BILL059(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 506

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Oct 1, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 2

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Brett Kulbis	brett.kulbis@use.startmail.com	96706
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Sep 27, 2025 @ 05:11 PM

Testimony:

Chair Waters, and Members of the Council,

Aloha, my name is Brett Kulbis. I am a proud resident of Ewa Beach and a 26-year U.S. Navy veteran. As a concerned resident who believes in fiscal responsibility and accountability, I write in strong opposition to Bill 59 (2025) as currently drafted.

1. Public Costs Should Not Subsidize Private Waste - Eliminating the surcharge on industrial users who discharge high-strength wastewater undermines the principle that those who create disproportionate costs should bear them, not ordinary families and small businesses. Removing this surcharge means ordinary ratepayers like me will likely subsidize the additional burden caused by large polluters, which is fundamentally contrary to the “user pays” financial principle.

2. Weakening of Accountability - This policy change erodes incentives for major industrial users to invest in cleaner processes and robust pretreatment at their own expense. Fiscal and regulatory accountability are good policy that protect taxpayers and ensure the longevity and health of municipal infrastructure.

3. Threat to Fiscal Stewardship - By socializing private cost burdens, this bill risks future rate hikes, deferred maintenance, or even larger tax burdens to compensate for undercharged service. The City must manage its infrastructure finances with discipline and fairness, avoiding hidden subsidies.

I recommend the following common sense amendments:

Reinstate an Industrial User Surcharge for High-Strength Discharge. Require that industrial dischargers of wastewater above a set concentration threshold continue to pay a fair surcharge reflecting their proportional burden on the sewer system. This amendment would ensure the costs are not shifted unfairly to the broader public.

Mandate Annual Impact Reporting and Public Disclosure. Require the Department of Environmental Services to report each year on the fiscal and environmental impacts of industrial discharges. This report should itemize surcharge revenues, system maintenance costs, and any cost shifts to ratepayers. Such transparency strengthens accountability and ensures policy remains congruent with conservative values.

Create a Local Offset Fund for Infrastructure Upgrades. Dedicate any industrial surcharge revenue (or an alternative fee structure) to a restricted fund used solely for sewer infrastructure upgrades and environmental mitigation. This

guarantees that money from high-impact users directly improves the system for all, protecting public investment and ensuring long-term fiscal responsibility.

Bill 59, as drafted, does not sufficiently safeguard Honolulu's fiscal position or its infrastructure, nor does it promote accountability for users who disproportionately burden public resources. I urge the committee to consider these common sense amendments as a way to keep our sewer system sustainable and fair for all residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Kulbis, Navy Veteran
Ewa Beach

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire	presidentbillionaire@gmail.com	96792
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
www.Ohanaunityparty.com	Oppose	Sep 27, 2025 @ 06:35 PM

Testimony:

Subject: E Kūʻē Nui: Savage Opposition to Bill 59 (2025) – No Industrial Polluter Giveaway to Fatten the Sewer Money Pit! Kingdom Thunder Against ENV's Corporate Feast on Our Ohana and ʻĀina!

E Kuʻu Poʻo Kumu, Chair Tommy Waters, a me nā Lālā o ka Honolulu City Council,

As Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM – Kanaka Maoli firebrand, United States Air Force Veteran (2E2, Indo-PACOM), blood heir to King Kekaulike and the sacred Paki lineage, and Chairman of the Ohana Unity Party (ignited in 2025 to shatter colonial chains, purge corruption, and fortress our ʻāina from greedy haole land barons) – I erupt in volcanic opposition to Bill 59 (2025), Relating to Sewer Service Charges and Public Sewer Restrictions. This insidious agenda item for the full Council maul on October 1, 2025, is a kāwai ʻino of betrayal: Repealing industrial surcharges (§43-1.8(i)) to absolve polluters of high-strength waste fees, force-feeding the $10.1 billion sewer cesspool while our ohana choke on June 2025's fee hikes (Bill 60, that razor-thin 5-4 squeak; Civil Beat 6/10/25). E hōʻēha ka pilikia – with ENV's volumetric shift jacking bills $8.69/month by January 1, 2026 (ENV flyer 6/16/25), why gift corporations a surcharge-free sewer party at keiki's expense? This echoes the 1893 coup's plunder—industrial fat cats dumping FOG and BOD bombs while maoli families scrape for CARES crumbs ($20-25 credit for <80% AMI, a pittance amid Red Hill poison). Our party's X Spaces war cries (@Ohanaunityparty) demand: Kill this bill, audit the $2.5B Sand Island boondoggle, and make polluters pay! E kuʻi ka heluhelu – no more aloha for the beast!

