

IEM Committee

From: Leslie Hutchinson <lesliek@deborahdaniells.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 12:04 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: YES YES YES

Thank you for considering Councilwoman Cochran's proposed expansion of the plastic bag ban.

Finding loopholes to the single use bag ban has become fairly common so clearly a heavier hand from the Council is warranted. And adding a ban on Styrofoam is *absolutely* necessary. The sooner the better on these proposals.

Thank you.

Leslie E. Hutchinson
Haiku

IEM Committee

IEM-5

IEM-56

From: helga fiederer <helgaonmaui@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 4:33 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: In support of banning plastic bags and polystyrene containers

Aloha

I am very much in support of the initiative regarding the total ban of plastic bags and single use polystyrene food service containers. For example both plastic bags and food containers can be made out of 100% biodegradable industrial hemp and other types of plants.

Thank you very much,
Helga Fiederer

P.O. Box 790761
Paia, HI 96779

helgaonmaui@yahoo.com
phone: 808-250-6709

From: Adrian Hong <adrianhong@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2016 11:31 AM
To: IEM Committee
Cc: David Hong; Todd Kawasaki
Subject: Item 56 (Opposition)

Dear Council Members;

Thank you for the opportunity to write to you in opposition of the proposed amendment to the bag ban in Maui County. I am writing to you on behalf of Island Plastic Bags, Inc. a local, family owned manufacturing company in Aiea, HI. We oppose the amendment to the bag ban because removing three mil reusable bags as an option will significantly drive up costs for businesses and consumers.

Californians are set to vote on November 8th, on whether or not to institute a statewide ban on plastic bags. Polls show that the ban is likely to go through. If it does, it will significantly drive up the cost of 40% post-consumer paper and likely cause shortages of post-consumer paper bags (the only other option in the current ban). This is due to the fact that there is only so much post-consumer paper stock out there and tens of millions of new customers will be consuming it if the ban goes through. To get more post-consumer paper, recycling efforts have to be increased, which would take years.

This is made worse by the fact that if the California ban goes through, the ban becomes effective the day after the vote. No one in California has prepared for the possibility that the ban will go into effect. Not the retailers, bag manufacturers, or consumers. It would take months for the logistics to be worked out for manufacturers and retailers to offer ban compliant bags at checkout. This is made even worse by the fact that the change would have to occur during the holiday season for retailers.

Because this amendment would dramatically increase the costs to businesses and they will pass on those costs to consumers, we oppose the amendment to the ban. However, we do support allowing biodegradable and compostable bags. The more options businesses have, the better off everyone will be as they can choose what products work for them.

We recommend that you define compostable bags as "bags that have met the ASTM D6400 Standard Specification." ASTM D6400 is the industry standard for considering what plastic materials is considered compostable. I would also recommend defining biodegradable bags as "bags that are certified by independent scientific laboratory testing to break down in a manner that is not harmful to the environment." That will ensure that businesses don't merely claim their bags are biodegradable. They will have to have proof they are biodegradable.

Sincerely,

--

Adrian K. Hong, CPA*

President

Island Plastic Bags, Inc.

www.islandplasticbags.com

Email: adrianhong@gmail.com | Phone: 808-484-4046 | Fax: 808-488-8505

*Not in public practice

IEM Committee

IEM-5

IEM-56

From: Melissa Takaaze <m.takaaze@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2016 11:32 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: HFIA's Testimony on IEM-05 & IEM-56 (10/31/16)
Attachments: IEM-05 Polystyrene Containers_HFIA Testimony_10-31-16.pdf; IEM-56 Plastic Bag Reduction_HFIA Testimony_10-31-16.pdf

Dear Committee,

Attached is the Hawaii Food Industry Association's testimony for IEM-05 (polystyrene foam containers) and IEM-56 (plastic bag reduction), which are scheduled on the Oct. 31 agenda.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Melissa Takaaze
Director of Grassroots
Hawaii Food Industry Association
(808) 554-2798



Executive Officers:

