

From: [Georjean Adams](#)
To: [laura acasio](#); [Mellon-Lacey, Diana](#)
Cc: [Dell Otsuka](#); [Agustin, Noah](#); [Lee McIntosh](#); [Jim Beets](#); [Tavares, Sherilyn K.](#); [Erica Perez](#); [Gonzalo Garcia](#); [Dorothy Norris](#); [Sur, Peter](#)
Subject: Re: Notice of hearing for SB 2368
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 9:41:51 AM

I had cleared the process and text of both HB1688 and SB2368 letters with Corp Counsel Tavares before sending them out for EMC Commissioners vote.

Corp Counsel Lacey-Mellon is welcome to comment, since Sheri is out of the office.

Reminder: the deadline to vote on SB2368 letter is this morning. If fewer than 5 ayes are received, no testimony will be submitted by EMC.

On Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 9:54 PM laura acasio <laura.acasio@gmail.com> wrote:

I am calling into question this process of voting on bills before the State Legislature, the content of which the EMC has not publicly discussed, on a closed forum via email. There are huge questions as to whether this is transparent and proper in maintaining the public trust. Not to mention, the content of these bills are extensive and require a great depth of understanding. As a former Senator, to use County letterhead and the EMC "support" at the legislature with this vague and closed process is very disingenuous at best. The legislators reading this will be under the assumption that these bills were properly vetted by the EMC, which they have not.

Can we get an official interpretation of this process from Corp Council Tavares on this process?

Laura Acasio

On Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 6:02 PM Georjean Adams <gadamsemc@gmail.com> wrote:

As Peter Sur notified you, the Senate Bill 2368 companion to HB1688 is up for hearing this Friday. It is not a word for word copy of the house bill, but it's close. Having submitted testimony on HB 1688 following 5 yes votes, I've drafted a copy of the letter the Senate bill.

Please see the attached Draft EMC letter on SB 2368.

I ask for majority consent (meaning at least 5 in favor) to approve submitting the attached letter. "Reply all" on your vote **by noon tomorrow, Feb 8**.

Because there were 3 members who did not vote yes on the previous letter, I recommend to Dot, as chair for the next meeting, put on the agenda further discussion of our motion in support of product responsibility legislation and the process by which we can respond in time to new legislation. You'll have a chance to comment on the wording in the draft agenda. Meanwhile, please note that the supporting letter comports with our January motion and is meant to be very general:

"...EMC **supports the intent** of Senate Bill 2368 and **encourages its further consideration**."

Specific comments on the wording in the bill should be sent as your individual testimony, as we have no time or ability to have a full discussion on details by the deadline tomorrow.

Mahalo,
Georjean

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sur, Peter** <Peter.Sur@hawaiicounty.gov>

Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:18 PM

Subject: Notice of hearing for SB 2368

To: Tavares, Sherilyn K. <Sherilyn.Tavares@hawaiicounty.gov>, Agustin, Noah
<Noah.Agustin@hawaiicounty.gov>

BCC: EMC

SB 2368 is scheduled for a hearing on Friday, it is the Senate version of HB 1688:

[https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?
billtype=SB&billnumber=2368&year=2024](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2368&year=2024)

Requires the department of health to conduct a statewide needs assessment to inform the future establishment of an extended producer responsibility program for packaging waste. Appropriates funds.

Hearing is 1 p.m. Friday, so testimony if any would need to be submitted to the Legislature by 1 p.m. Thursday. And *any* commissioner may circulate a draft of testimony for approval that is consistent with the motion you approved on January 24.

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Georjean Adams
Chair, Environmental Management Commission
gadamsEMC@gmail.com

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