

From: [Mary Jennings](#)
To: [DEM \(COH\)](#)
Subject: Testimony for Agenda Item 5.1 Bill 83
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 6:08:58 AM

Aloha e kakou,

My name is Mary Jennings and I am in support of Bill 83. As a parent and a teacher in Puna, I hold strong to a vision for a better future for our keiki. The path we are currently on is not sustainable. A quick look at our landfills, trash streams, and plastic strewn beaches make it easy to see.

We are lucky - we have a strong connection to tradition here in Hawaii. We have a pride in doing what is pono. Every day, we teach our keiki to uphold their kuleana and malama the aina and each other. The County can continue to lead us in that direction through supporting and enforcing Zero Waste Events. Moving away from plastics will strengthen our identity as an island community that really cares.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Mary Jennings
High School Math Teacher