



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Testimony of Linda L. Smith
Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor

Before the

House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 12:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

SB 2833 SD1 Relating to Sustainability

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to voice concerns about SB 2833 SD1 that would establish a council and appropriate funds for implementing the 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Addressing and solving issues critical to Hawaii and the future of our way of life are at the core of Governor Lingle's initiative to transform our economy. That transformation cannot wait until 2050 and can only be accomplished if we concentrate our resources and efforts on specific projects with bold definable outcomes. Local and national events over the past few weeks point out the need to move decisively.

The provisions in this bill raise many questions. The Council is placed in the Office of the Auditor, an entity who has the specific statutory responsibility to perform financial and management audits. Yet the bill then moves the Council to the Office of Planning in July 2010. Why? Is it because this is near the end of Governor Lingle's second term? Is it because certain people want the Council to be outside the scrutiny and administrative controls of the executive branch?

The bill provides an unspecified sum for the Council and establishes an exempt position as the executive director. Already \$1.7 million has been spent on this project. Could this money have been better spent to create a wave action pilot project in Hawaii? Could this money have been used to purchase important agricultural lands currently up for sale? Could \$1.7 million help restore the Kakala o Kamoia sacred site in Kona, sustaining and preserving this historic locale for future generations to come? Should these funds be used to help employees feeling the effects of the closure of Molokai Ranch, Tropic Fish, or Weyerhaeuser Box Company? These are but four of numerous

specific projects and programs that would immediately and concretely help address energy, self-sufficiency, the cultural heritage of our state, and ease the dislocations occurring in our community.

The Governor's Office raises these questions because we genuinely believe it is time for action – not councils or words. The world is evolving rapidly; a bolder vision is necessary. As Professor J. W. Huston noted a few years ago, sustainability is akin to treading water to stay in place. I believe none of us want to spend the rest of our lives treading water or going backwards. We do want a better future for ourselves, our children, and those yet to be born.

How do we get there? The solutions are in front on us. Many have been proposed by the members of the Legislature. For example, enact legislation that provides Native Hawaiians, Kanaka Maoli, with \$200 million in assets to allow them to become masters of their own destiny, rather than delaying due to the concerns of a few. Enact legislation to set aside important agricultural lands that have been pending since our 1978 Constitution was changed. Enact a bill that allows quick, consolidated approval of renewable energy projects so that alternative power facilities are up and running without delays.

A recent People's Pulse poll concluded that for most of our citizens sustainability means being able to afford to stay in Hawaii. The Legislature still has the opportunity to address the high cost of living by enacting proposals for tax relief and tax refunds to working families. This Committee is acutely aware of the need to save our limited State funds for these activities that genuinely meet the needs our residents are coping with today.

In conclusion, we share the goal of solving the most fundamental issues that face our state in the 21st century, but we cannot wait to the middle of the century to get there and we need to use State, private, and non-profit resources to implement the many good ideas and immediate solutions that are right in front of us.



HAWAI‘I 2050 SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



Sen. Russell Kokubun,
Chair

TESTIMONY

To: The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair, and Members of the
Committee on Finance

From: The Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force

Re: TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 2833, SD1 RELATING TO
SUSTAINABILITY – Agenda #3

Date: March 26, 2008

Locale: Room 308

Aloha chair and committee members,

We, the members of the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force, support and endorse Senate Bill 2833, SD 1 which codifies the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan (Hawaii 2050).

Hawaii 2050 embodies the expressed thoughts, opinions and values of communities across our islands. The Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan is truly the “people’s plan.”

We believed steadfastly that the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan should reflect the will and sentiments of Hawaii’s citizens. Our outreach has been extensive and rigorous. Thirty-six meetings across the state drew thousands of residents. We conducted two statistically sound general population surveys. We met with county mayors, county council members, planning directors, policy makers, and experts, as well as dozens of youth, community, business, environmental, labor and other stakeholders and organizations.

In total, more than 10,500 residents provided input to Hawai‘i 2050. The Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force has learned that the overwhelming majority of people in Hawai‘i want a balanced approach to Hawai‘i’s future, where economic, social and environmental goals are in balance.

Our citizens inherently recognize that these three pillars of our society are interdependent. We want a vibrant, diversified economy; a healthy quality of life that is grounded in a multi-ethnic culture and Kanaka Maoli values; and thriving natural resources.

Hawaii 2050 achieves this. It has long-term goals for the future of our state that resonate with citizens. The plan has public policy recommendations and strategic actions to achieve the goals, and indicators to measure progress. The plan has priority actions that express the sense of urgency that citizens feel – they want action now. Hawaii 2050 has a mechanism for accountability – the Sustainability Council. A citizen-led body, the Sustainability Council will implement Hawaii 2050 and publish a public “report card” about sustainability.

Please vote for SB2833, SD1. Mahalo for your time.

Rep. Lyla Berg
Rep. Pono Chong
Ian Costa
Henry Eng
Sen. Mike Gabbard
David Goode
Marion M. Higa
Jeffrey Hunt
Dr. Karl Kim
Millie Kim
Keith Kurahashi
Brad Kurokawa
Sen. Ron Menor
Rep. Colleen Meyer
Keith Rollman
Dr. James Spencer
Jane Testa
Stacie Thorlaxson
Beth Tokioka
Sen. Jill Tokuda
Michael Tresler
Pamela Tumpap
Rep. Ryan Yamane

Date of Hearing: March 26, 2008

Committee: House Committee on
Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. No. 2833, S.D. 1(SSCR 2746), Relating to Sustainability

Purpose: Adopts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan; establishes a sustainability council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities; and appropriates funds to the sustainability council.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports S.B. No. 2833, S.D. 1. Addressing the steady deterioration of public infrastructure; the lack of affordable housing; the continued reliance on a service-based economy; the vulnerability of Hawaii in a volatile global energy market; the possible interruptions in travel and critical food supplies; the threats to fragile island ecosystems; and the ever increasing numbers of residents and visitors are critical to our future. The planning and action needed to sustain and contribute positively to the quality of life for Hawaii's current and future generations will be realized by establishing a commitment to lasting solutions that simultaneously address economic, cultural, and environmental concerns.

Adopting the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan, establishing a sustainability council, and appropriating funds for the creation of the sustainability council will move the State of Hawaii closer to a more sustainable state and will put Hawaii on the path to long-term prosperity in all aspects of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

HACBED

Hawai`i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development
677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 702 Honolulu, HI 96813
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Email info@hacbed.org www.hacbed.org

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Adrienne Dillard (O`ahu)
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Kukui & Gary Maunakea-Forth
(O`ahu)
WCRC/Mala Ai`Opio

Wayne Tanna (at large)
Asset Building Coalition &
Chaminade University

Rian Dubach (at large)
American Savings Bank

Tommy Otake (at large)

HACBED Staff

Robert Agres, Jr
Executive Director

Justin Fanslau
Associate Director

Larissa Meinecke
Public Policy Associate

John Higgins
Capacity Building Associate

Tony Hall
Administrative Manager

March 25, 2008

Committee on Finance

March 26, 2008 at 12:30 p.m.