John Erickson, Young's Market Company –Chair
Beau Oshiro, C&S Wholesale – Vice Chair
Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores – Secretary/Treasurer
John Schilf, Rainbow Sales and Marketing - Advisor
Stan Brown, Acosta – Advisor
Paul Kosasa, ABC Stores – Advisor
Barry Taniguchi, KTA Superstores – Advisor
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Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

1050 Bishop St. PMB 235
Honolulu, HI 96813
Fax: 808-791-0702
Telephone: 808-533-1292
<http://www.hawaiiifood.com>

TO: COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Chair
Councilmember Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: October 31, 2016
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chamber, Wailuku, Hawaii

RE: IEM-56 Plastic Bag Reduction

Position: Oppose

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

We are opposed to IEM-56 (2016), which seeks to prohibit the use of reusable plastic bags. While HFIA understands the intent of the proposal, we are concerned about its impact on retailers and on the local people, particularly those who are low-income and for whom even a dollar makes a difference when it comes to buying groceries and other necessities.

The last eight years have initiated a transition period for both Hawaii's retailers and their customers. We appreciate the intent of the existing ordinance and we all want it to continue to work. Some retailers are accommodating customers who forget to bring in their reusable fabric bag by selling or providing reusable plastic bags as permitted by ordinance. Regrettably, if this bill is passed, retailers will be forced to throw these bags away, which seems contrary to the desired intent.

The proposed bill would largely limit retailers to providing paper bags, which do not perform well when wet. As a result, since many of our retailers provide items that perspire, such as refrigerated liquids and frozen items and a single-use paper bag may rip while holding these items.

As retailers, it is our responsibility to keep prices reasonable and to provide quality service by accommodating our customers. However, small and medium businesses often struggle to meet new regulations and bans because many lack the necessary resources. Although extending the ban to include reusable bags may seem like a small cost, we must be mindful that bans in general significantly affect businesses, especially those that are small and local, whose livelihood must flourish in order to continue growing our economy, at both county and state levels.

Hawaii is one of the most expensive places in the world to feed a family and retailers are working hard to not increase the price of food and goods while also striving to provide quality customer service. If we continue to work together to find balance, we can fulfill the intent of the existing ordinance and keep prices down.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

From: Bill Evans <billev2k@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 5:48 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: I support IEM-56 and IEM-05

Aloha,

I am writing to express my support for IEM-56 and IEM-05, to reduce the use of plastic bags and prohibit the use of disposable polystyrene food service containers. As we know so well, these long lived items accumulate and degrade the environment of our beautiful Island, not to mention the entire planet. They present a danger to fish, birds, and other wildlife, and are an eyesore upon the beauty of Maui. Excellent low cost and environmentally responsible alternatives are readily available to both plastic bags and polystyrene containers.

Please support these two measures.

Respectfully,

Bill Evans
Haiku

IEM Committee

IEM-56

From: Tina Yamaki <tyamaki@rmhawaii.org>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 9:48 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: October 31 IEM Hearing
Attachments: IEM-5_Polystyrene Disposable Food Containers_TESTIMONY_Oct 31.pdf; IEM-56_Plastic Bag Reduction_TESTIMONY_Oct 31.pdf

Aloha!

Attached is the Retail Merchants of Hawaii's testimony on the following measures for the October 31st IEM Committee Meeting at 1:30 pm:

- **IEM-56 A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 20.18, Maui County Code, Relating to Plastic Bag Reduction**
-
- **IEM-5 A Bill for an Ordinance Establishing a New Chapter 20.26, Maui County Code, Pertaining to Restriction of Single Use Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Ware**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Mahalo!

--

A Hui Hou Kākou!

