waste and pollution problem, especially in Hawaii where so much sea life and ocean habitat are immediately impacted. Due to their convience single use plastics need to be completely phased out to make an impact. There are plenty of alternatives that will enhance our lives just as well, so why not make the change!?? Thank you for your time and consideration. Best, Jacqueline

**Testimony Attachment**

Accept Terms and Agreement

1

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IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha HNL City Council,

Strong support for this Bill 40 and as we have this opportunity, please amend Bill 40 to include all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. I've been cleaning beaches and waterways for years and these toxic products are ALWAYS present.

Mahalo for diligence and service.

James McCay
Diamond Head / Kapiolani Park area

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha! I am a wife, mother of two children, and a hard working teacher. I believe in keeping our families and the people of Hawaii safe, including our tourists. I am in support of Bill 39, because I believe it is important to have lifeguards watch the ocean when the sun is still out. There have been numerous times after the lifeguard tower closed that I've seen people in distress. Just this summer I saw an old man tumble in the waves at Makaha. I saw two fathers have to leave their kids, leaving their own kids unwatched, to help the man so he wouldn't drown. Had there been a lifeguard there, there would have been less potential for anyone to get harmed. Please extend their hours for the safety of everyone. Mahalo, Janice Giles
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned. These items are harmful to us and the environment and need to be removed from the system. They can cause cancer when they are absorbed into the ecosystem. Please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu.

Sincerely,
Jared Deviney
Senior at Radford High School
1211 Catalina Dr Honolulu Hi

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Hawaii is considered to be in the United States as one of the most beautiful places. All of the beaches, coral reefs, and everything marine life Hawaii is a breathtaking place. This breathtaking place is slowly being over ran by an object that takes hundreds of years to go away. This object is called plastic. Plastic is slowly taking over the natural life in Hawaii harming the animals and land of the state. In a 2017 study researchers found out that only 9% of plastic that created gets recycled. The other 91% goes to landfills and on the world we live on. This plastic that gets into our oceans is easily mistaken as food to animals and can be consumed by them. Plastic contains toxic chemicals that can kill the animals. In small amounts these animals can have these chemicals go through the food chain. Do you really want to eat chemicals in your fish that is toxic? This also goes for items like polystyrene foam. Polystyrene foam also contains toxic chemicals that when burned or consumed can cause cancer. I also support to amend the bill and ban polystyrene foam. When I first came to the island I was amazed and in awe in the views of the island and its natural beauty. The longer I have been on the island the more I see the trash and become upset by the pollution that is killing the beautiful island.

Sincerely,
Jarrett Owens
Senior at Radford High School
23 Julian Ave
Honolulu Hi 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Jason Blumhardt
Phone: 818-470-4703
Email: Jasonblumhardt@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha,

My name is Jason Shon and I strongly support reducing our over-reliance on plastic, especially single-use plastic.

Microplastics already litter our beach, kill marine life, and degrade the environment that draws so many tourists to Hawaii in the first place. It is in Oahu's best interest to act boldly and set an example of sustainability for the nation and the world.

Our excessive use of plastic is also a matter of human health and well-being. Plastics are in the food chain, in the environment, and in our bodies. My family, like many families across the state, relies on a rain water catchment system for all our water needs, including drinking water. A recent study found that microplastics are now even in rain water.

Plastics can absorb and leach toxic chemicals. Although scientific research into the impacts of plastics on human health is ongoing, I think it would be foolish to assume humans would not be eventually affected. I would rather assume plastics are potentially harmful to humans and take proactive steps to reduce plastic consumption than assume they are harmless and do nothing.

Bill 40 is a step in the right direction, but one that is long overdue.

Thank you for your consideration

Jason
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Javier Mendez
Phone: 8083214434
Email: menjavi@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Jean DelaCruz  
Phone: 808-382-1075  
Email: jdelacruz001@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No  
Written Testimony: I would like single use plastics to be banned for public safety and the well being of the public and the environment!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,
As a citizen of Honolulu I believe supporting this Bill and helping it get passed is crucial to the environment and the future of Honolulu and it's people. Plastic is slowly harming us in the process of taking down the environment, these plastics slowly leak into our foods or get to us through the food chain, smaller fish eating plastic believing it is plankton. Filling itself on plastic, so when the next fish in the food chain goes and eats it. It gets the affect of plastic and toxic chemicals as well. If humans were to then eat that fish, the person would be voluntarily eating and digesting the plastics from that fish. Meaning most people are eating these fish poisoned with plastic and don't even know it. Along with plastics, Please amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers. Polystyrene foam is a known carcinogenic, meaning it causes cancer. Whenever you reheat your take out from the local restaurant, you're taking in the harmful chemicals from the polystyrene foam that is toxic. While working at Dixie Grill I can't help but constantly see the risk people are at as they leave with a take out box and their plastic to go cup.

Sincerely,
Jesse Dickerson
Senior at Radford High school
5259 Kamehameha Loop, Honolulu 96818

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Jessica Kurtz
Phone: 785-236-1937
Email: jjohn2352@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

**Name**  
Joelle Hazel Leali

**Phone**  
5042561144

**Email**  
leali@mindspring.com

**Meeting Date**  
08-29-2019

**Council/PH Committee**  
PublicSafety

**Agenda Item**  
Bill 40

**Your position on the matter**  
Support

**Representing**  
Self

**Organization**  

**Do you wish to speak at the hearing?**  
No

**Written Testimony**  
Bill 40 passing is crucial because I have seen with my own eyes beaches littered with single-use plastics. Fishes are consuming these plastics, and the chemicals embedded within it, and we are consuming those fish. Single-use plastics are a cancer for future generations, and the best way to prevent its spread is to eliminate it now, before it becomes even more problematic.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Johanna Mosquera
Phone: 3309904635
Email: johmosquera@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony: We want more eco friendly options. we can do better. Ban styrofoam from restaurants.

Testimony Attachment: 
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I strongly support Bill 40. Every year my HCC students and I engage in beach-cleaning and highway litter collection projects. The amount of plastic and micro-plastic debris and trash we find on the beach or along Likelike highway and Kalihi St. is truly alarming. In one hour of highway litter collection, with 6-10 volunteers, we can fill up 8 to 12 big trash bags! It is time Oahu ban single use plastic and styrofoam objects, including straws, cups, bottle caps and eating utensils. Hawaii, given its very sensitive environment and endangered plant, birds and marine animal species, should be at the forefront of combatting global plastic pollution, a growing and substantial threat to the health and safety of our keiki and all future generations here and around the planet! Please approve Bill 40 and put the brakes on the plague of plastic pollution and poisoning!
Testimony in support of Bill 40:

Jordan Gossett  
Graduate Student  
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa  
155 Nenue St  
Honolulu HI 96821  

August 27, 2019

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council:

I would like to express my strong support for Bill 40, related to removing single use plastics and waste from our restaurants and stores. It is well known that plastic waste can take up to 1000 years to decompose. Much of this waste ends up in our oceans where it will eventually degrade into microplastics. These plastic particles it will either end up in the stomachs of sea-life, on our beaches, or even as a part of the Great Pacific garbage patch. In fact, this problem is extremely evident on our own island. The beaches of Lanikai and Kailua are covered in millions of pieces of microplastic waste.

There is a relatively simple solution to this problem however. There are plenty of alternatives to single use plastics: These include simply not using it, switching to cutlery made of organic and biodegradable materials, using paper for take-out/delivery. These alternatives are actually much cheaper in the long run and could drastically cut down on our single plastic use.

As residents of Hawai‘i, we must hold ourselves to high standards of sustainability and environmental protection. Through the passing of this Bill, we have the opportunity to help lead the nation into a cleaner and less polluted future.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jordan Gossett
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40. The bill identifies plastics and litter as a problem, and recognizes the City and County of Honolulu as a leader in waste management programs. The plastics and litter also causes blockages in our stormwater infrastructure, exacerbating public safety emergencies such as the flooding that occurred on April 13, 2018. The phasing out of single-use plastics would help address some of those problems.

As an engineer in Hawaii, I understand the tremendous task the city faces with managing plastic pollution, especially in its stormwater facilities – catch basins, streams, and storm sewers. In 2018, the city’s Department of Facility Maintenance completed their Trash Reduction Plan Baseline Load Study Final Report, which it is obligated to complete under the Clean Water Act and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. There are two key findings that are relevant to Bill 40.

1. Over 28% of the trash that was sampled was either plastic materials (not including recyclables) and polystyrene foam
2. The city must develop a short-term plan and proposed compliance deadline for reducing debris discharges by 50% from the baseline load developed in the study. The deadline for reduction debris by 50% is 2023.

In addition to the obvious and apparent impacts of single use plastics on our environment, communities, and stormwater infrastructure, there appears to be an urgency to reduce the flow of plastics and polystyrene foam in order to meet the obligations of the Clean Water Act and NPDES permit. Phasing out single use plastics and foam, by passing Bill 40, would help the city meet those obligations.

Phasing out single use plastics and foam could appear to have a negative impact on some of our local businesses. However, there are numerous local examples of businesses that operate and thrive without single use plastics and foam, as evidenced by the Ocean Friendly Restaurants Hawaii program, which has certified and promoted restaurants that do not use single use plastics and foam. Examples of those restaurants include Duke’s, Highway Inn, Leahi Health, Umeke Market, and dozens of other locally owned restaurants.

Lastly, there is a cost associated with keeping all the stormwater infrastructure clear of debris. Controlling the source of debris (by passing Bill 40) would reduce the cost of clearing debris that the city is paying. These costs are passed on to taxpayers like my family. The cost to taxpayers is only going to increase unless something is done. According to National Geographic, nearly half of all plastic ever manufactured has been made since 2000! We are using plastic at an exponentially increasing rate. How are we going to afford to clean up all this additional waste?

Please pass Bill 40 and help us to keep single use plastic and foam under control and out of our communities.

Sincerely,

Jordan Fahmie
Puunui, Nuuanu Valley, Oahu
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don't fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai'i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don't have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.

Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are
allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!
As a concerned member of the community that has seen first hand the devastating effects of plastics on our lands, waters, and ourselves, I am urging the City Council to pass Bill 40.

We live on an island, isolated from the rest of the mainland on a beautiful and fragile island that is under siege from the omnipresent plastic and styrofoam so grossly used by businesses that serve not just the local community, but the over 9.4 million visitors and growing year over year (source: https://www.hawaiitourismauthority.org/media/2766/2017-annual-visitor-research-report.pdf).

This island and our planet can no longer sustain under a single use, convenience lifestyle that we as a society have grown far too accustomed to. There is not a day that goes by that I do not see trash cans overflowing with plastic Starbucks cups and straws, people with plastic bags holding styrofoam plate lunches day after day on their lunch hours, plastic bottles littering our hiking trails, and micro plastics like confetti all over the coastline.

The presence of plastics in our food system and chemicals in styrofoam containers are a danger to public health and contribute to climate change. "Microplastics are not only toxic because of chemicals from manufacturing, but also because of the persistent organic pollutants they absorb from surrounding water. The toxins are not compostable or biodegradable and take up to 500 years to decompose.

A new study in the Journal of Environmental Science and Technology says it's possible that humans may be consuming anywhere from 39,000 to 52,000 microplastics particles per year. Researchers from John Hopkins studied the impacts of eating seafood contaminated with
microplastics and found that they could damage the immune system and upset the gut's balance. As a place with a culture centered around the ocean and dependence on the food it provides, not only are we endangering the natural environment and the wildlife that calls it home, we are compromising human life as well.

Aside from toxic effects on human health, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions...through the life cycle of plastic, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes as dumping in landfills, recycling, and incineration."

It is my hope that a specific, timely, and measurable solution to this growing epidemic be prioritized, before it is too late. Please, pass Bill 40 for today and for the kind of tomorrow we can be proud of for future generations to come. Aloha ‘aina!

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: June Chee
Phone: 6263186313
Email: booboojc@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Justin
Phone: 808-589-8867
Email: Jkunimoto8@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Justin Owens
Phone: 7148568710
Email: justinowens129@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
Please also amend Bill 40 to include a ban on polystyrene food and drink containers as well as to include a ball on the 't-shirt style' produce bags (not referring to the kind used on a roll in grocery stores) used sometimes at farmers markets.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear members of Honolulu city council,

I support bill 40 because I want plastic gone and not able to exist on the island of Hawaii, I believe Hawaii should be a plastic-free place and state.

I’ve lived here my entire life and not once have I seen as much plastic as I have in today’s day and age beaches and animals are dying and don’t have a positive smell, everything on this island will die due to people littering and not caring about sea life, plastic is unnecessary to have in Hawaii.

On the island’s southeastern side, Kamilo Point looks like a wasteland, despite its tide pools and pockets of lava rock. The ocean’s currents and powerful trade winds deposit thousands of pounds of man-made trash on this beach each year.

It is so easy to make utensils and have plates that are made out of PLANTS, and other resources.

In just a few months, the Hawaii Wildlife Fund (HWF) collected and hauled away 15,000 pounds of trash, nylon nets and fishing lines from Kamilo Beach. The beach was visibly cleaner afterward, as it is usually after HWF’s regular cleanups, but it was unclear how long it would stay like that.

So my testimony will state that plastic needs to GO.

Amend the bill to band polystyrene foam.

Sincerely, Isis Dupont

Senior at Radford High School
Senior Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Kaci Weight, and I live in Kaimuki, Oahu. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because it is continually adding to the waste and environmental harm of OUR home and the land we all share. I put an emphasis on the word “our.” Its the parks you take you’re kids to, the beaches you go to with you’re friends, the only land we have to live off of. The small changes we make, can make a huge impact for our home. In cutting our use of these items, we can create less waste for our and future generations to come.

Mahalo,

Kaci Weight
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Kamaria Wardell
Phone: 4436760370
Email: kamariawardell@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I strongly support Bill 40 as this issue of plastic use and plastic pollution, directly affects public safety and welfare. Plastic poses health issues to people directly as many plastic products are utilized in food services. Plastic releases toxic chemicals and carcinogens into our food products when heat is applied. In long term effects, plastic pollution is one of the major issues that will have an everlasting effect in our water and food resources. Microplastics are being found in water as they seep into the soils and micro plastics in the oceans are often consumed by fish we eat. According to the journal Environmental Science and Technology, "humans may be consuming anywhere from 39,000 to 52,000 micro plastic particles a year." The micro plastics that end up in our food chain and our water ways pose harm to human health and safety. Therefore, I call for action to eliminate the sources of plastic consumption in our state to not only alleviate the climate change and pollution issue, but for human rights to access to safe drinking water and safety in wellbeing.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Karen GS Young  
Phone: 808 388 8828  
Email: kgsyoung@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40 Banning Plastics  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

Written Testimony: I support banning plastics as the only way to finally force ourselves off of its use, since we have known for a long time how plastics do not biodegrade and are destroying our oceans and earth...and our health.  