Conference Room 308

SB 2833 SD1 - Support

Dear Chair Oshiro and Committee Members

The Hawai`i Alliance for Community Based Economic Development (HACBED) is submitting testimony in support of **SB 2833 SD1** which adopts the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

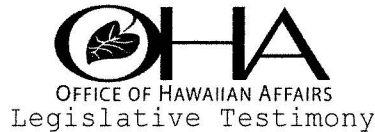
The Hawai`i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED) is a statewide 501(c) 3 organization established in 1992 to address social, economic, and environmental justice in Hawai`i through community-based economic development; and seek to help strengthen the voice and actions of Hawai`i's families and communities so that they have the choice and control they need to become self-sufficient and resilient.

HACBED supports the efforts outlined in the Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Plan to produce a long-term plan and take action on Hawai`i's future. We are encouraged by the momentum of the sustainability plan and ask the legislature to strongly support the continued efforts of the sustainability project.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

Bob Agres
Executive Director



SB 2833 SD1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
House Committee on Finance

Date: March 26, 2008
p.m.

Time: 12:30
Room: 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** S.B. 2833, which would adopt the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan and establish and fund a sustainability council.

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainable Plan, which was developed through several, intensive and collaborative efforts, shall serve as a long-range sustainability planning guide for the State of Hawai'i as well as measure the State's progress in meeting its sustainability goals and objects. This legislation takes seriously the work of the various working groups that developed this plan, and recognizes the immediate need to address long-term planning for sustainability in the State of Hawai'i due to the demands of population and development growth.

OHA notes that S.B. 2833 will set the pathway to long-range sustainability planning in a manner that incorporates Kanaka Maoli sustainability principles and values, such as the "Ahupua'a" management system. In 2007, OHA, representatives of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and other Hawaiian organizations and individuals joined efforts to share Native Hawaiian concerns with the 2050 Sustainability Task Force (Task Force). This joint effort formed a Kanaka Maoli working group to review the Draft Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan and develop recommendations in response to Kanaka Maoli concerns. In its efforts, the Task Force responded to the Kanaka Maoli working group's recommendations and incorporated many of them into the final Task Force report. The Kanaka Maoli group found this opportunity to be an important step to assure Hawaii's resources are protected and sustained for future generations.

OHA respectfully reminds the Committee that the State has a Constitutional responsibility to "conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all natural resources, including land, water, air, minerals and energy sources All public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of the people." (Hawai'i State Constitution, Art. XI, Section 1). Passage of this bill would be a good faith effort by the Legislature to the public that Hawai'i's Public Trust natural resources will be protected and perpetuated using precautionary methods. As such, it

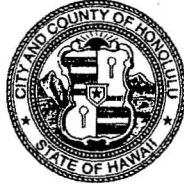
also meets the needs of OHA's beneficiaries and the State's Constitutional obligations to Native Hawaiians, because the State also has a Constitutional responsibility to "protect all rights, customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence, cultural and religious purposes" possessed by Hawaiians. (Hawai'i State Constitution, Art. XII, Section 2). These cultural rights and practices are predominantly reliant upon the sustainability of Hawai'i's natural resources.

OHA urges the Committee to PASS S.B. 2833. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



HENRY ENG, FAICP
DIRECTOR

DAVID K. TANOUE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 26, 2008

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance
House of Representative
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

**Subject: Senate Bill 2833, SD1
Relating to Sustainability**

The Department of Planning and Permitting **supports** Senate Bill 2833, SD1, which adopts the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, establishes a sustainability council, and outlines implementation strategies.

As a member of the Hawaii Sustainability Task Force, I have been impressed with the outreach effort that helped to shape the recommendations reflected in Senate Bill 3822 SD1. I also appreciate the respect given to county home rule concerns in the many discussions over various sustainability issues, such as population distribution and land use patterns. The Task Force committed itself to collaborative, inclusive solutions, rather than "top down" edicts. Thus, as an example, the proposed Sustainability Plan and Mayor Mufi Hannemann's 21st Century Ahupua'a Principles complement each other.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 2833, SD1.

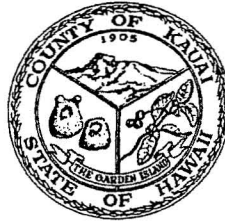
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Eng", is written over a horizontal line.

Henry Eng, FAICP, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

HE: jmf
sb2833sd1-kh.doc

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4396 Rice Street, Room 206
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TESTIMONY OF COUNCILMEMBER JAY FURFARO
KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON

S. B. NO. 2833 SD1, HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
House Committee on Finance
March 26, 2008
12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:


Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony as an individual member of the Kauai County Council in support of S.B. No. 2833 SD1, which implements the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan by establishing a Sustainability Council and appropriates funds to the Sustainability Council.

The Hawaii 2050 Task Force spent two years soliciting and evaluating the attitudes and desires of the people of our State about our collective, long-term future. The Task Force reached out to Neighbor Island residents, including the people living on Kauai. The ideas expressed in the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan resonate with what our constituents want for our shared future: a diversified economy, a stronger education system, more recycling and waste diversion, and independence from imported oil through renewable energy.

The Sustainability Council, a key part of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, is needed to ensure accountability and implementation as no one wants another plan that sits on a shelf.

The recommendations of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan are sound and should be adopted into law. For those reasons, I humbly request your favorable support of S.B. No. 2833 SD1.

Sincerely,



JAY FURFARO
Councilmember

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**TESTIMONY OF THE
COUNTY OF KAUAI
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Līhu'e, HI 96766
Tel (808) 241-6390

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, March 26, 2008; 12:30 pm
Conference Room 229

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2833 SD1, RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIR MARCUS R. OSHIRO AND COMMITTEE
MEMBERS:

My name is Beth Tokioka, Director of the Office of Economic Development, testifying as a member of the Hawai'i 2050 Task Force.

As a member of the Task Force I strongly encourage you to support this measure. The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is the combined effort of thousands of residents throughout the State of Hawai'i. The Task Force took great care to insure that the desires of the people of Hawai'i were strongly represented in this plan.

We greatly appreciate your past support in providing the funding that allowed the Task Force to do the necessary outreach, research and due diligence that resulted in the creation of the H2050 Plan. Now, adoption of the Plan and creation of the implementing mechanism is critical to the success of the efforts of the past two years. Using the Plan as a guiding document, and providing a Sustainability Council with the resources to educate and track progress of its stated priorities, we can move strategically closer to sustainability in the decades to come.

The Legislature has shown great leadership in making the development of the H2050 Plan possible. Please continue to support this effort as we collectively seek to put these important initiatives into action.

Your favorable consideration of this measure would be greatly appreciated.