Tina Yamaki

President • Retail Merchants of Hawaii
P.O. Box 1956 • Honolulu, HI • 96805
T: (808) 592-4200 • C: (808) 554-8444
E: tyamaki@rmhawaii.org • W: rmhawaii.org



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
OCTOBER 31, 2016**

**Re: IEM-56 A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 20.18,
Maui County Code, Relating to Plastic Bag Reduction**

Good afternoon Chair Cochran and members of the Maui County Council's Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a statewide not-for-profit trade organization representing 200 members and over 2,000 storefronts, and is committed to support the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii strongly opposes IEM-56 A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 20.18, Maui County Code, Relating to Plastic Bag Reduction. Retailers continue to be concerned about our aina and have supported many initiatives that preserve and protect our environment. Retailers are in the business of providing goods to consumers and should be able to provide a vehicle for customers to transport their purchases out of the store. However, there needs to maintain a fair balance regarding the bag issue.

Although we appreciate the added language of plastic bag applicability, the alternatives of using only paper, cloth or other washable fabric, are up to ten times more expensive than plastic, both in actual purchase price and in increased shipping costs to Hawaii. Ultimately, these costs will be passed on to the consumer and will increase the cost of food and other products for Hawaii's residents.

Additionally, we are concerned that there are serious environmental impacts of air and water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions with the proposed alternatives. Paper in today's landfills does not degrade or break down at a substantially faster rate than plastic does because of lack of water, light, oxygen and other important elements that are necessary for the degradation process to be completed. Paper bags generate 70% more air and 50 times more water pollutants than plastic bags.

Plastic bags provided by retailers today are recyclable, and are reused by consumers for everyday household tasks like lining waste baskets and sanitary cleaning up after pets. If these free bags are not available, consumers undoubtedly will purchase plastic bags for these uses.

In addition, to have this measure go into effect upon approval would also place an undo burden on many of our retailers who have specially ordered re-useable plastic bags in bulk to be in compliance with the law. If they have remaining plastic bags, they will be have to be "trashed," and new and more expensive bags ordered that comply with the ordinance. These all add to the cost of doing business and will be passed on to the consumer.

We should be addressing wise management of this resource with the principle of "reduce, reuse and recycle". We are already seeing a change in consumers who are bringing their own bags when shopping. We absolutely support the broadest use of reusable bags as the ultimate solution. However, we do know that consumers' acceptance and use of these bags will not be universal or practical at all times.

Again mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

From: Mike Moran <mmmmahalo2000@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2016 11:33 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: SUPPORT FOR IEM 56 & 05 from South Maui via KCA

Aloha Chair and IEM Committee,

Mahalo for resurrecting these two needs for the *kai* and *aina*..
Please pass both of these on first reading this afternoon.
The only objections we hear are economic. To those who object we offer this

Hawaii's near shore reefs annually generate about \$800 million in gross revenue.

NOAA gives the total economic value of Hawaii's coral reef ecosystem an estimated \$34 BILLION annually.

For KCA we borrow from the old credit card commercial: PRICELESS!

KCA offers strong support for both IEM 05 and 56.

Mahalo,

Mike Moran, President Kihei Community Association (KCA)
www.gokihei.org

From: mauikeith@gmail.com on behalf of Keith Kessler <keith@keithkessler.org>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2016 11:18 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: IEM-56 for plastic bag reduction and IEM-05 for polystyrene food service containers.

Honorable Members of the Maui County Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my mana'o concerning proposed measures IEM-05 and IEM-56.

Nearly all acts have unforsen consequences. Examples:

First commercial oil well - Titusville, PA 1859 - 157 years ago.

First synthetic plastic (Baekelite) - NYC 1907 - 109 years ago.

Everybody thought they were great advances at the time. Cheap fuel. New material for manufacturing.

Anybody who would have spoken of rising sea levels or a great garbage gyre at the time would have been thought of as a nutcase.

The law now in force had some unintended consequences, otherwise we wouldn't be reconsidering it. But new bill has some too.

I support the goal of protecting the beauty of our island, and the well-being of our wildlife, but I think the law currently in place goes too far in some areas, and nees to have some small exceptions carved out. One thing never considered is the way bag bill affected people who don't have cars. You can keep your reuseable bags in the trunk, so you never have to think about them. I challange you to try this experiment, thogh. Take your reuseables out of your trunk. Only put them in when you plan to go shopping. If you forget them, only take what you can carry in two paper bags. And don't take anything cold, because the condensation will weaken

the paper bags so they tear through when you carry them for any distance.

