



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
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Statement on OPPOSITION to Bill 39

Bill 39 (23) - *Relating to Property Exemptions for Certain Real Property Near an Active Landfill*

I OPPOSE THIS BILL bill because it divides the community using an arbitrary one-mile line, or a half mile line as proposed in CD2, and DOES NOT include the Waimānalo Gulch. I cannot accurately say that only health within one mile or half a mile has been affected ONLY around PVT. This is absolutely unfair to the community. The geographic area I represent from portions of 'Ewa Beach to Ka'ena point has communities that have been underrepresented in positive outcomes and overrepresented in negative ones. A minority group of landowners benefiting from an active landfill when the larger community opposes landfills creates an extremely divisive environment. We need to oppose this measure that will incentivize landfills to continue operating.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL because the city should not be liable for adverse health conditions due to an adjacent private property. This bill narrows the definition of a landfill to specifically pertain to the private landfill, PVT. Any legal dispute where two or more private parties are seeking monetary damages should be handled in civil litigation and not through government intervention. Furthermore, when government facilities (i.e. roads, parks, etc) have caused harm the related city or state department is liable for damages. However, there is no connection between health and property taxes. The City Department of Budget and Fiscal Services uses income tax paperwork to determine various exemptions and is not equipped to evaluate qualifying health impacts.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL bill because the city can eventually stop city services in an area where there is no property tax contribution. There is currently no place in all of this island that pays zero property tax. This bill doesn't even ask to pay the minimum; it says that everyone should be completely exempt. The cost for one year of this bill will be \$7.2 million in FY24 per Departmental Communication 555 and asks for up to 30 years of a complete tax exemption. This will be at least \$216 million over the span of 30 years and maybe more with inflation. The city uses property taxes to pay for city services to the community and with this area not contributing there could be no services rendered in the future. NO amount of money or tax exemption offered will EVER replace claimed health effects from landfills and we appreciate the administration's stance to relocate the landfill outside of Wai'anae.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL bill because both the Wai'anae and Nānākuli Neighborhood boards oppose this bill. I was not a cosponsor for this bill and it was not drafted by the larger community who have fought against the landfill for decades. Our only representative on the west side who served on the Landfill Advisory Committee served on the Nānākuli Neighborhood board. Many people in opposition are from Nānākuli and have fought to remove the landfill for years. This arbitrary one-mile or half-a-mile proposal WILL NOT include Nānākuli or Wai'anae who hosted the city landfill from 1942-1989. This is NOT FAIR to the entire community.

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COUNCIL COM. 256

DISTRICT I - PORTIONS OF 'EWA BEACH, KAPOLEI, HO'OPILI, MAKAKILO, KALAELOA, HONOKAI HALE, KO'OLINA, NĀNĀKULI, MĀ'ILI, WAI'ANAE, MĀKAHA, KEA'AU, AND MĀKUA

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