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www.hgea.org

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Finance

Testimony by
HGEA/AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO
March 26, 2008

**S.B. 2833, S.D. 1 – RELATING
TO SUSTAINABILITY**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO, supports the intent of S.B. 2833, S.D. 1, which adopts the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and establishes with funding a Sustainability Council.

While we support the basic need for a sustainability plan, and the importance of a sustainable future, we have several concerns regarding the current language contained in S.B. 2833, S.D. 1. If the Sustainability Council is to be a long-term entity, it is inconsistent to appoint employees who are exempt from civil service (Chapter 76, HRS) and who could be replaced as administrations change. Historically, there has been a problem of inequities between exempt and civil service employees. Therefore, as a matter of policy, the HGEA does not support legislation that creates new exempt positions.

We request that the bill be amended to reflect the employment of civil service employees within the Sustainability Council. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director

Personal Testimony Presented before the
House Committee on Finance
March 26, 2008
12:30 p.m.
by
Dr. Andrew G. Hashimoto

SB 2833, SD1, Relating to Sustainability

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Hashimoto, and I serve as Dean of the UH Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I am pleased to provide personal testimony on Senate Bill 2883, SD1, which adopts the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan; establishes a Sustainability Council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan and activities; and appropriates funds to the Sustainability Council. This testimony is presented from the perspective of the dean of CTAHR and an ex-officio member of the Board of Agriculture. It does not represent the position of the University of Hawai'i.

I support SB 2833, SD1.

Much has changed in the three decades since the first Hawai'i State Plan was developed, from population growth and aging to technological advances, geopolitical circumstances, and new social and environmental challenges. The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan provides a framework for addressing vital quality-of-life and public policy issues, including land and water use, energy, public infrastructure, economic development, transportation, education, the arts, and health. Adoption of the plan will put into place goals that reflect the needs of our citizens now and in the future: a sustainable way of life; a diverse and competitive economy; responsible use and protection of natural resources; strong, healthy, vibrant, and nurturing communities; and thriving and enduring cultures. Establishment and funding of the Sustainability Council will facilitate the development of effective strategies to attain these goals.

CTAHR is committed to providing an excellent education for our students and fostering a diverse and vibrant economy, a healthy environment, and thriving families and communities for Hawai'i. The future envisioned in the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan—a sustainable economy, a sustainable environment, and sustainable communities—mirrors CTAHR's mission, vision, and strategic plan, and our college stands ready to assist this vital effort to shape sustainable state policies for the next forty years and beyond.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



Hawaii Farm Bureau
F E D E R A T I O N

2343 Rose Street, Honolulu, HI 96819
PH: (808)848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921

March 26, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 2833
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Oshiro and Committee Members:

My name is Alan Takemoto, Executive Director, of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, which is the largest non-profit general agriculture organization representing approximately 1,600 farm and ranch family members statewide.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF) strongly supports SB 2833, which adopts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and establishes a sustainability council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan and activities.

The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force, which was created to review the Hawai'i State Plan and other fundamental components of community planning, and to develop recommendations on creating the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, has developed a comprehensive sustainability plan that provides a definition, recommendations, guiding principles and Hawai'i's vision for sustainability.

Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers have always understood the importance of a sustainable Hawai'i. One of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan's intermediate goals is to "**Increase production and consumption of local foods and products, particularly agricultural products**". The HFBF firmly believes that this goal, along with the other goals listed in the plan need to be achieved before Hawai'i can truly be sustainable. The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan provides the framework, guidance and vision for a sustainable Hawai'i.

The HFBF commends the Task Force on their efforts in developing the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan.

We urge your support and passage of this measure. Thank you.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2833 SD 1 Relating to Sustainability
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 12:30PM, Room 308

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawai'i's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i supports S.B. 2833 SD 1 Relating to Sustainability.

The health of Hawai'i's unique but threatened natural resources directly affects our economy and quality of life. Residents and visitors alike are awed and inspired by the Hawaiian Islands' natural wonders. Beyond breathtaking beauty, these resources provide essential natural services that make life possible in the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean. From native forests that give us fresh water, erosion control, and cultural treasures, to abundant coral reefs that provide food, recreation, and protection from storms, we all depend daily on nature to sustain us.

Now more than ever in the past, we have come to appreciate the importance of balancing environmental protection with the obvious need to maintain a vibrant economy that supports and does not threaten the needs of future generations. The Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan provides a strong foundation, guiding principles, and strategic actions to help guide us toward the Hawai'i we all want for ourselves and future generations. The proposed sustainability council is an appropriate next step to lead the implementation of the plan and hold us accountable to achieving the goals set out in the plan.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER IS PLEASED TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 132 OF 1970 WHICH CREATED THE CENTER. AUTHORS ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.

RL: 2204

SB 2833 SD1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

House Committee on Finance

Public Hearing – March 26, 2008
12:30 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 308

by

Mary Tiles, Department of Philosophy and Chair of the UH Sustainability Council
Peter Rappa, Environmental Center

SB 2833SD1 enacts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan, establishes a sustainability council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities and appropriates funds to the sustainability council. We emphasize that our testimony on this measure does not represent an official position of the University of Hawaii.

It is clear that the state needs to plan for the future. Not only does it have to deal with the problems of an aging infrastructure, it also needs to plan seriously for adapting to the sea level rises that are the near inevitable consequences of global warming. There are opportunities here for visionary planning and development, but many dangers if a short-term, temporary fix and muddle through posture is adopted.

The creation of the Hawaii 2050 task force was a bold move; its plan the product of an extensive and open statewide consultative process. It seems to us that the legislature, as part of keeping faith with the public participants and their trust in our democratic processes, needs to find a way to move the broad outlines of the plan forward. This legislation would appear to be a way of achieving that objective and should be supported for that reason.

An important feature of this bill is the creation of the Sustainability Council. In the past, plans were promulgated but never implemented. One reason for this was a lack of a champion, therefore no one pushing for full implementation or calling for necessary changes. The Sustainability Council will coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and its related activities and will be the champion for the plan. This bill also appropriates money to fund the Council's work.

For administrative purposes, the Council will be housed in the Office of Planning which is under the Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism. We are not sure that this will give the Council the visibility it will need to be effective. In implementing the 2050 Sustainability Plan, the Council may have to require state agencies to reconsider current business practices; a task that will be difficult if the Council is under any one agency. We suggest the Legislature consider

THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER IS PLEASED TO SUBMIT THIS TESTIMONY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 132 OF 1970 WHICH CREATED THE CENTER. AUTHORS ARE MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.

housing the Council in the Office of the Governor or elevating the Office of Planning to cabinet level. This would give the Council more clout with state agencies when trying to implement the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.