This is what pedestrians and transit users have to deal with.

I travel a lot, and they do two things in Europe I think we should do here. First of all, in Italy, they have very thin special bags made of starches and special polymers that begin to degrade the very next day after use. They turn to tatters in just a few days. I think these should be allowed here. I also think any bag that substantially degrades within 72 hours of contact with water should be allowed. These would still allow for some measure of convenience for pedestrians users without affecting sea turtles.

The other thing they do in Europe is that stores charge about \$0.50-\$1.00 for reusable bags of the type contemplated to be banned under the new law. I would instead propose a tax on such bags that would encourage people to reuse them, rather than an outright ban.

I favor these bags because they are lightweight and pack small, something important to pedestrians. They are much more portable than the fiber type reusable bags.

Recently I went to a store and did a considerable amount of shopping. When I went to the checkout I asked to purchase some of these fiber type bags. I was told they were out of stock but that I could purchase expensive bags (\$5-\$7) each.

I had to inconvenience the store and ask them to put everything back because I had to catch my bus in 5 minutes.

As to polystyrene foam / styrofoam.

I favor the widest possible ban on styrofoam products. They should be banned entirely for all food applications as they are a known human carcinogen. I would include all styrofoam cups in such a ban. I favor an

immediate ban on importation, but I would allow would allow a year for full nban be phased in to allow businesses to deplete existing inventories.

Individual styrofoam beads are nearly indestructable, and cause longlasting and widespread environmental damage.

I favor the widest possible ban on styrofoam products of all kinds. I would like to see a total ban on importation and sale of all styrofoam products with certain categories still permitted: Health, safety, research, scientific, and manufacturing process uses. Construction materials should be permitted for three more years, but banned after that. Perhaps hobbyist and craft applications. Floatation devices.

Obviously one cannot ban importation of incidental packing materials. I would, however ban the importation of bulk packing peanuts, but I would encourage the sale, trade, and use of ones already on island for an indefinite period as a way to deal with the constant influx of this commodity.

There should also be an easy way for items to be added or removed from the list by simple vote of the council.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Keith Kessler

Kihei, HI

keith@keithkessler.com

(646) 926-7399 [Google Voice: home & cell]

The quickest and most reliable way to contact me is usually by voice telephone.:

+1 (646) 926-7399. [Google Voice](#).

I will not receive pictures, video, or other multimedia files sent to me by MMS ("text") message. Please email such items to me at keith@keithkessler.com.

Testimony on IEM -56

Marjorie Bonar 10/31/2016

Of course I have to say something about any proposed plastic bag issue.

Clarifications in the bill are welcome moves and I am happy to see that the council has recognized them and is addressing them at this point. The missing element was that we had hoped to have all customers carry their own bags by now. The community outreach that was supposed to accompany the original bill had funding redirected, so there may still be some who are not fully aware of the current requirements.

Many have required merchants to charge for paper bags with part of the fee collected being sent to the jurisdiction. I support requiring a charge to be retained by the merchant. Bag cost should be established and retained by the merchant. That would amend SECTION 6, Section 202.18.040 B by removing the words **or without charge**. The rewritten subsection would then read :

Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a business from making reusable bags or recyclable paper bags available for sale to its customers for the purpose of transporting groceries or other goods.

This would level the playing field for the small business owner who is afraid of alienating customers with a bag charge to cover their costs. The council is accustomed to taking responsibility for fees that may seem inconvenient. I'm sure many small businesses would applaud this change.

In spite of the dire predictions by ACC and Chamber of commerce, no one has yet gone out of business due to the bag bill. Personally, I resented the interference of off island, even out of state commercial interests inserting themselves into our legislative process when this bill was first introduced. They have warned me that they will not underestimate Maui again, so I assume they will be here with us today. Testimony from those who have a vested interest in selling a detrimental product should be recognized for what it is, a sales pitch.