Testimony Attachment:  
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1  

IP: 192.168.200.67
In a world that is dying, it is crucial that we take steps to ditch single-use plastic now! This planet does not have time to spare. The time to act is now. Please also amend Bill 40 to include a ban on polystyrene food and drink containers, as well as t-shirt style produce bags (not referring to the kind used on a roll in grocery stores) used sometimes at farmer's markets.
I live on the mainland but visit Hawaii/Oahu often. I am in support of Bill 40 to ban single-use plastics on Oahu. The plastics are detrimental to the ocean and marine life. It is imperative that we make an effort to maintain the beauty and stability of our ecosystem for generations to come.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Kathleen L Elliott</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8087419171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kathleen.elliott808@gmail.com">kathleen.elliott808@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<td>Your position on the matter</td>
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<td>Representing Organization</td>
<td>Self</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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**Written Testimony**

Single use plastic negatively affect our island and our planet. Businesses are beginning to agree and change their practices noting no great impact on their business, as Ocean Friendly Restaurants demonstrate. Please pass this bill as we see so much plastic waste on our streets, in the ocean, and consumed by marine birds and mammals. We are all learning to decrease our plastic use. Please help us by passing this bill. Kathleen Elliott, Honolulu
# Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Karen Mary Schaefer  
Phone: 8082300783  
Email: Staycalmandswimagen@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  

**Your position on the matter**  
Support  

**Representing**  
Self  

**Organization**  
Self  

**Do you wish to speak at the hearing?**  
No  

**Written Testimony**  
We must ban single-use plastics such as polystyrene, utensils, and straws, from being used on O'ahu. The implications of this bill are massive because single-use plastics can have negative consequences in terms of human health, the environment, economical security, and more. I care deeply about our planet and people. We must be responsible stewards of our planet in order to sustain ourselves and our posterity!!

**Testimony Attachment**  

**Accept Terms and Agreement**

IP: 192.168.200.67
Esteemed Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am a student at Admiral Arthur W. Radford High School. I fully support the bill to ban plastic checkout bags for take-out food, disposable plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils on O'ahu. The Earth cannot handle the way we currently treat it, and many efforts must be made to ensure our survival of the species that live on Earth. I would like to live in a world and country where our ozone layer is clean, and trash is not plaguing the streets. As a member of today's youth, and next upcoming generation of voters, I strongly recommend that you vote in favor of this bill being passed. Not only will banning these harmful substances help keep the environment and other organisms clean however, it will also protect my peers and I from sickness. I further urge you to amend your bill to include a ban on polystyrene foam containers. The containers are harmful to the human body and can cause a vast number of sicknesses, especially cancer. As a member of a family with high rates of cancer I believe that any effort to prevent this from taking root should be a number one priority in our government. There is a shift of culture happening in America, I encourage you to make your mark not only on the next group of voters, but on the nation. Thank you for your time, and please remember to do your patriotic duty of representing those who are currently unable to vote at this time.

Sincerely,

Kaya Wilske, 17
1025 Saratoga BLVD
96818 Honolulu, Hawaii
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>2516234283</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kkay0809@gmail.com">Kkay0809@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
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<td>Your position on the matter</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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**Written Testimony**

Please amend bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend that bill so that it closes the loopholes that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic check out bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which bans the use of styrofoam and single-use plastic goods.

As a resident of these island, I am very concerned about how much plastic is being used and discarded. I am a marine biologist of 30 years and one of the biggest threats to all of our wasters is Single-use plastics.

These plastics do not degrade and they break down into tiny particles that are toxic to the marine life and to us. These single use plastics hurt our economy and stopping the use of them will also save millions in public costs to the city.

Not to mention the fact that are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.
With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics.

Please, I urge you pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s aina, wai, and kai clean and healthy for the wildlife and the people.

Mahalo Nui for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

Kecia Joy, Kihei Maui
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Please ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils and also amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers because I love this island and want it to look beautiful because I want sandy beaches not plastic beaches. Because now on the beaches it is just filled with plastic everywhere to the point where my little cousins will be playing with plastic pieces. It’s crazy we allowed plastic to just sit on our beaches because we have Kamilo Beach that was before nice white sand beach now being called "Trash Beach" because it just has loads of trash and plastic on it and I believe we should fix our island for not just our self but for the next generations to come.

Sincerely,

Keenan Turqueza
Senior at Radford High School
91-1120 Mikohu st apt 30T
Ewa Beach HI 96706
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Ken Sentner  
Phone: 551-4142  
Email: KENZEN808@GMAIL.COM  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

Written Testimony: Please be on the right side of history by reducing plastic pollution on our land and in our ocean. Maui and the Big Island have done this, and we hope you will be as far-sighted as those two County Counsels. Don't fall for the argument that 10 or 20 cents more will drive the food trucks and restaurants out of business; this has not happened at UH or on the Neighbor Islands. You have the chance to make a principled stand, please don't blow it!

Testimony Attachment: 20190826205306_Roz_Baker_letter.docx  
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1  

IP: 192.168.200.67
RE: SB2498

Dear Senator Baker,

This letter is to urge you to hear SB2498, which bans polystyrene foam containers. These containers have proven to not only be hazardous to those consuming food in them, but also to be one of the most toxic forms of litter found on our beaches and in our precious marine ecosystems. (Over the years, I have personally cleaned up several pounds of foam fragments from our beaches.) Unfortunately, despite overwhelming public support for getting rid of these environmentally destructive containers, you have repeatedly chosen not to even give this bill a hearing in your committee.

I’m sure you’re aware of the irony inherent in the fact that your constituents on Maui have already been heard by their county representatives, who approved such a ban. Your refusal to even hear this bill makes me wonder if you are choosing to prioritize the interests of industry lobbyists over those of the people who elected you. Is this really your how you’d like to be remembered on this issue?

Please prove me wrong and hear SB2498. Our environment is too precious to be sacrificed for the sake of political expediency.

Sincerely,

Ken Sentner
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Kenneth A. Tokuno  
Phone: 808-227-7522  
Email: ktokuno@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40 to ban single use plastic  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

It is likely that local retailers and others will oppose this bill on economic grounds, but most environmental protection laws and regulations come at some cost. The impact of plastics in the ocean are not fully known but we do know that thousands of fish, birds and other marine life ingest plastic. This plastic kills many but is incorporated by some including those consumed by humans. The ocean is filled with millions of tons of plastic that will stay there for thousands of years. Hawaii must do its part to end this scourge now.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I live in Honolulu, Hawaii and I support this bill to help save our unique marine life here on the islands. Plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils, need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu. It is killing our turtles, monk seals and our fish. But this is also affecting our coral reef ecosystems. These are animals and ecosystems that the rest of the world will never get to see or that future generations wont be able to know about. They also play a vital role in our entire environment. Not JUST for Hawaii, but this would also be a positive result for other people.

Sincerely,
Mackenzie Long
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Keolani Kahale
Phone: 8084454556
Email: keokahale@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 01-20-1999
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: I fully support this bill and the implications it will have on our environment. Hawai‘i will be looked to as a model for combatting issues of pollution, climate change, etc.

Accept Terms and Agreement: 1
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,
I am a student at Radford High School, and as assigned, I would like to make a quick statement to help pass the amend to Bill 40, banning the wasteful plastic, as well as polystyrene foam containers.
Recently, plastic seems to be a bigger issue to our environment than it ever was. Seeing as it not only radiates toxic pollutants that further damages our environment, it can also take hundreds to thousands of years to break down, which means long-term effects.
I hope you will consider, the upcoming generations, as we will be the one's who will have to grow up in this new environment.

Sincerely,
Keonaona ‘O Hau’ula Wofford-Keoho
Senior at Radford High School
59-610 Kamehameha Hwy Haleiwa, HI 96717
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don’t fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai‘i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don’t have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.
Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

Kevin Hagan, Paia, Maui
Member of Sierra Club of Hawai‘i

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Kirsi Hakkinen
Phone: 808-829-2712
Email: Kirsih@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
Single use plastics become micro plastics which are polluting our oceans and drinking water at an alarming rate. Discontinuing the use of single use plastics is one step that we must take to curb the entry of plastic pollution in our water, our fish, our wildlife. Let’s care for our planet and our health, and do the right thing!
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 12:55 PM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Kirsty McWalter  
Phone: 808-371-1239  
Email: hawaiikirsty2006@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No  

I strongly support this bill. The use of single-use plastic is a threat to our health that we can no longer ignore. Our landfills cannot continue to support the amount of single-use plastic that is discarded each day. Our beaches and oceans are overflowing with single-use plastic that didn't make it to the landfill. These plastics break down into microplastic that are in our water system, our soil, and our food. We need to ban the use of single-use plastics immediately.

Accept Terms and Agreement: 1  

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: kortney mark
Phone: 8084442588
Email: kortney@email.com
Meeting Date: 08-27-2019
Council/PH Committee: Parks
Agenda Item: civics and plastic workshop 40 bill
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: surfriders
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No
Written Testimony: Support the limitation on all one time plastic and support the development of full recyclable systems!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu Council,

I live in Honolulu, and I support Bill 40 for the following reasons. Plastic bags, straws, and utensils are slowly killing marine life and Human Beings. These pollutants are contaminating our water supply here on the island, and causing many to get sick. Plastics are not the only problem. We need to extend the ban to Polystyrene Foam, because of the many health effects on animals. The dioxins cause immune and hormonal problems, and it can affect fetal development. Styrene, which is in Polystyrene, is a carcinogen which in fact leads to cancer. This shows the many important reasons why the polystyrene needs to be banned in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Kyla Saylor

Senior at Radford High School
207 17th st
Honolulu, HI 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Kyle Kurtz
Phone 7852361937
Email Kaykurtz@gmail.com
Meeting Date 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee Public Safety
Agenda Item Bill 40
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.

IP: 192.168.200.67
I work at a popular restaurant which serves around 250 parties per day. Plastics are given with every drink, which would be around 1000 plastic straws used each day. Plastic boxes and utensils leave our restaurant in the hands of our customers, and it is no wonder that everywhere I go, there are always pieces of plastic littered on the ground. It is no wonder we are finding plastics in the food we eat. Plastics and the chemicals from them are not only a regular part of our life, but a regular part of our bodies.
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 4:58 PM  
Subject: Public Infrastructure, Technology and Sustainability Speaker Registration/testimony

**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

**Name**  
Kylie Higashi

**Phone**  
8085942487

**Email**  
Kch2001@iolani.org

**Meeting Date**  
08-26-2019

**Council/PH Committee**  
PITS

**Agenda Item**  
Bill 40

**Your position on the matter**  
Support

**Representing**  
Self

**Organization**  

**Do you wish to speak at the hearing?**  
No

This (Bill 40) is long overdue and at a time where single-use plastics and other single-use items have taken over—are almost impossible to avoid at food retailers, grocery stores, and etcetera—it is more crucial now than ever. Every day I walk, picking up and endless amount of trash littered in our streets. They pose a large threat to our existence and those of all forms of life. I see it in the oceans, and they cause harm to many species of marine life. Others lie in the landfill waiting to be burned, emitting harmful chemicals and emissions into the air—speeding climate change, a matter that is way too desperate to be ignored.

With all the waste we produce, the animals we brutally rape, kill, murder, abuse, enslave, and exploit in the animal agriculture meat, dairy, and egg industries (although zoos, seaworlds, leather, Sherpa, wool, snakeskin, alligator skin, animal testing are absolutely inhumane and unethical) especially, we are bringing ourselves closer and closer to our demise. So please, do everything you can to save the earth and all the species who live on it (including humans as well). Although we have much to do in the fight for our lives and the lives of others, this plastic ban will send us well on our way!
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support the bill to ban polystyrene foam containers in Oahu because there is just so much plastic going in to the ocean and a lot of animals in the ocean are being affect by it. As I was growing up this has been going on for years and we should start recycle more and not use plastic anymore. Most of 615 testimonies received supported the ban, but opponents say the measure would've increased costs for consumers and small restaurants. It will cost business owners less because people can bring their own containers and straws.

Sincerely,
Lauren Ridela

Junior at Radford High School
92-104 Ola Place
Kapolei, Hawaii
Bill 40 Action Alert

Aloha Sierra Club O'ahu Member!

On Thursday the Honolulu City Council Public Safety and Welfare Committee will be voting on a critical measure to end our plastic pollution epidemic on O'ahu! Bill 40 is an attempt to phase out single-use plastics and polystyrene containers which are a threat to our environment, wildlife, health and contribute to climate change. These products have no place in our future sustainability and clean energy goals. Bill 40 must get passed!

Why it's important:

1. Hawai'i is experiencing an epidemic of plastics and expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) polluting our streets and beaches. These heavily synthetic products, typically used for a few minutes, carry chemicals that leach into food and beverages they contain and contaminate our bodies. And because they never fully decompose so that when littered, they break down into small (often microscopic) particles that absorb surrounding pollutants and enter our waste stream and our environment. These microplastics have been found in 114 aquatic species, some of which are ingested by humans. They cause animal disease and mortality and recent studies found humans may be consuming 70,000 microplastic particles a year.

2. The climate crisis threatens our collective future and the production of plastics and EPS generates and emits greenhouse gases throughout their life cycle, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. If the growth in plastic continues at its current rate, then by 2050, the plastics industry will likely account for 20% of the world’s oil consumption.

3. High Price Tag: Plastics and foam containers are amongst the items clogging storm drains and waste water infrastructure and tax payer dollars are used to clean them up. That is a major cost to the city and ultimately, taxpayers dollars to fix. HI DOT recommends creating policies to eliminate these products from our waste stream in order to reduce further danger to infrastructure and public safety, as well as save millions of dollars in avoided cleanup costs.

The good news is, Bill 40 addresses all of these issues by phasing out single use plastics and EPS food ware once and for all! The City and County of Honolulu has an opportunity to protect human safety and welfare and to improve the environmental quality for all life throughout our state. These products threaten our health and our future, time for them to go!
Please share your thoughts in support of this effort by submitting testimony and/or sign up to speak here.

Below is a sample but it is best to speak from your personal experience and perspective on this issue.

DATE and TIME: AUG. 29th at 9am (Bill 40 will be heard closer to 10am)
LOCATION: 2nd Floor of Honolulu Hale, 530 S King St, Honolulu, HI 96813.