**The Chamber of
Commerce of Hawaii**

Since 1850

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2833, SD1 RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jim Tollefson and I am the President and CEO of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber"). The Chamber supports SB 2833, SD1, but believes the Sustainability Council should serve an advisory role only.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1100 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business," The organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

SB 2833, SD1 adopts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan. It establishes a sustainability council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities. It also appropriates funds to the sustainability council.

The Chamber supports the need to focus on the future and create an environment in Hawaii that provides a certain quality of life for the next generation of Hawaii residents. We participated in the process of developing the 2050 Sustainability plan, and support the need for continuing this process. In regards to the Sustainability Council, however, The Chamber believes that the Council should serve an advisory role only.

Therefore, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii supports SB 2833 SD1 provided that the above is taken into consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



FIN Committee
For hearing on Wed, March 26, 2008
12:30 pm
2 copies to room 306

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

March 25, 2008

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TO: Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
And members of the House Finance Committee

FROM: Debbie Shimizu, LSW, Executive Director
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

RE: SB 2833 SD1 Relating to Sustainability- **SUPPORT**

Chair Oshiro and members of the House Finance Committee, I am Debbie Shimizu, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawai'i Chapter. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of SB 2833 SD1 to adopt the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability plan and establish a sustainability council.

I participated in the community meetings and was involved in providing comments to the draft plan specifically regarding the goal to establish a community that is strong, healthy, vibrant, and nurturing, thus providing safety nets for those in need. I am pleased to see this goal included in the plan for 2050. A community, whether now or in the future, **must** take care of those in need.

I provided comments regarding the sustainability council to the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing Committee that were incorporated into the Standing Committee Report No. 2455. I feel strongly that since this is a plan for the future, our children's future, they need to have a strong voice on the council. They should be the one's planning for the kind of community they would like to live in. Currently the council allows for "at least one public member to be a representative of the State's youth population under twenty-five years of age". I would encourage more than one representative from the youth group. The committee report encourages the council to appoint more youth representatives in each of the six areas on the advisory committee. We must begin to develop our youth to be the leaders of the future and we can start by welcoming them to the table, giving them a voice and listening to what they have to say.

I strongly support SB 2833 SD1 and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The Pacific Resource

PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of
C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 26, 2008
12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308

SB 2833 SD1 Relating to Sustainability

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor management consortium representing the Hawaii Carpenters Union and more than 220 signatory contractors.

PRP supports the intent of SB 2833 SD1 – Relating to Sustainability.

PRP has monitored and participated in the formulation of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan, a two year comprehensive effort that included extensive community input.

PRP has always supported a sustainable economy that provides meaningful employment and income to Hawaii's working population. PRP is mindful of the weakening of several sectors of Hawaii's economy that is reflected in the state's revised council of revenue projections.

As envisioned, PRP believes that the stated concerns of key county stakeholders can and should be addressed by this legislative body as it judiciously deliberates on this vital piece of legislation.

PRP appreciates the opportunity to voice its support for the intent of SB2833 SD1 and respectfully petitions this legislature to address the concerns voiced about SB2833 SD1.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment during your legislative deliberation.



KSD HAWAII
8 KIOPA'A STREET, SUITE 201 • PUKALANI, HI 96768
PHONE: (808) 572-3011 • FAX: (808) 572-8378
WWW.KSDHAWAII.COM

March 24, 2008

The Honorable Representative Oshiro, Chair, and Members
Committee on Finance
State Senate, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Menor and Sakamoto and Members:

**Subject: Senate Bill No. SB 2833 Relating to Sustainability
Hearing March 26, 2008, 12:30pm, Conference Room 308
Agenda #3, Item #2**

Testimony Via Facsimile Only (1-800-535-3859)

My name is David Goode and I had the pleasure of serving on the Sustainability 2050 Task Force, and I support the passage of SB2833.

This legislation will allow the State of Hawaii, through a Sustainability Council, to monitor progress made on sustainability related initiatives and practices so that our children's children will have the opportunities to live and work in our State as we would want them to.

The time to start preserving our resources, our culture, and our economy through the Sustainability Council is now – and start taking the steps that will be needed year in and year out to ensure, as best as we can, that progress towards sustainability in the private, public, and non profit sectors will be made in a continuous, proactive manner.

Mahalo.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Goode", written in a cursive style.

David Goode
President, KSD Hawaii

Committee on Finance
Hearing
Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 308



Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Testimony on SB2833, SD1

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

My testimony is in SUPPORT of SB2833 SD1. My name is Lynn McCrory and I am the President of PAHIO Development, Inc. We are a locally owned and operated time share development company on the island of Kauai.

SB2833 SD1 adopts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan. It provides for sustainability Council to coordinate, implement, measure, evaluate the progress of the 2050 plan, and funds the Council from the general fund. It provides funding for the Council to operate.

The bill provides for a large listing of what is to be done by the Council through its Executive Director, and provides multiple committees that would certainly work on the work to be completed. It appears that the Council has advisory authority only, and that if needed, decision making authority will be given in a later period by the Legislature.

I humbly ask for your consideration to SUPPORT SB2833, SD1. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana
With warm aloha,

PAHIO DEVELOPMENT, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn P. McCrory", written in a cursive style.

Lynn P. McCrory
President

(Page 1 of 4: Summary)

Written Testimony Only
SB2833, SD1 Agenda #3
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008
By Patrick M. Walsh, Endemic Farmer
Hilo, Hawaii

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 12:30 P.M. Conference Room 308

Chair Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro and Members of the Committee,

Thank you very much for allowing me to testify on **S.B. 2833** which establishes a new department of planning and sustainability. I **oppose** this measure and offer the following comments.

The S.B. 2833 misrepresents the community and promotes a government position of 'system preservation' for Hawaii's corporations and institutions.

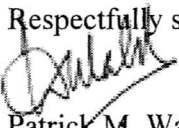
I feel that this proposed 'Sustainability Council' is an excellent idea for a group of stranded participants on an episode of 'Lost'! However, as it happens, our state has an elected legislative body which by the magic of democracy has done an excellent job of sustaining our great state of Hawaii. The challenges of our future are in good hands already.

The premise of establishing a "report card" for the lawmakers efforts is okay. I can also support an establishment of statewide district Sustainability Councils that can coalesce communities resources and prepare data for elected officials to consider in the ongoing task of governing the people.

I support any measure that has merit for the benefit for tomorrows generation. However in light of the methodology used by the Hawaii 2050 Task Force to support S.B. 2555 - urge you to consider a future that engages the citizens rather than manipulates them.

I pray that the Finance Committee will hold SB2833 and demonstrate to the great state of Hawaii efficient government by the modeling of sustainable practices.

Respectfully submitted by:


Patrick M. Walsh
Endemic Farmer
Post Office Box 10277
Hilo, Hawaii 96721
808 966-7814

Written Testimony Only
SB2833, SD1 Agenda #3
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008
By Patrick M. Walsh, Endemic Farmer
Hilo, Hawaii

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 12:30 P.M. Conference Room 308

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan misrepresents the community and promotes a government position of "system preservation" for Hawaii's largest and oldest corporations and institutions.