Since the elimination of the 'tee shirt' bag, our landscape has become very close to trash free. There will always be careless individuals, who are not recognizing their own responsibility for preserving the aina, but the vast majority of Maui is proud of the state of our roadsides and beaches. Trash is now generated by overflowing refuse cans, or just left someplace as a convenience, it is not the stuff accidentally flying out of pick-up beds or catching the breeze on a beach picnic.

I would hope that staff assigned to recycling and solid waste reduction education can help educate the public about reasons to pay for bags when they forget to bring their own, and not interpret the effort to reduce waste as greed by the merchants.



**Testimony on the Proposed Bill Regarding
Plastic Bag Reduction and Polystyrene
(IEM-56)
October 31, 2016**

Dear Chair Cochran, Vice-Chair Hokama &
Members of the County Council's Infrastructure &
Environmental Management Committee,

Aloha, we are pleased to be here today as you take up these two bills and consider environmental priorities for our County. The Maui Chamber of Commerce was a supporter of the plastic bag ban when that initiative was proposed years ago as our members saw how those bags took flight and created a great deal of trash throughout our County and wanted to be a part of that solution.

The Maui Chamber of Commerce was also pleased to sit on the Polystyrene Task Force and to participate in that discussion. From that effort, we felt litter control was the bigger issue and was more clearly documented as a problem than polystyrene. We learned that polystyrene was less than 1% of the trash going into the landfill and that the bigger issue with marine animals were plastics overall. Therefore we had hoped to see the County embark on a litter control campaign and had offered to partner on such an initiative. We still stand ready to do so however, to date the County has not moved forward with such efforts. During the Task Force, we also learned that local businesses are moving towards using recyclable containers on their own as they have become more affordable and customers are requesting them. We recently circled back with distributors who sell both polystyrene and recyclable products and learned that the movement towards recyclables is continuing.

Today we are here to hear the council's rationale for why these two efforts are needed and where these two items fit within the County's top environmental and other overall priorities.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

IEM Committee

From: Liz Foote <lfoote@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2016 4:03 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: Plastic Bag Reduction & Polystyrene measures

Aloha,

I hope it is not too late to submit this, but I would like to echo the testimony of Maui Surfrider Foundation and the many local conservation NGOs supporting the measure to reduce the use of plastic bags (deemed "reusable," but actually a loophole in the law), and to prohibit the use of single-use polystyrene food service containers. With the recent cuts to Maui's recycling capacity, and the constraints already in place that make recycling and waste disposal challenging for businesses and individuals, these measures would be a big improvement in reducing the waste generated on Maui.

Thank you for your consideration.

Liz Foote
Wailuku, Maui
(808) 283-1631

IEM Committee

From: Roxanne Darling <roxanne@barefeetstudios.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 4:01 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: IEM 56 - No more Styrofoam please

Aloha,

I'd love to see Maui continue being most favorite island and using that status to lead the way on environmental policy.

Please vote to ban styrofoam and single use containers that cannot be re-used or recycled.

Thank you,

Roxanne

Roxanne Darling
441 Ulumalu Rd
Haiku HI 96708

IEM Committee

IEM-56

From: Lauren <laurenelaine721@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 11:53 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: IEM-56 and IEM-05

Dear Council Members,

Please accept this email as testimony on the upcoming votes on IEM-56 and IEM-05.

Please vote to close the loophole which allows retailers to continue using plastic bags that are supposedly thick enough for "multiple use." This is problematic, as the intention of the original measure is to reduce the use of plastic. Many have switched to no bags or paper bags and this is the way it should be in order to protect our environment.

Additionally, please vote to ban the use of styrofoam. There are plenty of reasonable alternatives that are environmentally- and health-friendly, which won't significantly increase the cost of business. In addition to the clear environmental challenges, this material is also hazardous to human health.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I do hope you all show up to vote on these important issues.

Aloha,
Lauren Ampolos

Sent from my iPhone.
Please excuse any typos.

