



COMMENTS ON COUNTY OF MAUI'S PROPOSED POLYSTYRENE BAN



Lynn Dyer
Maui County Council Meeting
May 8, 2017



ABOUT FPI

- Established in 1933
- Only industry trade association in North America solely focused on all single-use foodservice packaging products
- Members include:
 - Converters and their raw material and machinery suppliers (approximately 90% of the industry);
 - Foodservice distributors and operators



IMPACT ON HAWAII FOAM PRODUCTS

- Manufacturing facility on Oahu, along with K. Yamada Distributors
- In business for over 50 years
- Has contributed \$millions to economy through payroll and taxes
- Employs ~100 people



MOST ALTERNATIVES WILL NOT BE RECYCLED OR COMPOSTED

- Recyclables:
 - Only recyclable alternatives are PET and aluminum (no paper, polypropylene)
- Compostables:
 - EKO Compost only accepts wood and yard waste (no compostable cups and containers)



SCOPE OF BAN

- Definition of “food service container”
 - Clear that it includes cups, containers, dinnerware, trays
- Definition of “polystyrene”
 - Not clear whether scope is rigid and foam polystyrene, or just foam polystyrene



COMMENTS ON MAUI COUNTY'S PROPOSED POLYSTYRENE BAN

WILL DO LITTLE TO REDUCE LITTER

Top 10 Items Collected in Hawaii (2015)

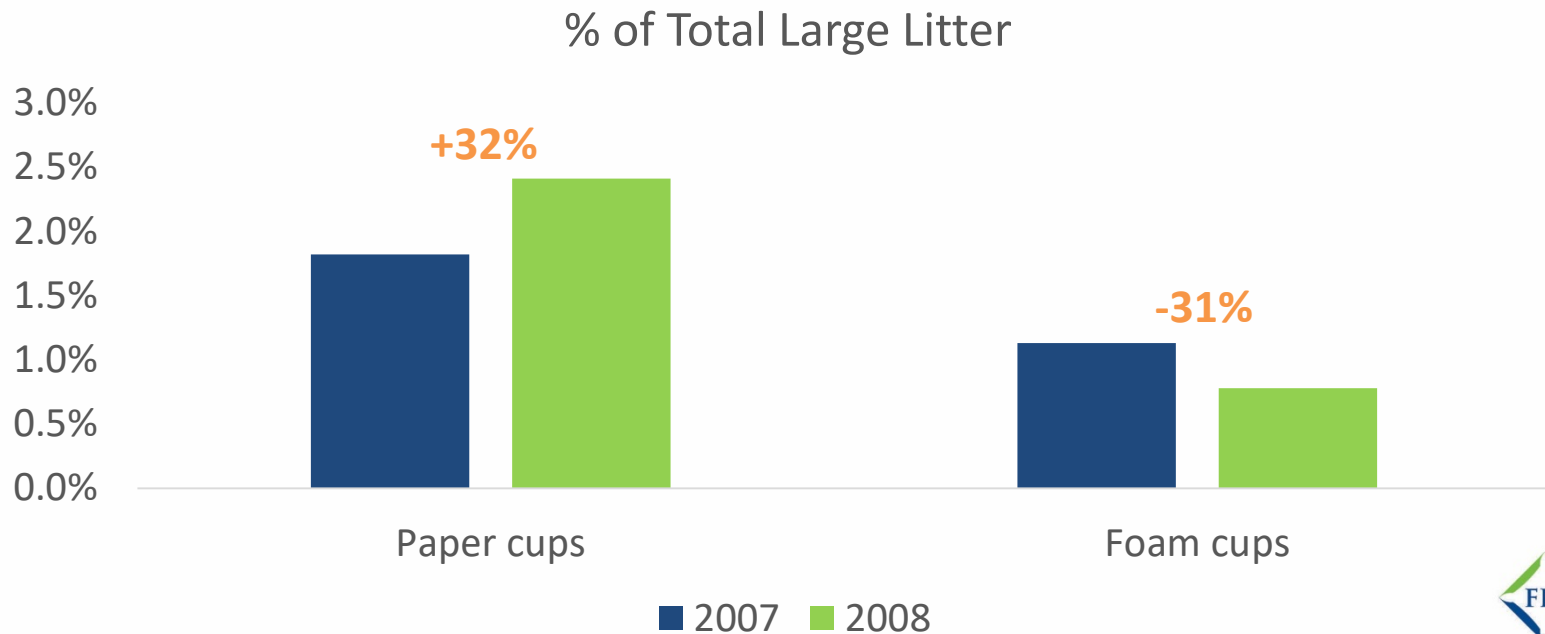


Source: Ocean Conservancy's Coastal Cleanup Annual Report (2016)



WILL DO LITTLE TO REDUCE LITTER

- Real-world example: San Francisco's litter audits, conducted before and after foam polystyrene ban



Source: City of San Francisco Department of Environment Litter Survey Report (2008)



LEARNING LEADS TO SOLUTIONS

- Where does litter come from?
 - Motorists (52%)
 - Pedestrians (22.8%)
 - Improperly covered truck or cargo loads, including collection vehicles (16.4%)
 - Improperly secured containers, dumpsters, trash cans or residential waste or recycling bins (1.5%)



LEARNING LEADS TO SOLUTIONS

- Why do people litter?
 - Personal choice: Most littering (81%) was committed "with intent" by the individual, e.g., flicking, flinging, or dropping.
 - Litter begets litter: Individuals are much more likely to litter into a littered environment.
 - Options to "do the right thing:" Availability of, proximity to and distance between trash and recycling receptacles.
 - It's "not my responsibility."

COMMENTS ON MAUI COUNTY'S PROPOSED POLYSTYRENE BAN

MORE EFFECTIVE LITTER REDUCTION SOLUTIONS

- Consider a more comprehensive solution to litter by focusing on the real problem: human behavior
- Increase public awareness and anti-litter education efforts by engaging your citizens, visitors and businesses



MORE EFFECTIVE LITTER REDUCTION SOLUTIONS

- Increase the number of trash/recycling bins, carefully considering where to place them and what type of bins are needed (lidded!) and decrease the distance between them
- Use carts – not bags – for curbside collection of trash and recycling
- Emphasize litter policies (like Hawaii's Uncovered Truck Law) and consider stricter enforcement of existing litter laws



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

Lynn Dyer
President
Foodservice Packaging Institute
ldyer@fpi.org
www.fpi.org