SAMPLE TESTIMONY

Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don’t fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai‘i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don’t have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.

Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.
Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

NAME, LOCATION/ COUNCIL DISTRICT
Optional: Member of Sierra Club of Hawai‘i

Sierra Club of Hawai‘i
P.O. Box 2577
Honolulu, HI 96803
United States

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please unsubscribe.
Name: Leilani Angel  
Phone: 808-757-6719  
Email: leilaniangel808@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-28-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

Written Testimony: Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>lenora springer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8085376879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jsls@hawaiiantel.net">jsls@hawaiiantel.net</a></td>
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<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<td>PublicSafety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agenda Item</td>
<td>bill 40, plastics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your position on the matter</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representing</td>
<td>Self</td>
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<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>please ban plastic bags</td>
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<td>Testimony Attachment</td>
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<td>Accept Terms and Agreement</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
# Speaker Registration/Testimony

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Linda Lembeck</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>808-385-0296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:haleakalaskies@hawaiiantel.net">haleakalaskies@hawaiiantel.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Date</td>
<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
<td>Council</td>
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<td>Agenda Item</td>
<td>Plastics Bill 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your position on the matter</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representing Organization</td>
<td>Self</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>Please pass a bill to eliminate as much plastic products as possible. Impose more tax on plastics. I support Bill 40.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testimony Attachment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accept Terms and Agreement</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Lisa, and the assistant general manager for Maina and Sun's on Lewers, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

Please protect our natural resources, culture, and community.
Dear members of the Honolulu City Council,

I personally support this bill to ban plastics. Also please amend to ban polystyrene foam containers. From the time plastic is made, it already harms the environment, making plastic requires large chemical processing plants that emits several pollutants. Plastic does not decompose so they go to landfills or more commonly, the ocean. Plastic is a huge issue for the environment and must be taken care of immediately, before its too late. This is the first step in changing our community for the better.

Sincerely,
Logan Leialoha
Senior at Radford high school
2325 N Nimitz Hwy.
96819 Honolulu Hi.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support this Bill to ban these plastics for many reasons. My number one reason is that it is destroying our oceans and damaging our island's scenery and wildlife. There is an estimate of 15-51 trillion pieces of plastic in our oceans, and I hate that Hawaii has contributed to that. Every bit of plastic that has been made still exists today. Plastic does not just disappear or disintegrate by itself, it stays and pollutes and destroys our world. Fish and marine life ingest 12,000 to 14,000 tons of plastic each year. We need to stop Hawaii from being apart of this, and ending this world epidemic, can start with more bills like this being passed. By passing this bill, we are one step closer to saving our planet and one step closer to the rest of the world joining us. I am constantly seeing plastic on our roads, beaches, towns, and cities. Tourism is what gives Hawaii most of their money, if Hawaii becomes filled with trash and it's amazing scenery is destroyed, tourists will want to go somewhere else. With plastic surrounding our beaches and islands, people will no longer want to travel to Hawaii or spend their money to visit the tourist areas. No one wants to come to Hawaii with a beach full of plastic, which is what I am seeing right now. People come to Hawaii to see the water, hikes, and wildlife, and all of this plastic is eliminating it. I am tired of Hawaii contributing to this epidemic and we must do whatever we can to stop it. This Bill bans most of the big effects of plastic pollution. It is very important that we ban plastic bags, plastic straws, and plastic utensils, which is what this Bill supports. We can also even do more than this bill is offering. I think that this bill should be amended to add a ban to polystyrene food containers as well. Polystyrene is not the answer to our problems, it is just as poisonous to Hawaii's wildlife as plastic is. I believe that passing this bill and making that amendment will help save Oahu and will take us another step closer to saving our planet.
Sincerely,
Lucille Ray

Senior at Radford High School
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Name: Madison Masek
Phone: 6198188071
Email: mnm2898@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
Plastics harm our oceans and us! There are very few reasons as to why people actually need single use plastics. We need action and change now! Support this bill to be a leader in positive action for Hawaii and the planet.

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Madison Salomon
Phone: 3173452995
Email: Madisonmsalomon@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear City Clerk,

As an individual and teacher in Honolulu worried about our future on this planet, I find it important to voice concern on the amount of energy wasted in producing and using single-use plastic. Energy instead can be used in a variety of ways that does not pollute our lands and oceans (which is what single-use plastic such as straws, foam, utensils, and bags do) on O'ahu. I already do my part in avoiding purchasing and using these items -but not everyone has the determination as I do. Rather, most of the public needs the push of laws banning these toxic substances in order to do good. By passing Bill 40, we will all be protecting our own futures and those of our children by respecting what we have, reducing pollution and using energy in better ways.

Thank you for reading.

Written Testimony

Testimony
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name
Malika
Phone
9802135615
Email
malika.rawal@providenceday.org
Meeting Date
08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee
PublicSafety
Agenda Item
Bill 40
Your position on the matter
Support
Representing
Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?
No
Written Testimony
This bill will help the environment which will indirectly help public health.
Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement
1
Single-use plastics need to be banned from distribution as the utensils easily break and can pierce a slipper, barefoot, even a child digging in the sand at the beach can hurt his or her self by accidentally grabbing the sharp, broken piece. These pieces are dangers to society. Please ban them as soon as possible. Alternatives are already available so there is no need to worry about such matters.
My name is Maria Fernanda Torres, and I am a college student. I stand in strong support of Bill 40, and I believe that passing Bill 40 is crucial because I have seen with my own eyes beaches littered with single-use plastics. Fishes are consuming these plastics, and the chemicals embedded within it, and we are consuming those fish. Single-use plastics are a cancer for future generations, and the best way to prevent its spread is to eliminate it now, before it becomes even more problematic.

With the threat of climate change hanging over our heads, passing this bill will propel the City and County of Honolulu towards its sustainability goals. Plastics are made of petroleum and byproducts of natural gasses, both of which contribute to climate change and threaten the safety and security of everyone living in the world, but particularly in Hawai'i where there is minimal land to retreat to in the face of rising seas.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am a supporter of Bill 40 because as a young teen, I have memories of being able to swim in the clear blue water but now that I cannot, it is sad to see the damages plastic has caused. I am not able to walk on the beach without stepping on pieces of plastic near the water or swim without having to come around chunks of plastics bags. Plastic bags for take-out food, disposable plastic straws, stirrers, an utensils need to be banned. Also, please amend Bill 40 to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu due to the harm it has caused to the ecosystem and human life.

Sincerely,
Maricella Rodriguez

Senior at Radford High School
3130 Ala Ilima St
Honolulu, HI 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Marissa Igros
Phone: 8083766375
Email: marigr47@radford.k12.hi.us
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: Yes

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,
The advantages of banning plastics would help market businesses and the community to be a better way for the animals and humans. Plastics may be very helpful for our lives but plastics will kill our mother nature slowly. Polystyrene foam, is a good good reason to ban plastics, because polystyrene foam would cause cancer to both human and animals. Polystyrene foam is made with chemicals in order to form the polystyrene form. The chemicals inside the foam can spread by microwaving, throwing in the ocean and breaks down the foam into smaller pieces. Please, let's not only think about our human lives. We live in this earth with animals in our surroundings such as, the ocean and the land. We must treat the earth like our home.

PLEASE AMEND TO BAN POLYSTYRENE FOAM!!

Sincerely, Marissa Lyn Igros
Senior At Radford High School
1126 Maka'ala St.
Honolulu, HI 96818

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Marissa Villegas and I live in Diamond Head area. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because of the tremendous impact it has on our ocean health. I see these items constantly while surfing and find myself paddling back to shore with floating trash frequently. I also find it embarrassing that, as an island that depends on its oceans as a major resource for energy, food, etc, we are so hesitant to stop using these incredibly harmful materials. Consumers can adapt — we want our state's leadership to do something progressive for the health of our island for one...not the wealth of our island.

Mahalo,

Marissa
Speaker Registration/Testimony

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Mary Ellen Apostol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>808 330-7487</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maliakai@hawaii.rr.com">maliakai@hawaii.rr.com</a></td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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<td>I support to phase out single use plastics</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don't fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai'i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don't have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.
Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

Maxwell Steinbock Bendes, Honolulu Waikiki
Graduate Student at UHM: Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences
Member of Sierra Club of Hawai‘i
Member Society for Conservation Biology
Aloha Committee Members,

We are in strong SUPPORT of Bill 40.

Plastic in and of itself is not bad, nor good. Since the 1950’s it has presented us with many novel innovations in the medicine, technology, and transportation industries. However, our increased dependence on plastic for everyday and single-use items has skyrocketed out of control. Using a product (like plastic) that is designed to last forever for a single-use “one and done” product like utensils, straws, bags, foam take-out containers or water bottles is a clear design failure. We are choosing the thoughtless convenience of plastics over the health of our planet.

Hawai‘i has long been the leader in sustainability for the Pacific region. Governor Ige’s Hawaii Sustainability Initiative, for example, strives to protect / manage 30% of our marine ecosystems and watersheds by 2030 (the “30 x 30” plan), and commits that Hawai‘i will be 100% carbon neutral and relying on 100% renewable energy by 2045. We need to continue along this path in the hopes that other communities, big and small, will follow suit.

Plastic pollution is detrimental to our environment and may potentially be impacting human health. Recent studies have shown that small to microscopic plastic particles are now found in samples of sea salt, bottled water, dust that settles from the atmosphere and even beer.

Hawai‘i Wildlife Fund is a small (but mighty) non-profit organization that is committed to protecting native wildlife and their ecosystems in Hawai‘i since 1996. During that time, we
have removed over 325 tons (yep, that's 650,000 lbs.!) of marine debris from the shores of Hawai‘i Island, Maui, Midway and the French Frigate Shoals through the help, participation and support of thousands of volunteers, local businesses, agencies and other NGOs. In 2018 and 2019 alone, we have already removed 114,192 lbs. during 114 cleanup events — the majority of this debris (over 90%) is made of plastic — and we are hauling out more today near South Point.

Really, we prefer calling marine debris “plastic pollution” as that is the bulk of what is washing up along our shorelines and getting entangled in our coral reefs. It is a man-made problem that will take the dedication of everyone to solve, something that Bill 40 is beginning to address. Granted, much of the debris that we see in the plastic-laden beaches like Kamilo on Hawai‘i Island and Kahuku on O‘ahu does wash in from remote places. However, some of it is local, and other beaches along the leeward coastlines of all islands are more impacted from land-based (local) sources of debris. This gives us hope, as we cannot just point our fingers out to sea and blame others … but we can take small steps to mitigate and reduce the problem, like Bill 40 is proposing. Single-use plastics are something that we can do without, they are mindless uses of plastic, and there are already viable alternatives for the items planned for this phaseout.

We strongly endorse and are in FULL support of Bill 40 and hope that you will join us and vote “AY” and stand for native wildlife, our environment and future generations of keiki and communities here in Hawai‘i nei.

Sincerely,
Megan Lamson Leatherman, M.Sc.
HWF President & Program Director
Honalo, Hawai‘i

Hannah Bernard
HWF Co-founder & Executive Director
Paia, Maui

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 6:25 AM
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Micah Chee
Phone: 8085364891
Email: mioono@hotmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: I support bill 40.
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
I support Bill 40 and its proposal to reduce single-use plastic in Hawaii. The plastic crisis impacting our oceans has been thoroughly documented, and given the harmful decision-making by the federal government regarding environmental concerns at this time, I believe that acting swiftly and decisively at the state level is of paramount importance. The oceans are such a critical part of our community and deserve the fullest conservation protections possible, including an elimination of single-use plastics.
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 9:06 PM
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Michael Fuller
Phone: 3077605620
Email: mrfull51@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-28-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: BILL 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Laila Moire-Selvage
Phone: 8088966561
Email: lailams9@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Action For Nature
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

We, the members for Action For Nature, an environmental non-profit, support the ban of single-use plastics such as polystyrene, utensils, and straws, from being used on O'ahu. Single-use plastics can have negative consequences in terms of human health, the environment, economic security, and more. We must do all we can and act now to prevent more plastic and other harmful materials from ending up in our oceans and then our bodies. Please support Bill 40 for our own future and future generations to come.

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support this bill because I believe that plastics should be banned on our island. This includes plastic bags for takeout foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils. Please amend to the banning of polystyrene foam containers in this bill as well. Plastics are harmful for our environment. When you walk around the island you want to see the beauty of it. Not a bunch of plastic waste spread throughout. This is a sad thing to see. There are different alternatives to plastic that wouldn't be damaging to our environment, such as biocompostable or biodegradable material. We need to make a change and ban plastics to help our environment.

Sincerely,
Lauryn Gadlin
Student at Radford High School
2001 Tinker Ave
Honolulu, HI 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: lois crozer
Phone: 8082268313
Email: lbc@hawaiiantel.net
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony:
Single use plastic, foam and straws are not necessary. We can easily use biodegradable or other items instead. We live on an island!!
Testimony Attachment: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Other Members of Public Safety & Welfare Committee, my name is Louise Sper, and I live in Makiki and testifying to support Bill 40, because it is necessary for O'ahu to stop using foam, and single use items like utensils and straws. We see so much of it collected in trash/landfills and our beaches. And with so many tourists visiting, they are a huge contribution to our plastic landfill, and eliminating these options will save our island and ensure it is environmentally sustainable and responsible for our residents and tourists alike. Thank you so much for your consideration and support of Bill 40 to make positive long-term changes that will benefit our island long-term.

Thank you,
Louise Sper
Aloha, Members of the Committee.

Thank you for taking time to read my testimony. I am asking for you to please pass Bill 40, as well as add the following amendments:

1) to include a ban on all polystyrene food and drink containers

2) to include a closure of the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, so it creates a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on our island of Oahu, Hawaii.

I believe and hope that you are all already aware of the many pressing environment threats that we are facing, including plastic pollution. Please help Oahu lead the way and set an example on living more sustainably—for our ocean, for our beaches, for our important animal and plant species, and for our communities—by helping pass Bill 40. Thank you.

Mackenna Cady
Ewa Beach, Oahu

19
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Maci
Phone: 254 226 7954
Email: macigrace.mcgrath06@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
I support banning single use plastic because I value the life of animals and I strongly think that if we ban plastic it would help the environment overall. Less plastic in our landfills means less waste in our life.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Plastic is a huge issue, not only in Hawaii, but around the globe and it needs to be banned and cleaned up. Plastic straws, bags, containers, wraps, stirrers, utensils, and even polystyrene foam are detrimental to our health, the health of animals, and to the health of the Earth. As plastics become more synthetic and cheap, the more toxic they become and the more harmful they are to us. There is absolutely no reason for them not to be banned. They trash our beaches, they never degrade, they leak toxins, etc. The only reason to keep them around is because they are cheap. It won't be cheap when the posterity are forced to clean it all up.

