

**From:** [Executive Committee](#)  
**To:** [DEM \(COH\)](#)  
**Subject:** Bill 83  
**Date:** Monday, October 20, 2025 8:35:36 AM

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Dear Environmental Management Commission,

I'm asking you to recommend the passage of Bill 83 to the Hawaii County Council. I'm not sure if you've read any of the latest research about plastic pollution, but I'll assume you have, since managing the environment is your job. Of course, no one on Earth remembers a time when the environment didn't need humans to manage it, but clearly, we have not been doing a good job. There are so many areas that are in crisis right now that I've become very pessimistic about the future of life on Earth. To stay on track with business as usual, is a mass extinction event. But let's just talk about plastics for a minute.

In my work at Clean The Pacific, I have hauled out many tons of plastic from the ocean. The ocean is the biggest source of micro plastic. It's a microplastic generator. All the thousands of tons of plastic in the ocean break down into micro and nano plastic particles so small, they cross the blood brain barrier and placental barrier. They're in every organ in your body. They're in every living creature on Earth. They're in the plants. Everything you eat has plastic in it. Every breath you take, you inhale plastic. The entire planet is enshrouded in a massive cloud of petrochemicals and the oil and gas industry just wants to make more.

Well, we live on an island. Of all the people, all the states, all the nations, Hawaii should be the most proactive about controlling plastic pollution. I can tell you, Bill 83 is nowhere near enough, but it's a step in the right direction. If we don't switch to a reuse economy, like our parents had, then we're looking at a disaster that is incomprehensible, and I mean that literally, because these chemicals have been shown by scientists at the University of Rhode Island to cause neurological degeneration, leading to dementia and Alzheimer's. Just try to imagine a world where everyone has dementia.

Judging from the news lately, I would say we're already well on our way. I know it's not easy and people are trying to make money, but we have to stop this catastrophe right now, if it's not already too late. We got rid of lead in gasoline and the industry fought long and hard for 20 years. Please, don't drag this out like they did. The time to act was 20 years ago, so today must be the day.



Sincerely,

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