

## IEM Committee

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**From:** Joy Gold <joy@joygoldunlimited.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** IEM Committee  
**Cc:** Glenn Muranaka  
**Subject:** IEM-12, Plastic Bag Ban Testimony  
**Attachments:** MG\_Maui\_IEM12\_Bags\_May15\_2017.pdf

Aloha,

On behalf of Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies, please accept the attached testimony for:

IEM-12, A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 20.18 Maui County Code, Relating to Plastic Bag Reduction  
IEM Committee Hearing  
Monday, May 15 – 1:30 pm  
Maui County Council

Please contact me if there are any questions about the testimony submittal.

Thank you,  
Joy Gold

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# Meadow Gold Dairies



Written Testimony by: Glenn Muranaka  
IEM-12, A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 20.18 Maui County Code, Relating to Plastic Bag  
Reduction  
Monday, May 15, 2017 – 1:30 PM

Position: Oppose

Chair Cochran and Members of the Maui Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee:

My name is Glenn Muranaka, President and General Manager of Meadow Gold Dairies. Our company has been in Hawaii since 1897—120 years, providing Hawaii consumers with a variety of milk products and juices. Meadow Gold's long history has not come without effort. We continually adapt to our customers' and consumers' ever-changing needs, and we constantly evolve along with our industry, our community and our market. Over the years, this has required that we struggle, tighten our belts, innovate and work extremely hard, making us a better company in the process. The foundation of this work rests with the 330 employees that are committed to providing superior quality products.

## **Opposition to IEM-12**

We understand that this version will prohibit all reusable plastic bags and prohibit businesses from providing such bags at any time. Many reusable bags are made with polypropylene, a type of woven plastic. Polypropylene is commonly listed as environmentally preferable material for shopping bags because of its durability and high-reuse factor.

**We agree with HFIA's** proposal to create a mandatory 10-cent fee for single-use checkout bags. This mandatory fee for plastic bags at checkout is a proven method to reduce consumer use of plastic bags and divert consumers to use alternate types of grocery bags. It allows customers a choice and provides a monetary deterrent to plastic bag usage.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 944-5911.