The Sustainability Council will by its unnatural involvement in Hawaii's economy create barriers and cause harm to the future development and global integration of our unique and fragile socio-economic identity. The presumption that a few political appointees can direct all aspects of life for the promotion of a better future is flawed thinking and bad planning.

The whole premise of this effort from the onset was the manipulation of the future for the financial stability of the states largest and oldest enterprises. Referred to as "the team" the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability author the Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs. Further, from the onset the composition of this "extensive community outreach" precluded the current and on-going executive administration from edification, and disregarded their current initiatives on social and economic matters.

I participated in one community facilitated input meeting held in Hilo. There were about 60 citizens (unaffiliated with the Hawaii 2050 organization) in attendance. The views and concerns expressed at this meeting are not accurately represented in S.B. 2833

The claim on the summary page that: "More than 10,000 residents participated in and responded to Hawaii 2050." Could very well be true however the final draft is not reflective of this magnanimous regional and implied representative participatory claim. With out merit this implied "voice of the people" is erroneous.

In addition it seems to me that the forming of one all mighty Sustainability Council is a wasteful layer of bureaucracy; an example for the future, of a protectionist law, that manifests and gives authority to a quasi-government council funded exclusively by the tax payer for the benefit of status quo. Establishing such a unique entity will translate to the global business community that Hawaii has already selected the future for the benefit of its past.

This proposed Hawaii 2050 Sustainability council by nature is an excellent idea, for a group of stranded participants on an episode of "Lost." However, as it happens, our state has an elected legislative body which -- by the magic of democracy -- has done an excellent job sustaining our great state of Hawaii. The challenges of our future are already in good hands.

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan committee's initial task was ballooned into a three year multi million dollar production which by it self inflating nature, has adopted a reflective position that embodies antidemocratic leanings in its design.

(Page 3 of 4)

Written Testimony Only
SB2833, SD1 Agenda #3
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008
By Patrick M. Walsh, Endemic Farmer
Hilo, Hawaii

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 12:30 P.M. Conference Room 308

The creation of a Sustainability Council and the myopic focus on benchmarks of the future is exactly the same thinking that was proven disastrous when we saw the 1997 collapse of the Asia markets. Not a single one of the 200 economists in the IMF and WBG who partook in the Asia Councils even hinted that the direction they created was absolutely flawed. The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Council is setting out to walk this same path.

The premise of establishing a "report card" for the lawmakers efforts is okay. I can also support an establishment of statewide district Sustainability Councils that can coalesce communities resources and prepare data for elected officials to consider in the ongoing task of governing the people. As it happens I can not see the good of this legislation. House Bill 2590 and SB2833.

I applaud the earnest work the cross section of our citizenry put into the Hawaii 2050 Plan. I accept the discussion was lengthy and for the most part complete. The break out scenario focus groups provided venues for fringe futuristic fantasies. However the main focus of the Draft Plan 2050 remained consistent from the onset: System preservation.

The public media, grand ballroom stage lights and special effects for the public unveiling of the Draft Plan 2050 gave many of us a sense of being part of "history in the making." The cross references to former Gov. Ariyoshi's own Hawaii Plan complete with young "future leaders" taking the stage was a typical full swing Hawaii Democrat Party "incumbency marketing" campaign event.

The Draft Plan 2050 appears to be based on the fact that the current Hawaii is in perfect social and economic condition. This is the basis on which Draft Plan 2050 goals were made. Once the public input is complete the 2008 Hawaii legislators will make specific laws that serve as directives for the purpose of providing direction for Hawaii's next generations. I am not comfortable with this.

I think the Draft 2050 Plan is nice concept and should remain for future generations to read and muse over. I don't think it has enough merit to provide today's public servants with concurrence for a Hawaii 2050. Further, the strength of all good forecasting is in the analytical data drawn from real science -this report is supported by none.

The Draft Plan 2050 could have served a single goal and made more sustainable sense: "The focus of our generation for the future is that Hawaii's public servants strive everyday to encourage the full potential of her citizens' health, wealth and happiness." Today's goal for tomorrows Hawaii.

Written Testimony Only
SB2833, SD1 Agenda #3
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008
By Patrick M. Walsh, Endemic Farmer
Hilo, Hawaii

Wednesday, March 26, 2008 12:30 P.M. Conference Room 308

In addition I am convinced that all sincere planning the future requires that the expression of "attainability" be plastered all over it. To achieve a future Hawaii that benefits all her citizens public policy ought to be impartial and well-organized.

Today we have so many examples of our public policy shortcomings. Homelessness, gender inequality, racial discrimination, over development and environmental decay to bring up just the most pressing. The list is long. I say lets put on a follow up Hawaii 2050 road show and solicit a honest discussion as to how we can "do good for tomorrow".

Community strengths like family, church and school are fast becoming anomalies. I think that today we owe our citizens a honest forecast of where this great State of Hawaii is heading in the next 5 years. We might be able to avoid further deterioration. I suggest a shift from this 2050 "innovative sustainability planning" to simple what's-up "fiscal sustainability planning." In closing it seems to me that today our federal government plays an ever expanding role. It is not hard to notice a build up of military.

The requisite for there to be resolution language initiated which satisfies our host culture government will be a major factor. For example; the reform of the public servants organizational makeup. Encourage the whole populace to encompass traditional cultural values. Such for example the piece of Aloha defined by the late Dr. George Mills "... relationships of a harmonious interaction with all things of nature-man included"

I am convinced that in order to get on with managing Hawaii today we need to consider the public service structure. Introduce work evaluation and work significance -- target training to certify the quality of the programs. -- Start tracking occupation with data driven decision making. Merge responsibilities. It is the undeniable future.

All progress should be weighed with consideration of a sustainable family. Post industrial society technology brought the whole world into our remote Hawaii hale. In just one generation we went from chopping down the sugar cane to down loading the world internet. I imagine this global society will demand from our public service sector a method of rapid response to public inquiry. A type of government for the people by the people. Some things (we trust) will never change.