The best thing to do is either clean it up and ban plastics, or force companies to clean up their plastics themselves. Forcing companies to spend money on cleaning it up may be motivating to find cheap and safe alternatives. There is cardboard, biodegradable organic plastics, seaweed, milk proteins, egg proteins and the list is endless. If all it takes is a quick internet search to find that out, then there's obviously ways to live without disposable plastics. Overall, not banning these harmful plastics is reckless and a great reflection of judgement.

Sincerely,

Malia Ruiz
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Maile Kamisugi
Phone: 8087782645
Email: maile.kamisugi@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
Single-use plastics impact our health because some are made from styrene, which is toxic. Styrene is found in tobacco cigarettes & is a carcinogen. Therefore, single-use plastics can leech chemicals onto our skin and directly into our bloodstream. Everyone's wellbeing is at risk with single-use plastics everywhere in this modern world. Reducing them through single-use plastics will greatly minimize the effect on our wellbeing.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 3:23 PM
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Mandy Brown
Phone: 9727417794
Email: mandyyyyrae@hotmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Council
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

written testimony

Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.

Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Mark Bassingthwaighte
Phone: 406.370.9518
Email: mbassl@outlook.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40/SB522
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Self: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing: No

My wife and I have been visiting Hawaii for many years now and plan on continuing to do so for years to come. Sadly, however, the more we get to know Oahu, we are seeing more and more trash in various island waterways, which takes so much away from the native beauty of the place. Banning the use of single use plastics can be a great start in reversing this serious problem. And, suffice it to say, if the Hawaiian Islands can't stand together in unity on this issue, I see little hope for this kind of movement gaining widespread support here on the mainland for this reason. If folks in the middle of the Pacific don't ultimately care, why should the rest of us?
I am in full support of any effort made by the city and county to reduce the overall use of plastics. The oceans and marine life are vital to our communities, and even these modest measures over time can drastically reduce damage to delicate ecosystems. I also believe that any tax exemptions offered to encourage businesses to comply with Bill 40 only be considered on a temporary basis merely to assist in the initial transition away from single-use plastics.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Maximus A McGrath</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(719) 568-31971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maximus.mcgrath@gmail.com">maximus.mcgrath@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Meeting Date</td>
<td>08-29-2019</td>
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<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
<td>PublicSafety</td>
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<td>Agenda Item</td>
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<td>Support</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>With Hawaii's amount of tourism for gorgeous beaches and wildlife, it should be our duty to ban single-use plastics and keep Hawaii clean.</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha,

I stand in support of Bill 40 to reduce the use of single-use plastics on Oahu. It is clear that the use of plastic products at home and abroad are having a detrimental impact on environmental health and the beauty of our beaches. But that is not the only reason to remove plastic products from our lives. It has been shown recently that plastics have become part of the food chain, so much so that plastic particles have been found in organisms that live in the Mariana Trench. We consume plastics through the food we eat. Unfortunately we do not understand the full extent of this consumption yet, or the health implications for humans in the long-term. I encourage you to support this bill to remove plastics from our environment and our food chain, both of which are inextricably linked. Mahalo.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Plastic is all around us. It starts in restaurants, then travels into our hands to later fall into the street or the water. We always say "don't worry I'll throw it away", but we never do. Then we hear on the news that the ocean is filling up with trash and majority of it is plastic. So instead of sitting there saying we are going to throw it away lets just do the best thing and ban the use of plastic. By banning plastic we save our ocean and the animals living in it. We can begin to take plastic off of the street and improve our community. Research shows that 300 million tons of plastic is produced globally each year. Now between 4.8 and 12.7 million tons find their way to the ocean. Another research shows that 1 million animals die by the plastic that make it into the ocean. But if we can ban plastic in Oahu, imagine the animals we have saved and how much cleaner we can begin to make our ocean. We will no longer have to listen to people around us say "it's so sad to see the news show all the plastic in the ocean." But plastic isn't our only problem. Polystyrene foam is another problem in our environment. We should also aim to amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers here on Oahu. Polystyrene foam is known to cause cancer. So why not take a huge step to stop the polystyrene foam from being in food containers, especially in restaurants.

Sincerely,
Migel Graciano
Senior at Radford High School
4065 Enger St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Mio chee
Phone: 8085364891
Email: mioono@hotmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
I am in support of Bill 40. Please include bags used by customers inside a business to package loose items, such as fruits, vegetables, nuts, ground coffee, grains, candies, or small hardware items in plastic checkout bags as I see many businesses use plastic produce bags instead of checkout bags to avoid the bag fee which is unfair for businesses who truly abide by the spirit of the law.
I testify in strong support of Bill 40. I want our island to stop using, supporting the manufacture of, and sale of foam, utensils, and straws because they do not biodegrade. They contribute to the deaths of our marine wildlife and destroy the ecosystem that we all rely on - they ruin the ocean for the tourists that keep this island infused with cash, the use of these items supports the manufacture of toxic chemicals that do not degrade and enter our drinking water. Please set into motion alternatives of these items that will keep our oceans and bodies clean and healthy. The motion towards the use of environmentally friendly items will trigger an economic change. Thank you.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nadine Ferraro
Phone: 808-988-7509
Email: nadineferraro@mac.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Council
Agenda Item: Bill 40 and CD1
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: Ban single-use plastic/bags, PLEASE!
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nancie Caraway
Phone: 8083753947
Email: Nancie@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40 Ban PLASTICS
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony
Dear Chair & Committee Members. I honor you all for your wisdom and commitment to BAN single-use plastics, utensils, straws as have other Islands in our fragile ocean state. We see the damage done to our oceans & mammals & sanitary dimensions by the proliferation of these materials. Please provide this essential protection to our eco-systems.

Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nancy Davlantes
Phone: 808-247-3681
Email: ndavlantes@aol.com
Meeting Date: 08-28-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
I don't know how many more horror stories and photos of trashed beaches and oceans, how many more documented instances of harm to wildlife we need before we take some action. We know what to do. What's been missing is the will to do it. If not now, when?
Single use plastics are wasteful and a detriment to our environment. We feel and see the effects here on our Hawaiian islands everyday, with trash and micro plastics littering our beaches and waterways, polluting the ocean. Fish eat this plastic and we eat the fish. Plastic bag ban is just one measure in this huge issue. There is no reason for single use anything when we are facing an environmental crisis. Landfills are full, we can’t continue to burn plastic toxic trash for the safety of our air and the waste single us plastics create. Please ban single use items, styrofoam, plastic utensils and bags. Businesses should be held responsible for creating this waste and be part of the solution.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Natalie Aurio</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8085899447</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Natalieaurio@gmail.com">Natalieaurio@gmail.com</a></td>
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**Written Testimony**

Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.

**Testimony Attachment**

Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
I've hosted 11 beach cleanups beginning on June 8th. We remove trash between 7:30 - 9:00AM. We cover a very small stretch of beach and since we started we have removed 516 pounds of plastic from our shoreline. It is absolutely necessary to refuse single-use plastic here in Hawaii.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nicholas
Phone: 808 518 9651
Email: viperkiller54@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Dear members of the council,

Plastic should have been banned a long time ago when we first found out the effects. Instead of sucking up to the big plastic company just because they wave a wad of money in front of you, plastic has now killed millions of marine life and wiped out many species and it is a disgrace that we could have prevented this but, we are doing it know instead of when the problem started. I just wish you out government would stop just working on reelection and just fix the problems we want you to fix.

Sincerely:
Nicholas Beltz
Senior at radford high school
624 ohana nui cr

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Water and Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi,
I am Nicolás Chesta and I want to support Bill 40, nowadays, the world is experiencing disasters that affect hardly to communities and countries, it’s really sad to see landfills full of plastics. Through Bill 40, the Island of O‘ahu will be an example of environmental progress in the Hawaii Islands, as it has been developing in various countries and states. I want to support because I have seen the terrible effects of plastics in the ocean and animals, whose are continuously suffering with no hope. It’s vital to consider Bill 40 and approve it, so you protect tourism, native flora and fauna, the ocean and the world. Thank you so much for considering Bill 40, it will definitely make a change in your communities.
Best wishes,
Nicolás.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Nicholas Segawa
Phone: +18083491406
Email: nicholasesegawa27@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-0d-200y
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: I

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha, I am Nicole Buyukacar and a resident of Hawaii. I am writing this testimony because I support the passing of Bill 40 and feel that this bill is very important for the state of Hawaii.

Plastics such as polystyrene, single-use utensils, and straws pose a considerable threat to the health of the residents of Hawaii. Plastics that end up in the water break down into microplastics that contaminate the food we harvest from it. Even if the plastics don't end up in the sea, it still ends up in the air. According to research by the University of Victoria, an average person consumes 126-142 particles of plastic each day. Additionally, an average person inhales another 132-170 bits of plastic per day. This is a major health issue that must be addressed at the source... The providers of single-use plastics on the islands.

The toxins from plastic also make their way up the food chain. People are ingesting plastic every day, and every day they are ingesting chemicals from it. Prolonged consumption/inhalation of plastics can lead to many symptoms such as birth defects, metabolic disease, respiratory problems, liver dysfunction, infertility, etc.

Because of the impact plastics have on the health of the residents of Hawaii, Bill 40 needs to pass. In my mere 15 years of life, I have been constantly fed facts upon facts about the effects of plastic and other global issues. I have seen first hand the footprint we are leaving on the Earth and ourselves. I still have a lot of time left to live my life to the fullest. But, do I have a future? I am scared about the things that are not in my control. This testimony is my way of reaching out to those that have the power to change the policies governing Hawaii. I am reaching out to those in control. This is a small plea from a teen who wants a
happy healthy future in Hawaii. I want a future for the next generations. I want a future so that one day I will be in control and make choices to take care of the Earth and the health of all life on it.

Thank you for your time,
Nicole Buyukacar

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 4:27 PM
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name        Nicole Reid
Phone       8083882909
Email       admin@manifesthawaii.com
Meeting Date 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee Public Safety
Agenda Item Bill 40
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

The reduction of single use plastics makes sense for the continued pursuit of an eco-friendly Hawaii. Will business be impacted, yes but market demand for compostable replacements will cost shift. Our environment is more important than convenience. Reusable utensils & bags are easy to find, purchase & use. Many thanks for your time to consider this bill.

Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Water and Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi,

My name is Novell Goodman, and I am a student at Punahou School. I am in strong support of Bill 40 due to the step it provides in making Hawaii an example of the ultimate steward of sustainability.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Olivia Arnold  
Phone: 740-508-1197  
Email: Olivia.cleek@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

Take a stroll down the streets of Waikiki, or any neighborhood on Oahu, and I guarantee you'll find a handful of single-use plastic items within 5 minutes of your walk. It's such a shame to see such pollution on the streets that could so easily be avoided. I'm a citizen of Oahu and find it disgusting to see such debris, so imagine what visitors think when they see straws and plastic bags littering our streets. Hawaii is imagined to be such a pristine paradise, so why wouldn't we want to do all that we can to uphold that image? Banning single-use plastics would definitely be a great first step.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Paris A Sellers
Phone: 8087481971
Email: psellers20@punahou.edu
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: I believe if Hawaii as a community takes this step it will lead other states to follow in our food steps. Someone has to be the first and I believe Hawaii is the perfect place to start.

Testimony Attachment: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Patricia Fallbeck
Phone: 808-346-0899
Email: Patriciafallbeck@mac.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
Bill 40 is a step in the right direction for our environment, our health, and our tourism industry. A beach that is polluted with plastics will not attract visitors and will endanger the health and welfare of our citizens and our oceans. Please stop the plastic!

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council, Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters. These products don’t fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai‘i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don’t have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and Styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.

Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety. With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the
health of our people.
Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!
PATRICIA HEMPEY, KOLOA, KAUA‘I, HAWAI‘I
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Peter Beutler</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>301-514-3239</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>Single use plastics are a scourge on the ocean environment surrounding our island. We need to do more to reduce the use of these items and encourage alternatives.</td>
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**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement**

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 9:59 AM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony  

## Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phaedra Robinson</th>
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<td>Phone</td>
<td>8085513252</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drphaedra@me.com">drphaedra@me.com</a></td>
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Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Phaedra Robinson, and I live in Kailua. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

### Written Testimony

I want our island to stop using foam containers & single use plastics because they harm our ocean and marine life. We must protect the waters around us.

Mahalo,
Phaedra Robinson

IP: 192.168.200.67
Voice Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don't fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai'i Dept. of Transportation (HDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don't have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai'i's land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.
Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

Phil Potter, Mo'ili'ili

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha e honorable Chair Water and honorable Vice Chair Tsuneyoshi,

I support Bill 40 to ban single use plastics.


My name is Phoenix Maimiti Valentine. The sands of my birth are in Måkaha. Oahu is my island. Wai‘anae is my district. Mt. Ka‘ala is my mountain. Honua (the small waterfall on Mt. Ka‘ala) is my waterfall. Malaea is my beach.

As a native Hawaiian, I am taught that our environment contributes to our wellness, health and who we are. The healing aspects of nature evident in our island state will vanish within my lifetime if plastic production continues. What would a ho‘oalauna (introduction) matter if plastic pollution becomes the air we breathe, the contaminated water we drink, and the cancer filled food we consume? Our environment will no longer empower us with mana (power, strength), instead, all living things will be affected with disease, destruction and death.

**Plastic is not biodegradable.** It breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces which can last over 2,000 years according to *Chemistry and Biology 2009*. Since 1950, approximately 8.6 billion tons of plastic now clutter our world. Only 9% has been recycled, according to a report by *the Guardian*. 73% of litter on beaches worldwide is plastic, according to the *National Geographic*. NOAA, states the gyres of ocean currents have created a plastic patch of garbage (the size of Texas) in the Pacific Ocean. Our island state resides in the Pacific, hopefully we are concerned about this fact. **Plastic is toxic.** Single use plastics like water bottles, contain a chemical known as Bisphenol A (BPA), which is linked to infertility, reproductive disorders, male impotence, heart disease, type 2 Diabetes, obesity and other health problems, according to an article in *medicalnewstoday.com*. Information on the hazardous health effects of plastics are available online to educate the world in hopes that we value the quality of life we live. Hopefully, the 50th State, will join the movement to save the planet and the human race from plastic pollution by banning single use plastics as a beginning to this crisis.