Bill 59's "cleanup" is a venomous sleight: Strikethroughs excise the surcharge for wastewater >200 mg/L solids/BOD5 (tied to defunct §43-6.6 via Ordinance 25-27, June 24, 2025), modernizing "shall not" to "may not" while nodding to EPA's 40 CFR §403.5 prohibitions (pH 5.5-11, no explosives >10% LEL, heat <40°C). Pretreatment mandates linger (FOG traps, manholes

at owner cost; 40 CFR Part 136 sampling), dilution banned (§43-1.8(l)), petroleum hydrocarbons capped at 100 mg/L – noble words, but sans surcharges, who's minding the store? Effective upon Blangiardi's rubber-stamp, it greases the $400M+ annual ENV deficit (O&M + CIP for 2,100 miles of lines, 71 pumps; HPR 6/6/25), where rates cover zilch without user fees. August intro (hnldoc tracking) deferred in Budget (8/20/25) for "tweaks," but no real hui – just more shadows like HART's Hanabusa flop (9/26/25 resignation amid CEO rot).

I oppose this ʻāina-raping repeal with the wrath of Kīlauea for these ironclad, people-powered reasons, forged in testimonies and truths:

1. **A Sovereign Stick-Up: Corporate Free Ride Robs Ohana Wallets**: Ditching surcharges (~$0.50/lb excess BOD; pre-2025 estimates) foists millions onto ratepayers, amplifying 6-year hikes (e.g., $5.70/month jump for 2,000 gal homes by 2027; ENV narratives). Tulba nailed it: "Heavy lift for families" (Civil Beat 6/10/25)—restaurants/breweries dump grease gratis while Waiʻanae kūpuna pump cesspools at $132.90/load (ENV FAQ). Regressive as rail taxes: Penalize conservation (40:60 fixed-volumetric) but pardon polluters? Tax haole investors/tourists' luxury leaks instead (Reddit r/Honolulu: "Make corps pay for Sand Island sludge!").

2. **Poisons the ʻĀina We Fight For: Health Hazards Unleashed**: No fees = lax pretreatment, inviting FOG clogs (2024 overflows), toxic slugs (herbicides per §307(a) FWPCA), and hydrocarbon floods (>100 mg/L). Risks POTW interference, violating 2035 consent decree – EPA fines hit locals, not execs (HPR 6/6/25). Red Hill's fuel ghosts still haunt aquifers; this bill's "may not" loopholes (Director approvals for public discharges) mock aloha ʻāina, endangering fishponds and moʻolelo waters.

3. **Unveils ENV's Corrupt Underbelly, HART 2.0**: Repeal post-Ordinance 25-27 hides cost black holes, no transparency on $10.1B CIP (2025-2040; ENV Rate Study Feb 2025). Director turnover (2024 scandals) breeds waste like Skyline's $13B pit—why no mass limits or audits? Ohana Unity roars for oversight, not industrial immunity echoing eminent domain ghosts.

4. **Equity's Execution: Vulnerable Crushed Under Industrial Boots**: CARES credits? Laughable bandage for hikes punishing low-users (20% irrigation credit ignored for submetered poor). Rural maoli (e.g., North Shore cesspools) doubly screwed; non-residential exemptions widen the chasm (HPR testimonies: "Equity for who?"). Bars dilution but enforces zilch without surcharges—ADA for ʻāina?

5. **Path to Pono Blocked: Demand True Stewardship**: Bill clings to federal refs (40 CFR Chapters) but ignores green pivots: Grants for FOG tech, free low-income pumps like Big Island's. Redirect CIP to resilience (sea-rise buffers), not corp bailouts. Host ohana hui, expand CARES to 100% AMI—vote NO, reinstate surcharges, probe ENV like HART!

E nā aloha i ka pono, this is our mana rising: Bill 59 feeds the beast devouring our paradise. Reject it, amend for polluter penalties, and forge free ʻāina flows. Join Ohana Unity's blaze—weekly Spaces for kākou's revolution. Mahalo nui for this

Kingdom's unquenchable roar; e ola mau ka Mokupuni, unbroken!

In ferocious sovereign rage and eternal ‘ohana solidarity, e ku‘i!

Master Shelby "Pikachu" Billionaire, HRM

Kingdom of The Hawaiian Islands, H.I.

Ohana Unity Party, Chairman

www.Ohanaunityparty.com

OhanaUnityChair@gmail.com

Facebook @Keiki'okalani

Instagram @Ohanaunityparty

IG @Legendarybillionaire

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BTC Wallet 1sRfKDphW18hojoyTQVy9qQVSUtQgahYwj

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jacob Wiencek	jacob.m.wiencek@pm.me	96815
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Sep 28, 2025 @ 07:41 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Councilmembers,

Bill 59 is an appropriate compromise between the competing environmental and business demands our city faces. I urge the Council to SUPPORT this bill!