



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
House Committee on Water & Land
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 9:05 a.m.

By

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And

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And

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HB 2264 – RELATING TO CESSPOOLS

Chairs Lowen and Ichiyama, Vice Chairs Cochran and Poepoe, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and UH Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) do not support HB 2264 as written. This bill would establish a three-year new wastewater demonstration and implementation pilot program within Hawai'i Sea Grant and in coordination with WRRC.

While our programs agree that the upgrade and conversion of cesspools to advanced forms of wastewater treatment is of great importance, HB 2264's proposed pilot program does not appropriate any funding for project expenses. The bill proposes the conversion of no less than four wastewater system demonstration projects. In addition to the direct expenses of conversion, this bill would require the hiring of several new full-time staff members for effectuation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.