

**From:** [Koohan Paik-Mander](#)  
**To:** [DEM \(COH\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please support Bill 83 to the County Council  
**Date:** Sunday, October 19, 2025 1:00:13 PM

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Dear Environmental Management Commission,

Please give a favorable recommendation to the County Council on Bill 83 for the following reasons:

- 1) Oahu and Maui have already passed similar legislation. Bill 83 puts Hawaii Island in alignment with this important effort to reduce the unnecessary usage of plastic.
- 2) Bill 83 provides a means for implementing waste reduction policies adopted by the council as far back as 2009 beginning with the Hawaii County Zero Waste Plan, and reaffirmed in the county's most recent Integrated Solid Waste Management, General and Integrated Climate Action Plans.
- 3) The switch from single-use plastic to compostable products will compel the county to finally establish the islandwide composting system needed to divert these materials from the landfill in ways that support food security. (BTW, it is not true that we need a commercial composting facility to process bioplastics. They can be composted using in vessel composters or naturally with a bit if extra effort.)
- 4) Inclusion of non-plastic reuse options supports the expansion of this critical initiative while ensuring that the bill's purpose is not undermined.
- 5) Government has a duty to protect the public from plastic pollution. Bill 83 represents a simple and effective first step towards a reduction in the overall consumption of plastic, which experts agree is the only solution to this serious health crisis.

Thank you very much,  
Koohan Paik-Mander

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*"If we make no effort to change direction, we will end up where we are heading."*

-- Chinese Proverb