Respectfully submitted by:


Patrick M. Walsh
Endemic Farmer

Post Office Box 10277 Hilo, Hawaii 96721 Phone: 808 966-7814



SB2833 SD1: RELATING TO Sustainability

DATE: March 26, 2008
12:30 PM, Conference Room 308

TO: Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

FROM: Lisa H. Gibson
President
Hawaii Science & Technology Council

RE: Testimony In Support of the Intent of SB2833 SD1

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Science & Technology Council (HiSciTech) supports the purpose and intent SB2833 SD1 relating to sustainability. HiSciTech further supports that the task force include representation specifically from Hawaii's science and technology industry. HiSciTech also requests that should such a task force be formed, that a preliminary report be submitted in 2009 prior to the 2010 session. Accordingly, we offer for the committee the following amendments for consideration:

- (1) With respect to the appointment of membership to the task force, we suggest the following amendment:
 - The task force shall consist of eighteen members to appointed as follows:
 - Three members appointed by the president of the senate.
 - Three members appointed by the speaker of the house;

- (2) In addition to the list of organizations in the bill, we suggest that the bill specifically include those economic development and industry groups on the front lines of private sector lead economic development initiatives which are already collaborating on a number of cross-cutting issues.
 - The Hawaii Science & Technology Council; and
 - A representative from the Economic Development boards (Hawaii, Maui, Kauai and Enterprise Honolulu on Oahu);

The Hawaii Science & Technology Council is a private tax-exempt 501(c)6 industry association with a 28-member board. The council serves Hawaii companies engaged in ocean sciences, agricultural biotechnology, astronomy, defense aerospace, biotech/life sciences, information & communication technology, energy, environmental technologies, and creative media.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Lisa H. Gibson
President

URGENT TESTIMONY FROM HILO, HAWAII
TO THE HAWAII FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: SB-2833
HEARING DATE: MARCH 26, 2008—AGENDA ITEM: 3

The following testimony is regarding the establishment of a *Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan* per **SB-2833**, under review on **March 26, 2008** under **Agenda Item Number 3** by the Hawaii Finance Committee of the State House of Representatives.

This testimony is from Peter Heffron, private citizen, resident of 95 West Naauao Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 Tel: 808-934-0527; e-mail: peter.heffron@gmail.com

I spent an extensive amount of pro-bono time in October and November of 2007 reviewing the "Hawaii 2050 Issue Book" and the "draft Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan" and providing detailed verbal and written feedback to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force, including, substantively, what follows.

SB-2833, which you are about to review, states, *These [sustainability] issues all raise questions about the long-term limits of growth in the State and motivate the need to begin planning and action to assure Hawaii's future.*

That statement in my opinion represents the bottom-line rationale for Hawaii's urgent need to have a comprehensive, long range sustainability plan, and is why **I recommend that the Hawaii Finance Committee of the State House of Representatives approve the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan per SB-2833.**

However, I do believe it is important that it be recognized by the esteemed members of the House Finance Committee that the Hawaii 2050 plan per SB-2833 **could and should be strengthened** in several areas, as follows:

Recommendations. The present Hawaii 2050 plan should, in my (Peter Heffron's) view:

1. Be considered the equivalent of an advanced concept paper, to be developed into a comprehensive operational plan within six months of approval by the Legislature.
2. Include a commitment to conducting a Hawaii 2050 baseline survey on each major Hawaiian island (i.e., each County), preferably employing the proven "ecological footprint" analytical approach. A sustainability analysis of the critical environmental, social-cultural, and economic trends facing Hawaii from 1950 to 2005 and projected to 2050, such as those related to population, food, soil and land, water, energy, pollution, and so on—would be predicated on the results of the proposed baseline study.
3. Both the *Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Council* and the *Advisory Committee* should be required to include permanent members with world class sustainability planning, system dynamics, and ecological footprint training and experience.
4. Modify, **FROM** (current wording in the Bill): **#8. Sustainability indicators: The council shall develop, utilize, and analyze sustainability indicators...** **TO** (hereby proposed wording), **#8. Sustainability indicators. The council shall adapt proven best practice sustainability indicators...**

Thank you for considering these suggestions. If any clarifications are desired, please contact me via telephone or e-mail.

Aloha,
Peter Heffron



Actus
Lend Lease

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Honolulu, HI 96813

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March 26, 2008

To the Finance Committee Chair and Members:

Re: SB 2833, Agenda Item #3

We support and endorse SB 2833, which codifies the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan (Hawaii 2050) and urge your adoption of this legislation. It is critical that the Sustainability Council be funded as soon as possible.

We participated in the events that created the plan sponsoring several Business Leadership Council meetings and we truly believe that the Hawai'i 2050 Plan embodies the expressed thoughts, opinions and values of communities across our islands. The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan reflects that the overwhelming majority of people in Hawai'i want a balanced approach to Hawai'i's future, where economic, social and environmental goals are in balance.

Our organization believes in this "triple bottom line" approach and recognizes the interdependence and importance of environmental, economic and social sustainability. This philosophy is embedded in all we do and we are listed on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. We are committed to being a leader in sustainable development with the goal of "creating world class communities that regenerate our environment, enrich people's lives and foster economic growth."

We truly believe this is an important journey for every one of us.

The 2050 Plan has strategic actions to achieve the goals, and indicators to measure progress. We are confident that the plan has priority actions that express the sense of urgency that citizens feel – they want action now—and are willing to be part of the solution. Hawai'i 2050 also has a mechanism for accountability – the Sustainability Council. The formation of the Council will assure that implementation of the plan is investigated, pursued and measured. All of these elements will help assure that the plan has a broad reach and a solid chance to deliver the goals and develop the visions so strongly supported by the residents of Hawai'i.

We hope you will consider our support for and endorsement of SB2833.

Mahalo!

Sincerely,

/s/ Bennette Misalucha Evangelista

Bennette Misalucha Evangelista
Vice President and Regional Director of Community and Government Relations
Actus Lend Lease

SB2833 SD1 Relating to Sustainability

Name: Tevis J. Foreman
1296 Kapiolani Blvd., E2008
Honolulu, HI 96814

RE: Testimony In Strong Support of SB2833 SD1

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

I, Tevis J. Foreman, a graduate student at Hawaii Pacific University am submitting testimony in strong support of bill number SB2833 – the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. As a global and more so local citizen, I believe it is imperative for Hawai'i to establish long-term policy which develops and sustains the unique cultural, economical and environmental systems of the Islands.

As the most remote chain of islands in the world, our fragile and finite systems require a mindful and precautionary approach to growth. As such, a council which recognizes the interrelationships amongst economical, environmental, and social values is essential to the HI2050 plan. The council should be required to coordinate, implement, measure, evaluate, and report the progress of the HI2050 sustainability plan.

With such unique eco – and economic – systems, if the negligence of our past continues we will face irreversible damage. Currently we are importing over 80% of our food and nearly all our fuel, of which approximately 95% is either coal or oil. 60% of our fresh water streams are considered 'impaired' by pollutants and we are rapidly exceeding our landfill capacity. According to independent estimates, approximately 5,900 high school students did not graduate in 2007 which ranks 41st in the nation. The lost lifetime earnings in HI of that class of dropouts alone exceed \$1.5 billion (H.R.282).

The reciprocal relationships are more dependent and recognizable now more than ever. Such knowledge requires action. The instability of one system ensures the fragility of another.

With an exponential growth in HI's population (which has doubled in the last ½ century) and increasing global economic and environmental uncertainties, it is evident that we must establish alternative, local, and sustainable initiatives. Hawaii, more than most, has the unique opportunity to be a global leader in sustainable development action.