As a cultural practitioner learning La‘au lapa‘au (Hawaiian medicinal herbs), the goal is health and wellness. Glass is commonly used in making herbs because it’s safe. Plastic is dangerously porous. Toxic chemicals leach out of plastic and attach onto other plastics according to *Scientific Reports 2013*. Instead of having health benefits, plastic promotes disease.

In closing, I urge you to choose life, optimal health, and wellness, as inhabitants of our island paradise. Boost health benefits for kanaka and the human race worldwide with your support of Bill 40. Please ban single use plastics today. Vote for Bill 40!

Mahalo nui loa a pau, Phoenix Maimiti Valentine
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<th>Raina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Randy Ching</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>808-942-0145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Makikirandy@yahoo.com">Makikirandy@yahoo.com</a></td>
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**Your position on the matter**
Support

**Representing**
Self

**Do you wish to speak at the hearing?**
No

Aloha Chair Waters and members of the committee.

I strongly support Bill 40, which would ban the use of single-use plastics. Hawaii is drowning in an ocean of plastic. It is time to replace plastic with biodegradable alternatives, especially those which are locally sourced.

**Written Testimony**

Plastics are made from fossil fuels, primarily natural gas. We need to stop using fossil fuels which are causing the climate crisis. The pace of climate change is increasing.

Please pass Bill 40. Mahalo for your consideration.

Randy Ching
Honolulu

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement**

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I live in Honolulu on Fort Shafter and I am supporting the ban on plastic. I support the ban on plastic because in reality plastic is killing the world especially ocean life. Plastic bags and foam products would ruin our beaches and our ocean life experience because of the mess it makes. Plastic bags that are used for take out bags, straws, utensils and others should be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food container on Oahu.

Sincerely,
Tucker Rashaard
Senior at Radford High School
Address: 634 Hase Dr.
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 8:54 AM
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony
Attachments: 20190828085422_Bill_40_Testimony.docx

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Rayna McClintock
Phone: 7202818416
Email: raynamcc@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/?H Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment: 20190828085422_Bill_40_Testimony.docx
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Bill 40 Testimony

I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa studying Global Environmental Science. I give my full support to Bill 40 as I fully believe we need regulation of the number of single use plastics that are used every day. If we continue to use plastic bags and plastic utensils for one day and then discard them into our environment, we will not be left with much of a future. A HI DOT Highway report found that plastic bags and Styrofoam containers were the top two litter categories clogging storm drains. With changing rain patterns that cause more flash flooding due to climate change, reducing these single use plastics would save millions of dollars in cleaning fees. That is money that is staying in taxpayers pockets. I don't want to have to pay to clean up after the tourist who are coming here and using plastic and leaving.

There is currently a movement starting. So many countries and states are waking up and realizing that we need to consider the future. Hawaii can be at the forefront of this movement. I know so many people who are only willing to go to ocean friendly restaurants that don't give out any plastic. People are willing to bring their own utensil sets and reusable cups everywhere they go. I ask you to foster this movement and pass this policy, taking one step towards a better future. A large part of the reason that I chose this school is because of the environmental legislation passed that bans oxybenzone and octinoxate from sunscreens. I was so excited to get involved with a government that was willing to listen to the people and was willing to pave the way for others.
## Speaker Registration/Testimony

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>RICHARD A FURST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8083088925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RFURST808@GMAIL.COM">RFURST808@GMAIL.COM</a></td>
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<td>Organization</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Richard Furst, and I live in Aina Haina, I am writing to express my strong support for Bill 40. Our island ecosystem is fragile and under constant stress from pollution and misuse. We as a community need to take a strong stance against single use plastics, and this Bill offers a good opportunity to do so.

Our community needs courageous leadership to push us towards a more sustainable future. I urge you to take positive action to this goal by passing Bill 40 out of Committee.

Mahalo for your kokua,

Richard A. Furst, AIA

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Rhema
Phone: 8084997282
Email: rhemawonggg@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Council members,

My name is Robert Binnie. I support Bill 40. I have been an active volunteer at Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve for many years, and each morning, I begin my shift by walking the surf line. I pick up all the plastic trash that has washed ashore overnight. There is always a substantial amount of plastic water bottles, and styrofoam containers to pick up. Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve also has a large whirlpool of plastics trapped in a circular current at what we call “The Witches Brew.” This floating garbage patch is always there, just swirling around. I love our land here, and am proud to see that the City Council is taking a leading role in banning these plastics from our Islands. I bid you success in approving Bill 40.
My name is Robert Hofinga, and I live near Kapiolani Park in Honolulu, HI. I strongly urge you to support this bill. Single use plastics are ruining our beloved island, state, and planet. Single use plastics are obsolete, and many alternatives exist. We are behind the times by allowing this to still damage our environment. It breaks my heart to see single use plastics cover our island and beaches. The beach cleanups I participate in are a reaction, but we have an opportunity to be proactive. Please support this bill and set a standard for a more sustainable future. Thank you.
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Robert Pierce III</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>7193735172</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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I support Bill 40 to ban single-use plastics within my state of Hawaii. Single-use plastics are an issue that is good for nobody. In order to save the marine life, clean up our beaches, and support the wellness of our people we need to come together to ban single-use plastics one at a time. Step by step we will slowly make a difference together, and justice for all.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Rosanna Salois
Phone: 7605937022
Email: Saloisjeanne@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40 ban on plastics
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self

Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
Please amend Bill 40 so that it includes a ban on all polystyrene foam food and drink containers. Please also amend the bill so that it closes the loophole that exempts plastic checkout bags, creating a complete ban on plastic checkout bags (no exemptions) on Oahu.

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 6:42 AM  
Subject: Council/Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Ruth Holmberg  
Phone: 808 222-6498  
Email: holmberger002@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date: 08-28-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Council  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Organization:  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

It is irresponsible to not take action to eliminate single use plastics when we can see the results of our actions on our beaches. Even worse is what we cannot see—that these materials may degrade but do not disappear but are ingested by marine life including those that we consume. Please help and take action this time. Thank you!

Testimony Attachment:

Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Council members, I strongly urge you to support Bill 40. We all are aware of the environmental issues that these plastic items cause. Recycling most of these is not an option and burning them is also an environmental and health hazard. There are many alternative plant based options that are compostable. I urge you to think about the future of our islands and what we are living behind for our children. You have the power to solve a problem for them before it becomes one. Aloha
To whom it may concern,

I support the phase out of single use plastic items to the fullest extent possible. Plastic is an amazing resource due to fact that is cheap to produce and lasts for a very long time. Humans will use plastic for a very long time which makes it important to phase out less valuable uses for plastic.

The convenience of single use plastic is outweighed by the fact that it will be around in the form of micro-plastics nearly forever.

Micro-plastics make it into our water and food supply and break down inside our bodies. They break down into chemicals and materials that confuse our body and are not healthy for us. Micro-plastics have already been found at the depths of the Marianas Trench and on the continent of Antarctica. Definitive action needs to happen now.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support Bill 40 to ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straw's, stirrers, and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam containers on O'ahu because plastic is not biodegradable and when they become litter they pollute Oceans and affect the wildlife like turtles.

Written Testimony
Sincerely,
Ryan Kahalehoe
Senior at Radford High School
87-117 Keliikipi St
Waianae HI,

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Sandy, and I live in Honolulu. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because every time I go to the beach, there is more trash that needs to be picked up. This trash will not stop washing up on our shores unless we stop producing this type of trash. This bill will help us go in that very needed direction.

Mahalo,
Sandy Jansen
Dear Honolulu City Council,

I live in Honolulu and I am wanting to support Bill 40 because I believe that with less plastic, it is a step closer to keeping our oceans clean, ourselves clean, and keeping sea life safe. Plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu. Scientists estimate that there are about 7.5 million plastic straws in U.S. shorelines and about 437 million to 8.3 billion plastic straws on shorelines around the world. 4.8 and 12.7 tons of plastic are released into the ocean each year as of 2015 including identifiable items or microplastics that are under five millimeters in length. If this bill is not passed, less people will care what goes into not only our oceans, but also our bodies. Also, the generations now and future generations will eventually not be able to enjoy the ocean and see what there is to experience with the world. They won't be able to walk along sandy beaches, instead, they will be walking all over plastics and there will be no sea life around to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Sara Stultz

Junior at Radford High School
403 Ohana Nui Cir
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Dear Esteemed Community Leaders,

My name is Sarah Worth and I strongly support Bill 40 because it is critical to preserve O'ahu's natural resources and our limited economical options. I live in Waikiki, just two blocks from the Hilton Hawaiian Village & Convention Center, so I know the importance of tourism to our island. If our tourism faulters, what other economic options are available to the thousands of citizens and their families who depend on this industry?

Many of our visitors are from "island" nations themselves yet their countries have already moved away from single-use plastic because they recognize the unique challenges to being surround on all sides by the ocean and of having limited available land. Seeing plastic utensils washing up on the beach, foam filling our seabirds' bellies so that they starve, or straws impaling a honu's nose diminishes the magical allure of O'ahu.

Please follow our island neighbors' examples and ban single-use plastic so that all our oceans are protected, marine wildlife saved, and we preserve our island's unique beauty for our next generations.

Sincerely,

Sarah Worth

Written Testimony
Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Saskia Nahi</th>
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Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council.

I support the bill, because I think plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils are not necessary and they are so harmful for the nature and that is why they should be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers.

Written Testimony

Sincerely,
Saskia Nahi

Junior at Radford highschool
4438 Kobashigawa Street
Honolulu

Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Savannah Pash
Phone: 808-781-3836
Email: srosepash@outlook.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Dear members of the Honolulu City Council,

Hello, I am Savannah Pash, a Junior and Radford High school and I support this bill because plastic bags for take out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers on O'ahu. With all these plastic, just alone in hawaii, are damaging our islands, and the people. We as humans have the basic rights to live free without worrying about our environment dying before we do. Banning waste has to start somewhere, so I want it to start now and here. Approximately 1 million sea birds also die from plastic. A plastic bag can kill numerous animals because they take so long to disintegrate. ... These gyres contain millions of pieces of plastic and our wildlife feed in these grounds. It can take anything between 20-1000 years for a plastic bag to break up. And with all these sealife eating the plastic, and as we eat we eat them, plastic is going into us killing us too.

Sincerely,
Savannah Pash
98-166 Pahemo Street Unit A
Aiea, Hawaii, 96701

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sev Malajito</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sm76@hawaii.edu">sm76@hawaii.edu</a></td>
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I support phasing out the use of single use plastics and EPS food containers because they pollute our environment by breaking down into microscopic particles that eventually enter our food chain. Eliminating the use of plastics and EPS will substantially reduce the pollution in our beaches and oceans. A solution must be found to eliminate the 600,000 square miles of plastic and EPS, known as The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, that's floating between Hawaii and California.
Aloha,

I have been living in Honolulu for the past 15 years. I witnessed an increase in the amount of detritus in the ocean and on our beautiful beaches. I love the ocean and it became uncomfortable along the years to bodiesurf within floating detritus. About 5 years ago, I have signed up with the group 808 Cleanups and selected a beach to clean regularly. Cleaning beaches is needed frequently in order to maintain the beauty of our island. Microplastics are unfortunately quasi impossible to extract from the sand.

While cleaning the environment is a necessary solution, it is only a patch to the actual problem. Our society produces too much trash especially due to single-use items such as food wares and packaging. This is a huge pollution issues as the production of these single-use items consumes a lot of resources (material, water, land, energy) and creates greenhouse gases. Pollution is also related to the plastic ending in the ocean which leads to toxic mixes and even production of the extremely polluting gas (methane) as proven by Sarah-Jeanne Royer, postdoctoral scholar at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

This is also an enormous health concern as plastic is nowadays found everywhere including in our food and water supply and therefore bodies. Despite my increasing worry and militancy about plastic pollution, nothing changes, no policies are voted, and the plastic keeps accumulating in our neighborhoods. This inability to improve our society lead me to step up my game: I am now attempting to live zero-waste and became recently vegetarian. There are only a few restaurants and stores in town in addition to the local farmers markets, that provide solutions to reduce our waste. Policies are needed to support residents who want to decrease their carbon footprint on the environment. I therefore support bill 40 which is an essential first step into reducing waste generation and
plastic pollution. Hawaii has a chance to become an example of sustainable living visible to the world through the high amount of tourists visiting.

Thanks for your attention.

Severine Busquet
Resident in Hawaii Kai (96825).
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

A large issue that has been spreading across the island of Oahu, is our footprint with plastics. Toxic chemicals leach out of plastic and are found in the blood and tissue of nearly all of us. Exposure to them is linked to cancers. While plastic offer a cheap way of providing goods, there are plenty of alternatives to take to change the way our beautiful island looks. I admen a ban of polystyrene foam to better the beauty of the island of Oahu.

Sincerely,
Shane Vogt
17, Senior at Radford High School
1175 Catalina Drive.

Written Testimony
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,
I am in support of banning these plastic items to save our ocean life and ourselves but please amend Bill 40 to ban polystyrene foam containers. There are hundreds of thousands of sea turtles, whales, and other marine mammals, and more than 1 million seabirds die each year from ocean pollution and ingestion or entanglement in marine debris.

Sincerely,
Shanli Alvarez
Senior at Radford High School
1114 Makaala St. Honolulu HI, 96818

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement
Aloha Committee Members –
I, Sheila Buyukacar, support the ban on single use plastics — I support Bill 40. Here are several facts and questions to consider.

Plastic Straws — In the US, we use more than 500 million plastic straws each day. In fact, plastic straws are one of the top polluters on our beaches and can be harmful to animals.* Do we really need plastic straws to drink from cups?

Plastic Water Bottles — Americans use nearly 3,000,000 plastic water bottles each hour of every day.* With 91% of plastics NOT recycled*, the amount of oil-based, single-use plastics will continue to add to the already thick smog of micro-plastics within our oceans, impacting the marine life we consume. As the animals we eat are found with plastics within their systems, these will continue to be passed on to us. Do we really need plastic bottles to hold our water?

Micro-plastics — Once in the water, micro-plastics attract toxic pollutants linked to human health problems—even cancer. They can be one million times more toxic than the water around them. These pollutants are believed to have worked their way up the food chain—and onto our plates.* Do we really want to keep allowing single use plastics to breakdown and pollute our lands and oceans?

There are so many other alternatives to oil-based, single use plastics and once the Hawai’i ban is passed, manufacturers will be required to change their material choices in both their
product and packaging options.

Mahalo for your continued efforts. Passing Bill 40 is one step forward in leading Hawai‘i (and the rest of the nation) in better providing for the health and safety of its citizens.

