



LATE TESTIMONY

April 6, 2015

TO: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

FROM: Whole Foods Market
Claire Sullivan, Hawai'i Coordinator, Purchasing & Public Affairs

DATE: Tuesday, April 6, 2015

TIME: 1:15 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 229

RE: HB770

POSITION: Support

Whole Foods Market strongly supports HB770. The purpose of this measure is to expand the current law that allows for the sale of growlers at brew pubs and small craft producer pubs to allow for the sale of growlers at all liquor retail establishments and restaurants. It will also allow brew pubs and small craft producer pubs to sell different brands of beer in growlers.

The advantages to this bill are manifold. First, the use of growlers reduces reliance on single use glass and aluminum containers because growlers are reusable. Second, consumers will benefit from an expanded selection of draft beer and the convenience of purchasing growlers for consumption at home. They will also be able to try limited-release beers that are not available in cans and bottles, including those produced by local craft brewers. Third, this will contribute to the growth and expansion of the local craft beer industry. Finally, it will increase business for retailers, restaurants, brew pubs and small craft producer pubs, which will in turn provide employment opportunities in the State of Hawai'i.

Whole Foods Market is a proud partner of the craft brewing industry, including local craft brewers in Hawai'i. We look forward to being able to offering fine beer in growlers at our stores in Hawai'i, as we do at stores in other communities around the country.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.