In conclusion, I believe the HI2050 Sustainability Plan is a step in the right direction. To maximize effectiveness and efficiency, it is vital to establish a council/committee to define and execute objectives. I support the SB2833 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Tevis J. Foreman

FINTestimony

From: Sean McLaughlin [sean808@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 6:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: 3/26/2008 SB1789 Agenda #3

Testimony of Hawaii Consumers in Support of SB 1789, SD2 Relating to Cable Television Systems

Chair Oshiro and members of the Finance Committee -

Community access media, also known as Public, Education and Government or PEG access channels, provide diverse local people with an opportunity to have their voices heard. Free speech and expression, lifelong teaching and learning and uncensored civic engagement are among the key benefits of local, non-commercial, community access to next generation digital media.

Wisely following best practices, the State of Hawaii established independent non-profit organizations to manage cable franchise benefits - including channels, I-Net broadband networks, capital and operating funding for Public, Education and Government purposes. Each County has a separate local non-profit organization formed by the State DCCA to manage PEG for that County.

Keep in mind that 'Olelo, Akaku, Na Leo and Ho'ike were all created by the State to manage community access media development to benefit Hawaii's people.

Independent community access media are fundamental social infrastructure for a society that strives to provide "liberty and justice for all."

DCCA's mismanagement of cable franchise administration should not be an excuse for the State to intervene further and to exercise control beyond the duty to ensure transparent and accountable operations for PEG access.

Under the current State cable regulator, Time Warner has consistently benefited at the public's expense - and concerns have been raised about conflicts of interest between the State and Time Warner. This is not the time to give State more control of Hawaii's community access media!

Please support SB 1789 and make appropriate amendments to secure independent community media with local non-profit governance that is transparent and accountable.

At the same time, we recommend that the DCCA's cable TV division be subject to comprehensive fiscal and management audit to ensure that State regulation of Time Warner in Hawaii is not completely corrupt.

Sincerely,

Sean McLaughlin, spokesperson
Hawaii Consumers
t: 808-447-9610
c: 808-283-3174 (Maui)

3/26/2008

FINTestimony

From: Steven Wichilfil [wichilfi@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 7:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: 3/26/2008 SB1789 Agenda #3

Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2-RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha! My name is Steven Wichilfil and I support Senate Bill 1789 in regards to the exemption related to chapter 103D. I am currently working at Waianae Olelo Community Media Center. Olelo has given me the opportunity to work with students with disabilities on the Waianae coast, specifically with Waianae High School. Olelo programs give students with disabilities the opportunity to work with media, something they have not had access to before. Media and the opportunity given to students with disabilities enable them to express themselves and build self-confidence.

While working with these students, I have seen them develop confidence and self-empowerment. Some of these students and their community members never imagined the students were capable of completing high-level multimedia projects. But this opportunity shared with the students through Olelo has shown them that they are capable, competent and eager students. By exempting these organizations from chapter 103D, the senate is enabling organizations such as Olelo to continue working with the community and students with disabilities. This will empower and build self-confidence in students with disabilities, and will gain the confidence of community members. Mahalo!

Sincerely,
Steven B. Wichilfil
Assistive Technology Media Resource Coordinator, Waianae Olelo Community Media Center 2312
Lime St. Honolulu, HI 96826 Phone: 808-428-4872

FINTestimony

From: justinmaui@juno.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 9:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Email in support of SB1789 SD2

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice-Chair

House Committee on Finance (FIN)

Justin Breidenthal

March 26, 2008

Testimony in Support of SB1789, SD2 Relating to Cable Access Television.

My name is Justin Breidenthal and I am currently a resident of Kihei, HI. As a Maui County resident, I have witnessed Akaku's commitment to familiarizing members of the Maui community with the tools used in broadcast environments to create content for air on channels 52, 53 and 54. I have seen how easy they make it for nonprofits and others to make their public service announcements, thanks to its "hot" studio that accepts walk-ins on weekday afternoons. The audio/visual professionals they have on staff help teach Maui residents how to prepare and edit their video into a story that can be told on the air. And I have observed how they all wear multiple hats to ensure that they live up to their mission to ultimately empower the community's voice through access to media. These are services Akaku provides to ensure all residents the opportunity to exercise their important First Amendment rights.

Nonetheless, it seems that commercial entities have a hard time understanding the value of this community service, which is why I'm counting on the Hawaii State Legislature to do what is right for local access to cable television.

Senate Bill 1789 is important to me because I believe that PEG Access stations (as independent nonprofit organizations) should not be subject to procurement. A competitive sealed bid process would take transparent review and public input out of the picture. SB1789 would ensure that changes for PEG access would be decided in the open, before the public, and under financially reasonable conditions for PEG access. It would also create clear and minimal guidelines that protect the public's right to participate in deciding what kind of access organization and service we want.

I support SB1789 because it does not change the legislature's policy towards access organizations or access channels, and because it clarifies the legislature's policy for the agency and the public. I urge the Hawaii State House of Representatives to pass SB1789 SD2 as quickly as possible.

Mahalo.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha,

My name is Anela Casayuran. I am a senior at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School as well as an intern at Wai'anae 'Olelo Community Media Center. I am providing testimony in support of the Senate Bill 1789. I also feel that we should abolish the RFP. It is not what is best for the community.

'Olelo. The literal translation means 'to speak', which is exactly what it allows the population to do as a community access station and center. It is a place where the people of our state may voice their opinion without consequence, discuss problems unedited, and influence a cultural change or movement of their own. Imagine a world where no one could speak; a world without 'olelo; without a voice. How would such a suppressed society function?

'Olelo has provided me and many other youth with a paying internship, allowing us to help provide for our families and ourselves during such trying times. The internship has given us the chance to gain the experience that we need in pursuing a career that we would enjoy, not only in the media field, but in human relations, being an instructor to a group, as well as keeping us connected to our Hawaiian roots through class and dance. It was always said that 'Olelo is all about the experience, and they are true to their word. We are able to visit the capitol, develop relationships with our community and people of the senate through town hall meetings and performances of our Hawaiian dance, or hula, to our family and people our of state. This has benefited both the community and me because, whether we want to believe it or not, we are the future.

This center has also had a personal affect on me. A year before May 21st, my father had passed away after almost 52 years of life. His passing has been a hard one and really had an impact on me. If it had not been for 'Olelo Community Television, I would not have had the knowledge, equipment, or facilities to produce a video in tribute to how he had lived his life and share it with the community. Without 'Olelo, the voice of our great state would have been forced into silence. The goal of the RFP is to take away 'Olelo. When you do something like that, you are taking away the voice of Hawai'i. For the past 17 years, 'Olelo has been the only community access station, and during that time, many people have witnessed the increase in the community's involvement in many issues that we would have never known had existed before 'Olelo. This is why I support the Senate Bill 1789.

Sincerely,

Anela Casayuran

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha,

My name is Steven Kaeo Agustin Bersamin. I am a sophomore at Waianae high school and also an intern at Waianae Olelo community media center.