* 5gyres.org

Testimony Attachment 20190828004935_Buyukacar_-_Bill_40_-_2019.pdf
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Committee Members –

I, Sheila Buyukacar, support the ban on single use plastics – I support Bill 40.

Here are several facts and questions to consider.

Plastic Straws – In the US, we use more than 500 million plastic straws each day. In fact, plastic straws are one of the top polluters on our beaches and can be harmful to animals.*

Do we really need plastic straws to drink from cups?

Plastic Water Bottles – Americans use nearly 3,000,000 plastic water bottles each hour of every day.* With 91% of plastics NOT recycled*, the amount of oil-based, single-use plastics will continue to add to the already thick smog of micro-plastics within our oceans, impacting the marine life we consume. As the animals we eat are found with plastics within their systems, these will continue to be passed on to us.

Do we really need plastic bottles to hold our water?

Micro-plastics – Once in the water, micro-plastics attract toxic pollutants linked to human health problems—even cancer. They can be one million times more toxic than the water around them. These pollutants are believed to have worked their way up the food chain—and onto our plates.*

Do we really want to keep allowing single use plastics to breakdown and pollute our lands and oceans?

There are so many other alternatives to oil-based, single use plastics and once the Hawai‘i ban is passed, manufacturers will be required to change their material choices in both their product and packaging options.

Mahalo for your continued efforts. Passing Bill 40 is one step forward in leading Hawai‘i (and the rest of the nation) in better providing for the health and safety of its citizens.

* 5gyres.org
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Sherryl Royce  
Phone: 808-224-2138  
Email: roycehi@aol.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

I strongly support this bill, but urge amendments to also prohibit sale of food or drinks in polystyrene foam containers and plastic bags for fruits and vegetables. Plastics derived from petroleum, including foam, never disappear, they just break down into tiny microplastics that enter the food chain and harm human health. Oahu should join the other counties in reducing harmful plastic use in Hawaii!
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Stephanie Cass
Phone: 7606170332
Email: scass.feini@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-09-2010
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40/SB522
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing Organization: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
Hawaii should be a leader in addressing the plastic problem because it's our backyard. It may be hard for some mom n pops to adjust at first, but it may also give local entrepreneurs a niche... and ultimately move us just a little close to a sustainable civilization!

IP: 192.168.200.67
Name: Stephanie Easley  
Phone: 202-486-0893  
Email: pscasley@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  

I support Bill 40 as a step to maintaining a healthier environment in Oahu. Consumers eating food with plastic utensils and plastic containers don’t have any idea about the quality of those utensils and containers or any chemicals from those plastics that they may be ingesting. Plastic bags, containers, utensils, and straws leftover from restaurant takeout can end up in our waterways, where they end up in the aquatic food chain. I fully support banning these plastics and finding safer alternatives.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name          Stephen Matadobra
Phone         808-457-0652
Email         smatadob@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date  08-29-2019
Council/PH    PublicSafety
Committee
Agenda Item   Bill 40
Your position on the matter Support
Representing  Self
Organization

Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

The public welfare is at stake when single use plastics are being disposed of on an island with finite space and land use. The other option is to spend local money and use resources to send the waste somewhere else. We live in the most isolated and beautiful places on earth. We should treat it as such. There is no excuse when single use plastics were not in circulation in generations past. These plastics are forever. They find their way on our beaches and in our precious ocean life. Not only effecting our food but also our tourism. We have a chance to lead the charge. We need to show our Aloha not just between each other but for our aina.

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: sue chiperton
Phone: 6615107655
Email: tailsticks@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Sunshine Eckstrom
Phone: 9096323322
Email: Silvercanyonequine@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
Please support this bill to reduce single-use plastic. Our oceans and lands are polluted with single-use plastic that harms animals, our environment and us. It's time to make this change.

IP: 192.168.200.67
It has become increasingly known as a fact that plastics have a negative impact to human health and wellbeing. It’s a documented fact that plastics and micro plastics have been found in fish some of which could end up on our dining tables!

The carcinogenic impact to humans and our sea life would ultimately be devastating.

For that reason I support this step in eliminating use of single use plastics here in our island home!

Thank you!

[Written Testimony]

[Testimony Attachment]

[Accept Terms and Agreement]
### Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tabatha Knudson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tknudson@hawaii.edu">tknudson@hawaii.edu</a></td>
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Aloha honorable committee members,

My name is Tabatha Knudson, and I am currently a student at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa. I have spent my entire life on Oahu, growing up in Kalama Valley. I strongly support this bill in its entirety. It would be even better to see more single-use plastics mentioned in this bill to be phased out!

As a long-time surfer, my friends and I in the surf community have become increasingly concerned about plastic pollution in our oceans and on our beaches. While a lot of the plastics I see (especially on the east coast) are not necessarily directly from our islands, a large amount of the plastics I find on other parts of our island (including our mountains and streams) are directly from our consumption. Not only is the plastic unappealing to look at, but I also find myself to be concerned about the bacteria and chemicals that may grow or be released by them. In one of my courses at the university, I learned that the chemicals in plastic products are hydrophobic. They leak off of the plastic when in water over time, and the chemicals tend to collect on surface waters, contaminating our oceans and possibly ourselves. I have been able to enjoy being out in the water for the past 18 years while feeling relatively safe. However, with more studies coming out about the harmful effects of plastic pollution on our health (as well as other issues like sewage leaks), I am becoming less comfortable going to our beaches and going surfing, but I know that we are all at fault for that—plastic is everywhere! Either way, it would be amazing to have a policy in place that helps to reduce our plastic consumption.

As a consumer, I would be ecstatic to be able to spend my money in a city that does not have single-use plastics. The ocean-friendly restaurant program from the Surfrider Foundation is an amazing certification-type of a program that deems restaurants with
specific sustainable practices as "ocean-friendly". I try my hardest to only spend my money at restaurants that are either ocean-friendly certified OR do not provide single-use plastics. Whenever my friends and I go out, we always make sure to bring our reusable utensil kits, containers, and cups in order to help these restaurants reduce their plastic usage. It's not like we find it to be troublesome either—we love to do it! I have friends who have stopped going to restaurants all together until they stop providing single-use plastic products, and spend their money at restaurants who are doing the right thing. Not only are my peers and I willing to bring our own reusable materials and pay the cost of sustainable alternatives, but we are also EXCITED to do so! Why would we spend our money to support an industry that is actually detrimental to our health? The answer is: we will not, and do not!

As taxpayers, my family and I are also concerned about the use of our money. If I am not wrong, there are different programs and jobs that pick up trash and waste (including single-use plastics and styrofoam), from storm drains, public areas, and other forms of infrastructure. If we could eventually eliminate single-use plastics with a phase-out plan, my tax dollars could be used on something more productive and empowering, like education. I would love to see single-use plastics phased out so that my tax dollars could be used in more productive programs and departments.

Overall, I strongly support this bill and hope to see it passed. I think that it will be highly beneficial to everyone, especially in the long run.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this testimony, and I look forward to your decision.

Tabatha Knudson
‘Oahu Resident
Testimony
August 29, 2019
By: Tanya Torres

Bill 40 - RELATING TO PLASTIC

Members of the committee:

I support Bill 40 because it will phase out commonly used single-use plastics from our thousands of businesses and in turn ensure the perpetuation of health and safety for the residents, visitors, and the natural environment of Hawaii. Single-use plastics are known to be harmful to people and the environment directly and indirectly. I know this because this is what I've been learning throughout my higher education at UH Manoa. I'm a student that has been learning of the harmful side effects of these materials since 2013. I've also lived and watched the negative outcomes unfold right before my very eyes. The beaches, frequented hikes, streets, freeways, storm drains are all polluted with single use plastics. Why? We have a waste management system don't we? It's because these materials do not go away, no matter how great our waste management is. They were designed to last forever yet be used once for a few minutes, if not seconds. It is a design flaw that is so normalized that an alternative seems so radical. But it really isn't. And the people of Hawaii know that best. Native Hawaiians, and all the people on earth for that matter, thrived for hundreds of years before plastics were ever invented. Back then, no one thought of the repercussions that this material would have on future generations. But we are reaping them right now.

By not taking any action to limit the use of plastics, we are leaving not only a mess of pollution but also natural disasters, property damage, displacement, and possible food access disturbances to our children, grand children, and five generations after that. The production of plastic contributes to the burning of fossil fuels and subsequently to global climate change. Hawaii is leading the nation with our sustainability goals to combat climate change because Hawaii understands the implications it will have already has had on our islands. But, by continuing to allow these single-use plastics we are strongly contributing to adverse effects caused by climate change. A study out of UH Manoa last year just discovered that plastic breaking up into smaller pieces in the environment contributes high levels of methane into our atmosphere. Methane is the most potent greenhouse gas (25x more potent than CO2). Therefore every piece of plastic that has ever been made (which still exists today) is releasing methane into the atmosphere and contributing even more to our climate crisis.

Natural disasters made more frequent and strong have already drowned Kauai and Hawaii Island. Many homes along our coastlines are already eroding due to rising seas. This is a public safety matter that we are knowingly contributing to. And who is going to pay for all those damages? The hardworking taxpayers of Hawaii. No matter how poor, how rich, how for or against you are on this issue, we all are paying for it. We are paying to clean up the mess directly and we are paying for all the other repercussions that will come from contributing to climate change.

The Dept. of Transportation conducted a study after the Hawaii Kai floods to understand what was backing up the storm drains and what they found was that the top 2 pieces of rubbish
that was clogging the system was plastic bags and styrofoam takeout containers. They recommended to get rid of these products if we wanted to lessen the chances of flooding. Not only could we save millions of dollars on cleaning our storm drains, but we could also prevent flooding and property damage and the associated costs of those as well.

The production of plastic is also extremely toxic for anyone who lives nearby. People are being evacuated out of their homes, or are getting sick because of plastic plants entering their communities. By supporting the plastics industry, Hawaii is contributing to harming others while we sit back and use our disposable plastics and turn a blind eye to the suffering of others. That does not sound very Aloha like to me, yet that is the situation that the Aloha State is in right now. Just because we aren’t the ones breathing in the fumes (which can be argued in terms of burning plastics at Hpower) doesn’t mean it’s okay for other families to be.

Now to talk about the oceans, having billions of pounds of plastic entering our oceans every year is damaging our marine and coastal systems. The very systems in which much of Hawaii depends on. Our tourism industry is sold mainly on the idea that Hawaii has pristine beaches. But sadly we do not. Every beach is littered with rubbish, mainly plastic. Our keystone species such as turtles and corals are dying due to all the plastic waste pollution. If these creatures die, so do our “pristine beaches”. Not only is this is a safety hazard for marine life, but also anyone especially children, visitors and residents alike, who frequent the beach. We too are vulnerable to floating debris, sharp objects hidden in the sand, etc. Local people and restaurants also depend heavily on the local fish. It is now common for fish to be found eating plastic. Because plastic is made from oil and is hydrophobic (i.e. does not like water), when in the marine ecosystem it absorbs any other floating chemicals such as oils, fertilizers, or pesticides and becomes highly toxic. As it moves up the food chain, the toxicity levels increase. Humans are at the top of the food chain and we are now eating the toxic chemicals found in ocean plastics. As marine and coastal ecosystems are disrupted due to plastic, fish will become more scarce. Prices will be higher, which will limit access to Hawaii’s poor and those that fish for sustenance will also be left with fewer fish to eat.

The answer to this problem is not to clean. We have been cleaning. And spending thousands of taxpayers dollars cleaning. Is it working?? No. The problem is worsening. Especially when the U.S. is planning to create 400 new plastic production facilities in the next year. Cleaning up is a reactive solution when we need a proactive solution. If we were to cut back as a state, we would be making a huge difference for the climate and our people, and set an example for the rest of the world.

I am about to graduate from UH Manoa with a master’s degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Management but I’m starting to question what the point was in spending thousands of dollars, getting thousands of dollars in debt, and putting all this work into being educated, if my own government doesn’t care. Why should I or any other young person growing up in Hawaii seek education if our policy makers aren’t going to listen, or aren’t going to care about our futures. Our future health and safety should be a priority. Not the Please care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.
I strongly support this bill, but urge amendments to also prohibit sale of food or drinks in polystyrene foam containers and plastic bags for fruits and vegetables. Plastics derived from petroleum, including foam, never disappear, they just break down into tiny microplastics that enter the food chain and harm human health. Oahu should join the other counties in reducing harmful plastic use in Hawaii!
I'm writing in strong support of bill 40. Styrofoam and single use plastics are completely unnecessary in Hawaii when perfectly good aina friendly alternatives exist. Hundreds of restaurants in Oahu already know what is pono and follow this rule already. Anyone complaining about costs should know that no company went out of business on Maui or the Big island from the styrofoam ban, so just pass the 5 cent cost onto your customer and your profits remain or simply reduce your single use purchases and opala costs by reusing tableware.

Currently, styrofoam and plastics used on Oahu will end up in the ocean when not thrown away, burned into the air at H-power, or put in the ground at the landfill. In a recent study, some 90% of water samples had microplastics in them. We need to be better stewards of our land and our health. Eliminating these easy items is the very least we can do.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Hawaii is known mainly for its beautiful beaches and how clean they are. As you may know, Oahu is becoming contaminated with more and more plastic daily. We strive to keep our island a beautiful & safe place for not only humans but also animals. Unfortunately, it's kind of hard to do when most restaurants and facilities use them. When thinking about it, our life spans are threatened due to the use of plastic. Also, that along with humans littering playing a big role, it would be better to just be plastic free to eliminate all these problems and make the world a safer place for everyone. We have already done it once in San Francisco, why not do it here as well.

Sincerely,

Tianna Mix

Junior at Radford High School
I strongly support a city and county wide ban on single use plastics. Reasonably priced, eco-friendly alternatives are available. We have no reason to continue polluting our oceans and waterways with single-use plastic.
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Todd Madden, and I live in Manoa, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because these items are harmful to the aina and future generations. I volunteer regularly at beach cleanups and it’s staggering how much plastic is all over our shores.

Mahalo,

Todd Madden
Dear members of the Honolulu city council,

I support the ban against plastic and polystyrene foam containers. On land there are birds that get plastic caught around them and suffocate. Also the plastic that is left on the beaches make their way to the ocean and get caught on our marine life and sometimes they die off. This ban will have nothing but a positive affect on our marine life, land animals, and on humans too.