IEM Committee

From: Melissa Takaaze <m.takaaze@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 11:54 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: HFIA's Testimony on IEM-56 (11/14/16)
Attachments: IEM-56 Plastic Bag Reduction_HFIA Testimony_ 11-14-16.pdf

Dear Committee,

Attached is the Hawaii Food Industry Association's testimony on IEM-56 (plastic bag reduction), which is scheduled on the Nov. 14 agenda.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Melissa Takaaze
Director of Grassroots
Hawaii Food Industry Association
(808) 554-2798



Executive Officers:

John Erickson, Young's Market Company –Chair
Beau Oshiro, C&S Wholesale – Vice Chair
Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores – Secretary/Treasurer
John Schilf, Rainbow Sales and Marketing - Advisor
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Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

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TO: COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Councilmember Elle Cochran, Chair

Councilmember Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: November 14, 2016
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chamber, Wailuku, Hawaii

RE: IEM-56 Plastic Bag Reduction

Position: Oppose

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

We are opposed to IEM-56 (2016), which seeks to prohibit the use of reusable plastic bags. While HFIA understands the intent of the proposal, we are concerned about its impact on retailers and on the local people, particularly those who are low-income and for whom even a dollar makes a difference when it comes to buying groceries and other necessities.

The last eight years have initiated a transition period for both Hawaii's retailers and their customers. We appreciate the intent of the existing ordinance and we all want it to continue to work. Some retailers are accommodating customers who forget to bring in their reusable fabric bag by selling or providing reusable plastic bags as permitted by ordinance. Regrettably, if this bill is passed, retailers will be forced to throw these bags away, which seems contrary to the desired intent.

The proposed bill would largely limit retailers to providing paper bags, which do not perform well when wet. As a result, since many of our retailers provide items that perspire, such as refrigerated liquids and frozen items and a single-use paper bag may rip while holding these items.

As retailers, it is our responsibility to keep prices reasonable and to provide quality service by accommodating our customers. However, small and medium businesses often struggle to meet new regulations and bans because many lack the necessary resources. Although extending the ban to include reusable bags may seem like a small cost, we must be mindful that bans in general significantly affect businesses, especially those that are small and local, whose livelihood must flourish in order to continue growing our economy, at both county and state levels.

Hawaii is one of the most expensive places in the world to feed a family and retailers are working hard to not increase the price of food and goods while also striving to provide quality customer service. If we continue to work together to find balance, we can fulfill the intent of the existing ordinance and keep prices down.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

IEM Committee

IEM-56

From: courtney bruch <courtneybruch808@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 4:57 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: support for IEM-56
Attachments: loop hole testimony .pdf

please see attached



COURTNEY BRUCH

P.O. Box 735,
96768 Makawao, HI

T 808-283-6837

courtneybruch808@gmail.com

November 11, 2016
Environmental Management (IEM) Committee

Dear IEM Committee Members,

As a long standing core committee member of Upcountry Sustainability, I strongly request that you support IEM-56 to close the loop hole on plastic bags. I am disturbed when I go to stores and they are using these thick plastic bags that will likely wind up in the landfill or blow into the ocean. Allowing these bags is a detriment to our environment and weakens the plastic bag ban that we passed. Please do the right thing and pass this item. We need to progress and not digress.

Mahalo,

Courtney Bruch

Kula

IEM Committee

From: eduardo gandolfo <gandolfsea@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 11:25 AM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: I Support IEM 56

Please close the loophole on the plastic bags! No more plastic bags that end up in our ocean!
Ban all plastic bags!!!

mahalo nui loa,

Eduardo A. Gandolfo (B) GRI, CSFR

Principal Broker
Maui Houses and Condos Realty
"excellence with aloha"
Certified Short sale and Foreclosure Resource Specialist
Ph/Fax: 1.808.891.8177
Cell: 1.808.264.4733
125 Aliilani Pl., Kihei, HI 96753, USA

Referrals are greatly appreciated. Please call me if a friend, family member or a neighbor is in need of my help.



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.