Sincerely,
Trinity Taylor
Senior at Radford High School
4925 Pohina Ln. Honolulu HI 96818
I have lived in Hawai'i for well over a decade, graduated from UH, and spend all my spare time enjoying the natural wonders of the islands. A favorite past time is going to some of the more remote spots such as Makapu'u Tidepools or Kaena Point. While incredible places, I constantly find trash washed ashore here. I have a habit of bringing a garbage bag and packing out as much as I can find, but ten pounds of garbage later and I feel like I've made little impact. I have also attended and organized beach cleanups, which underlined how much of our beaches are plastic when you stop to look.

I don't need to go on about the impact plastic is having on the environment, it's a household topic and has been for years. What I want is for you to look at the true cost of using plastics the way we are. It can be argued that plastic is ever so slightly cheaper in the moment, and even that won't always be true. But when you factor in the loss of sea life, wild life, environmental restoration, human health issues, and even just the moral loss that comes from living so wastefully on an island that has only so much to give, plastic becomes frighteningly expensive.

Please, don't let the allure of momentary utility blind you to the long term consequences of single use plastics. There are immensely better options that exist right now, and when we are looking back on our decisions from the future we've made for ourselves, we will remember the moments that made a difference. I hope we do not regret them.

Please help us take care of the world and ban single-use plastics.
Hello, my name is Tyler Buyukacar and I am a youth here on the island of Oahu. I am 15 years old and for a few years now I have been supporting the ban of single-use plastics such as polystyrene, utensils, and straws. As a young member of my community, I have been looking into projects that I can do to help raise awareness of plastic pollution and its many effects in today's world. My goal is to make Hawaii one of the first states in the US to not only ban plastics but also become sustainable. I am supporting this bill because I want to help not just our ecosystems but also my community and the whole world. Thank you for reading my Testimony.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Scotty Jackson
Phone: 8086577750
Email: Grejac69@radford.k12.hi.us
Meeting Date: 08-27-2019
Council/PH Committee: Business
Agenda Item: Budget
Your position on the matter: Oppose
Representing: Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: We should not ban plastic.
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear City Council,

Please vote in favor of this bill. We are so far behind where we need to be with this kind of thing, that this bill will be at least a small step in the right direction.

Thank you,
Tyler Ralston
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Valentina Alvarez
Phone: 954-662-4994
Email: val64@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment: 20190828093958_Bill40_Testimony_Alvarez.docx
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
From the depths of the Mariana Trench to the salt on our tables, plastic pollution has infiltrated our planet. Plastic is a material designed to be “thrown away” without considering the fact that “away” does not exist. Due to this fundamental design flaw, over 270 species of mammals, reptiles and fish, many of which are rare and endangered, have been harmed by plastic in some way. Wildlife become entangled in large plastic debris, potentially leading to suffocation, drowning and eventual death from hunger. The ingestion of plastics results in internal abrasions and blockages that impair sexual activity and immune systems in wildlife and may lead to death. As a further complication, microplastics (plastics broken down into small pieces) are passed up the food web, affecting all levels of an ecosystem and even finding their way onto our dinner tables.

In Hawai‘i, plastic pollution inundates our beaches and harms not only their inherent beauty but also the animals that call those places home.

With bill 40, we would move one step in the right direction with the goal of tackling our plastic problem and we would set an example for other cities around the country and maybe even the world. Why should tax-paying citizens bear the financial burden of the decisions of businesses around the state? To phase out the plastics mentioned in this bill would have incredible economic impacts. For example, the Department of Transportation, which spends millions of dollars a year in cleaning up storm drains, recommended that the use of plastic bags and cutlery should be banned to avoid this huge cost on tax payers. Private businesses are making immeasurable profits and while citizens are paying not only for their products but to clean up the waste their products leave behind. I don’t see how that makes any sense. They should be held responsible for the materials they put out into the environment.

I hope that you please consider the public health, environmental, and economic impacts passing this bill would have in our city.

Thank you for your time.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vanw@hawaii.edu">vanw@hawaii.edu</a></td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>Plastics are well-known global pollutants that are devastating plant and animal life, human welfare, and our planet. It is time we moved to using alternative materials, especially in cases such as these where alternatives are readily available and inexpensive.</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Vicky Chee
Phone: 8085968735
Email: cheevicky@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: I WANT BILL 40 TO PASS
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support the bill because it is important to ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers. So much plastic ends up in the ocean, breaking down into small, toxic microplastics that are eaten by fish. That does not only mean many fishes are dying, it also means it could end up in our food and body.

Sincerely,
Viktoria Wieland

Sophmore at Radford High School
2775 Gordon Street
Honolulu, HI, 96818

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement
Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety & Welfare Committee,

My name is Vivian Pham, and I live in Honolulu, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We want our island to stop using foam, utensils, and straws because it's harmful to us, our environment, animals and the islands. Yesterday, I watched a sea turtle swimming around the ocean surrounded by micro plastics floating above it. I'm constantly picking up plastics on the beach and water when I'm at the water. There's no need for this waste. We need to leave this place better for our future.

Mahalo,
Vivian Pham
Name: Wendy Gibson
Phone: 808-321-4503
Email: wgratedarr@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: Please help reduce plastic waste. It is ending up in our oceans and beaches...and food supply. I clean up single-use plastics whenever I visit the beach and avoid restaurants that serve to-go food in plastic or styrofoam containers. Please help do your part too. Mahalo.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: William Cattell
Phone: 808 347-2333
Email: SeaMonkea@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
We need to STOP single use plastic & styrofoam products. This is a huge step in saving our oceans.
Especially in Hawaii, where tourism is based on our beautiful shores and ocean life. Please do the right thing.
Mahalo & Aloha ☺️

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha,

This is a hugely important bill for the local environment and the environmental movement worldwide. Let's join other municipalities and countries around the world in reducing the manufacture and use of plastic, some of which inevitably ends up in our environment and, therefore, in our food chain. An across the board ban is the only way to keep businesses on a level playing field. Currently, businesses doing the right thing and switching to compostable products are at a competitive disadvantage with businesses using cheaper products. Institute an across the board ban and competition will not change. Businesses can pass the additional 10 cent cost on to the consumer through their prices, and consumers are happy to pay the small extra cost. This is the right thing to do. Mahalo!
Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<th>Jack E Bennett</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
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<td>Email</td>
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<td>Your position on the matter</td>
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<td>Representing</td>
<td>Self</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>I often support environmental causes, but I do NOT support Bill 40.</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
My name is Kat Moon and as manager of Kalapawai Cafe & Deli, I am testifying in strong support of Bill 40.

We stopped using plastic bags, foam, utensils, and plastic straws in 2018 and have found that it has been an easy and painless transition. Our customers are happy we are doing our part to help the environment and protect them from the chemicals in plastic.

Mahalo for considering Bill 40.
On behalf of our team members and supporters, I would like to voice our strong support for Bill 40.

Counties, cities, and countries around the world are beginning to take action against plastic and polystyrene foam pollution. With new articles and studies being published frequently, presenting the detrimental effects these items have on human health and that of the ocean, we may only be just beginning to understand the long-term consequences of our single-use plastic habit.

As a chain of islands being visibly impacted by the result of this issue, we firmly believe it is important to take a stand as a community and set a good example by regulating single-use items made from these materials. The younger generations understand the effects of these items and have been very vocal about this issue. We’ve seen this from their presence at hearings for state-level bills over the years. As their generations will ultimately bear the brunt of this issue, we sincerely hope you give special consideration to their voices.

Every year we allow to pass without stronger regulations on these products, is another year’s worth of them we’re allowing to enter our environment. It’s not a matter of if these products will become regulated or banned, but when. Let’s be on the right side of this issue and begin phasing out single-use plastic and polystyrene foam.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Natalie Parra

Keiko Conservation
We have found being certified as ocean friendly to be more than beneficial. All of our customers love hearing about the fact that we are helping to save our oceans. Being ocean friendly definitely outweighs the slightly higher costs of purchasing ocean friendly approved items.
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of this beautiful island community, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters.

These products don’t fully degrade and break down into tiny particles that are not only toxic because of the chemicals from manufacturing, but also because they absorb pollutants from the surrounding water. And not only do single-use products harm our health, they hurt our pocketbooks too. The Hawai‘i Dept. of Transit (HIDOT) reported that single plastics and foam are blocking our storm drains and waste water infrastructure. HIDOT even suggests eliminating these products so we don’t have this danger to our infrastructure or public safety. Bonus, getting rid of single use and styrofoam will save millions in public to the city.
Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.

With all of this information coming to light, many places are taking actionable steps to transition away from single-use plastics. Please urge pass this measure so we can keep Hawai‘i’s land, freshwater bodies, and oceans free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Drake Wallace
Phone: 12173690880
Email: drakewallace@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
We need to look out for our future. This is one small step in the right direction.

Testimony Attachment: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Irene Kendig-Sullivan
Phone: 8083070524
Email: ikendig@roosevelths.k12.hi.us
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

As a Biology teacher at Roosevelt High School and an avid beach goer and hiker of the island, I see single use plastic invading and polluting all aspects of my life. I teach my students about climate change and we discuss environmental issues; and hands down the buildup of plastic is what we see affecting our daily lives most. My students are aware of the impacts of continuing to use plastic products on our local ecosystems as well as the larger biomes of the world. If we care about our aina we will ban single use plastics. Walking around downtown Honolulu and around our beaches, our community is overridden with plastic water bottles, plastic cutlery, straws, single use razors and so much more. It is a disgrace to have paradise plagued by plastic. Hawaii needs to lead our country and the world, as it has done in other ways, with this bill.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Selina Tarantino
Phone: 8082828052
Email: sclitara@mac.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: PublicSafety
Agenda Item: 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony:
Single use plastics litter our beaches, parks, and community, and endanger the natural environment, including animal life. Because plastic never deteriorates, it's a public health hazard, as it enters our food stream and water sources.

IP: 192.168.200.67
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 2:58 PM
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Ranie Mulligan
Phone: 8083756019
Email: raniemulligan@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:

I'm employed at a hospital cafeteria where we offer styrofoam containers, cups, bowls, straws, and plastic bags. There is an option to "dine-in" using melamine and hard plastic cups but hardly anyone uses it. We don't charge for plastic bags either since the cafe is operated with federal funds. I hate to see the huge contribution of plastic to our Hawaii environment and waterways.

I pick up a lot of plastic items when I walk any beach and it's only getting worse. I elect to use bamboo utensils everywhere I go!

Please put an end to single-use plastic straws, utensils, bags, and styrofoam! We need big brother to keep Hawaii beautiful!!

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Sally Davis Kaniho
Phone: 808 258-1432
Email: Kaleidavis@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Plastics ban
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No
Written Testimony:
This is way overdue. Recycling is not working. Our oceans and fish are filled with plastics, choking wildlife and our planet.
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement:
1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Wendy Marx-Cunitz
Phone: (618) 632-9155
Email: wmcunitz@me.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony: I wholeheartedly support this bill!
Testimony Attachment:
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name          Alicia Jolley
Phone         8012349755
Email         Alicia_jolley@yahoo.com
Meeting Date  08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee   Public Safety
Agenda Item   Bill 40
Your position on the matter   Support
Representing       Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony
We see plastic wash up on our beaches every day. We do our best to clean it up but we need to stop the problem. Plastic doesn’t go away. It’s only going to get worse! Please ban single use plastic. We bring our own water bottles, straws, bags and utensils everywhere we go. It’s so easy!!! (I have 3 kids and a husband). We need to protect our beautiful islands and the ocean.
From: CLK Council Info  
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 2:16 PM  
Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Speaker Registration/testimony

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**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Melica Woodhead</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>530 310-6633</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Melica.bw@gmail.com">Melica.bw@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Meeting Date</td>
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<td>Council/PH Committee</td>
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<td>Your position on the matter</td>
<td>Support</td>
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<td>Representing</td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Phasing out single use plastics and styrofoam is guaranteed to improve the health of our beaches, ocean and community. I attend monthly beach cleanups, and it is clear that most of the trash found is littered from people on the island! We have to target the source if we want to see improvement, especially in very popular areas like Waikiki.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Sara Mayko
Phone: 2038432055
Email: maykosara@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Jill Lucas  
Phone: 8082849427  
Email: jillnjake@gmail.com  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing Organization: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing: No  

I am a local Hawaiian wife, mother of three, garden educator living on Maui. Our 'ohana has gone zero waste after learning about how plastic and styrofoams are destroying our earth. On a trip back to O'ahu, where I grew up, I found it almost impossible to go zero waste (basically plastic free) while visiting and it was very disheartening because of how much packaging is on take out containers, in stores, etc. I really hope O'ahu will take the 1st step toward a plastic free Hawai'i and feel confident that Maui and other islands would follow. I truly feel this would make a positive impact on residents and our environment. We have adjusted seamlessly on Maui to cardboard or pape'e take out containers and most people carry reusable bags. I carry a small pouch of utensils and it is not difficult. Please consider passing the bill. Mahalo.
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,
I am 17 years old and I live in Pearl Harbor Makalapa. The most important point to make is that all plastic checkout bags need to be banned to help the turtles. These steps will help protect Hawaiian marine life because if plastic bags are not being used then they can’t blow into the ocean and get ingested by sea turtles and other marine life. It is important that we ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers O’ahu too.

Sincerely,
Jeric Baira
Senior at Radford High School
Honolulu Hawaii

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement
**Speaker Registration/Testimony**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sabra Feldstein</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8083514516</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sabrarael@gmail.com">sabrarael@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Do you wish to speak at the hearing?</td>
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<td>Written Testimony</td>
<td>Please help save our oceans and the planet!</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Lynne Johnson
Phone: 808-393-3096
Email: lynnjohnson237@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization:
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
I support the ban of single use plastics to help keep our water clean, ocean clean, reduce trash, keep out of landfill, reduce toxins.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha Members of the Public Safety & Welfare committee,

My name is Dominique Peña I am an international student from Costa Rica on behalf of the Civil and Environmental Department of UH Manoa. I am supportive of Bill 40. I am an everyday witness of plastic pollution and, thus, I am deeply concerned about our health and the health of our waterways.

It is now undeniable, plastic is present in all that we do, and its becoming the topic of conversation in all matters in my life as well.

Microplastics and microplastic fibers are present in the water we drink, fish we eat and even in the raindrops that recharge our aquifers! From a water engineering perspective, the treatment facilities we have in Hawaii do not have capacity of removing such microscopic inorganic waste. Not only are microplastics known to leach chemicals when exposed to abrasion or sunlight, therefore polluting our waterways, but as chemically “like attracts like” these hydrophobic particles magnify organic persistent pollutants found in our waters. As increasing number of studies reveal the presence of micro plastics in human blood and, in addition, parting from my understanding of toxicity levels due to bioaccumulation of organic chemicals in our tissues, I feel highly perturbed. What are the adverse effects on my health that this will pose? Furthermore, are we willing to continue passing this high risk to generations after us?

As a foreigner in your country, I am very hopeful to see this bill into action. This is because I have witnessed how your actions from a political standpoint can echo around the world.
Hawaii is even used as an example already throughout Costa Rica’s declared intention of becoming the world’s first country to ban all single use plastics. In my country’s narrative on the origin of the national strategic plan to phase out single use plastics, the document refers to political action taken in Hawaii by the City and Council of Honolulu on the ban of plastic bags as an aspiring example to follow. Your actions can not only take part in “shutting off the tap” of our over-exaggerated plastic consumption for United States, but also becomes a solid example for developing countries around the world.

Growing global awareness is taking place. The collective change is inevitable, and its happening now. Therefore, I urge you to take this matter with serious care and importance, and pass Bill 40.

Thank you for all your hard work in attending to our collective wellbeing.

Dominique Peña

IP: 192.168.200.67
Aloha! Please pass Bill 40! With more environmentally friendly and affordable options now widely available, the time is now to ban plastic utensils and bags and straws! Let’s help protect our environment and preserve it for generations to come! Eco-tourism is in and consumption of unnecessary products is out!
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am Jerrick Finuliar, 16 years old who lives in Hawaii. I support this bill because 60% of Seabirds have plastic inside them. Every year 8 million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean. In less than 10 years we could see 250 million metric tons in the sea or ocean. We need to ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils that need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers because It's also a type of plastic. These are the reasons why I support this bill.

Sincerely,
Jerrick Finuliar
Sophomore at Radford high school
Address 4361 Salt Lake Blvd, Honolulu, HI 96818
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Autumn Crowell
Phone: 2073816067
Email: autumn.crowell@outlook.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I appreciate this plastic ban revival effort after the state-wide failure to pass a similar bill last year. It is well-known by now the effects of plastic on the environment, on people, on animals, and even on plants -- on freaking everything, it seems. We find plastics in the air, in the ocean, in our blood, in the blood of animals that have never left the deep sea. All of which only has one culprit: humanity.

Humanity has been different since the first step a newly-evolved Homo Sapien took, taking strides previously unseen by this planet: be it fire, machines, weapons, tools, medicines, or a new method of collecting food (i.e. farming), humans have been self-declared the superior species. Surely, thus far, the combination of opposable thumbs and a well-developed frontal lobe has done us well in development, but that development has damaged the very ecosystems that we rely on for food, resources, entertainment, industries, and virtually everything used in the modern-day world. The damage that is most tangible is that inflicted by plastic. The plastic industry covers everything, from candy bars to oil and in between, plastic is used; "the containers and packaging category has the most plastic tonnage at over 14 million tons in 2015... plastics generation was about 34.5 million tons in the United States" ("Plastics: Material-Specific Data"). Even worse, these are hardly recycled: in 2015, "3.1 million tons was recycled for a 9.1 percent recycling rate...the total amount of plastics combusted was 5.4 million tons [15. percent]...landfills received 26 million tons [18.9 percent]" ("Plastics: Material-Specific Data"). These plastics are directly toxic to humans, in the cases of lead, cadmium, and mercury; are carcinogenic, and have many cases of endocrine disruption -- only in humans. I appreciate the effort to stop this from happening. However, dear Council, you have missed a critical plastic: polystyrene foam, commonly called styrofoam. This plastic is non-biodegradable, and can be found 1,300 miles from the...
nearest human settlement please add it to your bill.

Thank you,
Autumn Crowell
101 Worthington Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96818
Senior at Radford High School (I may be sixteen, but ignorance doesn't float my boat)

Works Cited:
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I would like to amend the bill of polystyrene we use here. I think more people should care about our environment. Here in Hawaii are some very nice beaches and if we keep using plastic their is a possibility that the trash may not be recycled and end up on our beaches and destroying the tourist attraction. It is also bad because if it end up in the ocean the animals can end up eating it and it can hurt the animals.

Sincerely,

Desmond Burress
Senior at Radford High School
5453 Mahogany Lane

Written Testimony

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am almost 17 years old and I live in Ewa Beach. I believe that animals are suffering for too long from plastic and needs to be stopped. I remember watching a video on YouTube about a turtle having a straw in its nose and there. Many other animals are being killed by plastic in fact 1 million marine life are killed each year by plastic. Its estimated that 327 billion bags in the ocean. Plastic bags, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers.

Sincerely,
Albert Bennett III

Senior at Radford High School
91-1120 Waihoano St
Ewa Beach 96706

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### Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Albert Bennett III</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>(808) 347-6623</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:albertbennett98@gmail.com">albertbennett98@gmail.com</a></td>
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Written Testimony

I am almost 17 years old and I live in Ewa Beach. I believe that animals are suffering for too long from plastic and needs to be stopped. I remember watching a video on YouTube about a turtle having a straw in its nose and there. Many other animals are being killed by plastic in fact 1 million marine life are killed each year by plastic. Its estimated that 327 billion bags in the ocean. Plastic bags, plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils need to be banned and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam food containers.

Sincerely,
Albert Bennett III

Senior at Radford High School
91-1120 Waihoano St
Ewa Beach 96706
Name: Allison Manley
Phone: 9077380677
Email: ramp.allison@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony: I am worried about the health of our oceans and marine life. I live up in Hau'ula and see everyday where all the single use plastics end up. We need to take better care of our land and oceans, starting now!
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support your decision for the Honolulu City Council to ban plastic. Plastic will never disappear; it will just get smaller and smaller. So the only thing to do is ban plastic. Every day, 60 million plastic water bottles are thrown away, meaning that enough plastic is thrown away each year to circle the earth four times. Plastic is made from phosphates, which can also cause cancer. We need to amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam. We need to amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam. Polystyrene is a harmful chemical that can leach into food and drink.

Sincerely,

Jacob Rascoe
Junior at Radford High School
175 Grewia Drive
Dear Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I support Bill 40 to ban plastic bags for take-out foods, plastic straw's, stirrers, and amend the bill to ban polystyrene foam containers on O'ahu because plastic is not biodegradable and when they become litter they pollute Oceans and affect the wildlife like turtles.

Written Testimony
Sincerely,
Ryan Kahalehoe
Senior at Radford High School
87-117 Keliikipi St
Waianae HI,
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Afton Bennett
Phone: 808-205-4941
Email: aftonb83@yahoo.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Council
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Organization: 
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Written Testimony: Please support this very important bill for our health and economy. Sincerely, Afton Bennett

IP: 192.168.200.67
# Speaker Registration/Testimony

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ed Bush</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>7023716087</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email</td>
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IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Anna Black
Phone: 7578691584
Email: Hapyblakfamily@gmail.com
Meeting Date: 08-09-2019
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?: No

Testimony:
I support legislation which will make Hawaii a global leader in the fight against single use plastics. There are too many people in the world x too many meals a day x too many days in a year to sustain the single use system. We owe our keiki more than a legacy of trash. Let Hawaii show the world how to do this before the world's garbage buries our islands!
Single-use plastic items are generally used only for a few minutes before they're discarded, but can persist in the environment for centuries because plastics don't decompose within a human lifetime. Birds and ocean fish and animals are turning up dead and we find their stomachs full of plastics. I love Poke but find it hard to eat these days knowing the fresh fish pieces contain micro plastics that will end up in turn in my stomach. Luckily, alternatives to plastics already exist, and people can easily change their consumption habits and switch to reusables. We need laws/bans in place to help support peoples switch to non-plastics. Thank you, Sue Chouljian.
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Melissa Atkins  
Phone: 9259639087  
Email: Mlatkins@hawaii.edu  
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019  
Council/PH Committee: Public Safety  
Agenda Item: Bill 40  
Your position on the matter: Support  
Representing: Self  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No  
Written Testimony
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1
Aloha, Chair Waters and Members of the Public Safety Committee:

As the Hawaii Manager of the Surfrider Foundation, I am writing in strong support of Bill 40 to phase out single-use plastics like bags, straws, utensils, stirring sticks and polystyrene food containers. With the support of Surfrider’s Oahu Chapter and thousands of members across Hawaii, we are committed to reducing the litter and environmental hazards of plastic bags, polystyrene foam and these other single-use plastics as part of our popular Rise Above Plastics campaign.

These single-use plastics have economic, environmental and human health impacts, and tax-payers are tired of covering the costs. A study by the Hawaii Dept. of Transportation (DOT) in 2016 showed that the most littered items in the state were plastic bags and polystyrene foam food containers. The report recommended phasing out these two items, which would save the state millions of dollars in cleanup costs each year.

Although plastic bags are the most polluted forms of plastic, polystyrene foam is the worst in terms of health issues. According to the EPA, 100% of humans tested have been shown to have styrene stored in their bodies. Industry lobbyists will say that the FDA approved polystyrene products, but that was more than 60 years ago, and the National Institute of Health (NIH) has listed styrene as a known carcinogen. Many restaurants put wax paper or a bed of lettuce at the bottom of the polystyrene food containers because they know that styrene has been proven to leach out of the containers and into hot, greasy foods. Many recent scientific publications have shown that most micro-plastics in the ocean attract other toxic chemicals called persistent organic pollutants (POP’s) in our waters, making them 100,000 times more toxic. These micro-plastics are then ingested and biomagnified up the food chain and end up in our seafood, causing other health and public safety issues.

Polystyrene food containers are one of the most littered items in our Islands. Opponents will say it’s recyclable, but the fact is that less than 1% is ever recycled. They will also say that it’s a “litter problem,” but the plastics industry has been using this tactic and blaming the public for decades without producing products that are actually recyclable. An EPS foam ban was implemented in San Francisco, and there was a 30% decrease in EPS litter within one year (San Francisco Street Litter Re-Audit, 2008). Over 110 cities and counties across the country have enacted EPS foam bans with dramatic decreases in litter. For an extensive list see: http://www.surfrider.org/pages/polystyrene-ordinances.

We have worked with the Honolulu City Council to reduce plastic bags and other single-use plastics, but the waste problem persists and hurts tourism. Industry lobbyists will say that phasing out polystyrene food containers and other single-use plastics will hurt small businesses, but there are many restaurants that have dropped these products and are doing just fine. In fact, the new Ocean Friendly Restaurants Hawaii program has recognized more than 200 restaurants that are foam-free in the last 36 months! They have also committed to only offering straws on request and not using plastic bags, plates, cups or utensils...
onsite. Here’s a partial list of all the restaurants in Hawaii: www.oceanfriendlyrestaurantshawaii.org.

During our monthly beach cleanups around the state, EPS foam products are among the top items we find every single time. In fact, as part of International Coastal Cleanup Day, 17,383 cups, plates and pieces of EPS foam were removed from Hawaii’s beaches in a single day on Sat., Sept. 19, 2015! But plastic straws, utensils and stirring sticks are high on the list of the most littered items that we remove from our coastal areas. That’s why we need this bill, which would help reduce these litter problems and environmental issues by requiring restaurants and food service vendors to stop using toxic EPS foam containers.

Hawaii has one of the highest per capita rates of take-out food in the country. Locals and visitors tell us they are shocked by the number of polystyrene food containers and single-use plastic bags they see in stores, restaurants and on our beaches. The same goes for single-use plastic straws, stirrers and utensils. Though it’s tempting to be swayed by the exaggerated claims of lobbyists for a few local foam producers and distributors, these same companies already carry and distribute more eco-friendly recyclable and compostable products because they see the writing on the wall. Yet even though the State Legislature and Honolulu City Council has encouraged them to reduce their production of polystyrene products, they have made little progress over the last ten years.

Scientific research and public sentiment have created a compelling case against polystyrene and plastic products, and more than 110 cities and counties have already enacted successful foam bans. Polls show that most people in Hawaii support banning foam food products and other single-use plastics. A recent study in Science (2017) showed that plastics are a major cause of coral reef disease and decline, and our Islands are dependent on our coral reefs for seafood, ocean recreation and tourism.

We appreciate that Honolulu City Council members have been environmental leaders in moving forward policies to create smoke-free parks & beaches and reduce the litter of plastic grocery bags. Now, we ask you to assert that same leadership on this issue. Because polystyrene food service products and single-use plastic bags, straws, and utensils are toxic to humans and the environment, their use should be phased out gradually. There are many affordable alternatives that are non-toxic, biodegradable and not damaging to the environment or human health. On top of that, it will cost Honolulu City & County less money to clean up these heavily littered items.

As an amendment, we ask that you add all polystyrene food service products; so that Oahu County can be consistent with the phase-outs on Maui and the Big Island. Business groups have told us that Honolulu needs a consistent policy of eliminating these and other single-use products. Protecting our land and people should be our top priority, not allowing a few companies to profit from outmoded products that harm the environment and our wildlife. Mahalo for your consideration and leadership on this issue.

Aloha,
Stuart Coleman
Stuart H. Coleman, Hawaii Manager
Aloha Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and members of the council,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of Bill 40, which seeks to address the provision of certain single-use plastic and polystyrene foam goods.

As a resident of O'ahu and Hawaiʻi, I am seriously concerned about our current plastic pollution epidemic. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters. All around our neighborhood, on our home beaches, in our public parks and roadways here on O'ahu, picking up trash that I know had been used only ONCE, is one of the activities that I have taken up to help mālama 'āina. It is not fun, and I know that this can be prevented with restrictions on consumer single-use plastics and polystyrene foam.

Also, as we are facing a climate crisis, plastics contribute to global greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately play a role in climate change. Greenhouse gases are generated and emitted throughout the life cycle of plastic and polystyrene foam, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. We cannot have a clean energy future if these products are allowed to be manufactured posing a serious threat to public safety.
I urge you as a Kanaka maoli, help us mālama ʻāina and PASS THIS BILL. It could be the start of changing the current habits of residents and visitors here to do our part in taking care of this place that we benefit so much from. Give us the opportunity to find pono options for the ʻāina and we will change our habits for the better.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 40!

E ola ʻoe, e ola mākou nei,

Malia Heimuli
Koʻolaupoko, Kahaluʻu, Oʻahu a Lua

IP: 192.168.200.67
Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name: Audrey Alessi
Phone: 970-846-7201
Email: Audrey.alessi@kw.com
Meeting Date: 08-29-2019
Council/PH Committee: Council
Agenda Item: Bill 40
Your position on the matter: Support
Representing: Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony:
I don’t like ingesting micro plastics and killing marine life. Banning single use plastics is just one small step we can take to make a difference

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement: 1

IP: 192.168.200.67