I am providing testimony in support of senate bill 1789. Part E of section 1, states "the designation of an access organization and the determination of requirements for a designation shall be exempt from chapter 103 D." Chapter 103 D, which is the procurement process, would have put Olelo into the bidding process, but this Senate Bill, 1789, will let Olelo be exempted from the bidding process because Olelo was something that didn't have anything wrong.

The Waianae Olelo community media center as well as the other Olelo community media centers around Oahu has done great things for their community. But not only the clients of the community were affected but the youth also had a big impact on their part of the community.

The Waianae Olelo community media center has motivated and influenced me drastically with their year-round internship and Summer Media Enrichment Program. I was in the S.M.E.P. back in 2006 and ever since then I have been an intern for Olelo for about 2 years now

This program has taught me many things. It has taught me to get more in "tune" with my Hawaiian values and culture. This program has also helped me to be connected with my family more and to share with them what I was taught. Olelo has also helped me with my education because if I had Homework or project that had to be finished I can get it done at Olelo. During the S.M.E.P. It also helped me to get on touch with my Filipino and Chinese side as well. Being in the year-round internship program it made me become more social with the outside world and get to network with adults and youth like me.

So, in conclusion, I will say to you now that I will one day say to my future generations that I am in support of this bill because it will not change the reputation that Olelo has all over Oahu and that future generations may become a part of this program and experience the same kind of things that I went through. Therefore, I support this bill so that Olelo can continue its program for the future and I may see other rise above expectations and succeed. Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely,

Steven Bersamin

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha,

My name is Thorne-Michael Kahele-Fontanilla. I am a senior at Nanakuli High School and an intern at Waianae Olelo Community Media Center. Working as an Intern, I've truly been able to reap the benefits of Community Access which is why I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1789. The amendments provided in this bill make me feel ecstatic because it gives Olelo Community Television a chance to either maintain or compete for the designation of overseeing community access television.

My hope is that the designation of overseeing Community Access Television goes to Olelo because I, like many others, have truly been able to benefit from the various enrichment programs provided by Olelo Community Television. I've also seen how Olelo has help shape and influence communities in the best way possible. It has been the only source of *true* Community Access that we've known and hope to see it continue.

Personally, the program has taken me to heights I've never thought possible. I went from being a social outcast, to a social genius. I can now get along with everyone I meet but it wouldn't have been possible without the program. I went from practically a high-school dropout, to a student with plans of going to college and pursuing a career in teaching. Without the program I don't what I would be doing, where I would be, or where I was going. This is why the Community Access I know would and could greatly benefit teens and community members like me for generations. Once again, I write this testimony in favor of Senate Bill 1789.

Thank you,

Thorne-Michael Kahele-Fontanilla

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

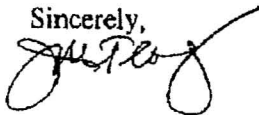
Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha, my name is Jean Teo-Gibney. I am a resident of the Wai'anae Coast, and have been using Olelo's facilities and resources for PEG access since May of 2004. Since that time I have seen many changes, amongst those was the initiative Olelo as a whole, but most especially Olelo Waianae, took to be more responsive to the communities it serves. They did this by participating in the community growth and planning, and not just being a passive resident.

The most notable changes came when Olelo began to include more 'social' programs such as the Summer Media Enrichment Program. This program itself proves that Olelo as the current PEG access provider truly accomplishes the mission of a PEG access provider, plus goes that extra step to be part of solutions to challenges and issues in their communities. This is fair and takes into consideration the welfare, needs and economics of the public. It also takes into account the social well-being of the people who purchase cable access and their families.

Exempt PEG access from the procurement process and designate the access organization according to their suitability, track record, compatibility and responsiveness to the people. There is really only one organization that fits the bill, and that is Olelo Community Television.

Sincerely,



Jean Teo-Gibney

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair

Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008

TIME: 12:30 P.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 - RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha. My name is Randolph Manewa, Sr. and I am a new client to Olelo along with my wife, Candace. We have only recently begun to make use of the resources made available to us the public through Olelo, but we have already learned to appreciate so much. It is a blessing to know that our communities have access to equipment and facilities as well as training to use the equipment through a competent and trustworthy organization such as Olelo.

Since we have become clients we have learned so much about why we have the resources we do and how some of these resources actually came to be in our community. Only because the current access provider, Olelo, had the vision and consideration for the people did they think to bring community media centers out into the communities instead of just having one location and waiting for people to come to them. For a "corporation" to understand the challenges facing the 'average' citizen and make adjustments to meet those needs is an exceptional thing; for a corporation to actually make those adjustments by committing money and other resources can only be described as 'aloha'.

How can that be put to bid? How can a monetary value be placed on something so intangible yet have such an impact on lives? It cannot. Public access should not go to the best bid, but instead be given to the most responsible and qualified organization that has a reputation of integrity, responsiveness, passion, 'pono' and 'aloha'. Do the right thing and support Bill 1789, exempt PEG access and designate Olelo once again as the best qualified organization to carry forward Oahu's PEG access.

Sincerely,



Mr. Randolph Manewa

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha! My name is Steven Wichifil and I support Senate Bill 1789 in regards to the exemption related to chapter 103D. I am currently working at Waianae Olelo Community Media Center. Olelo has given me the opportunity to work with students with disabilities on the Waianae coast, specifically with Waianae High School. Olelo programs give students with disabilities the opportunity to work with media, something they have not had access to before. Media and the opportunity given to students with disabilities enables them to express themselves and build self-confidence. While working with these students, I have seen them develop confidence and self-empowerment. Some of these students and their community members never imagined the students were capable of completing high-level multimedia projects. But this opportunity shared with the students through Olelo has shown them that they are capable, competent and eager students. By exempting these organizations from chapter 103D, the senate is enabling organizations such as Olelo to continue working with the community and students with disabilities. This will empower and build self-confidence in students with disabilities, and will gain the confidence of community members. Mahalo!

Steven Wichifil
Assistive Technology Media Resource Coordinator, Waianae Olelo
Community Media Center

2312 Lime St.
Honolulu, HI 96826
Phone: 808-428-4872

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

My name is Pastor Sally Jane Amina and I have a program on Channel 52 with Olelo called, "Have Faith In God." As a community member I am grateful to be able to use the facilities and equipment available to us, as well as take advantage of the ever-present assistance by staff, interns, volunteers, clients and others. It was not always like this.

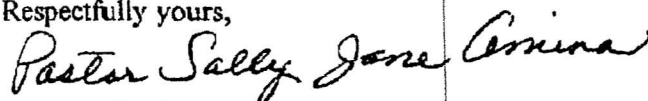
In the beginning – before Olelo as the current PEG access provider, when my husband and I first started our program in 1989 we had to go all the way to town in order to make a 15 minute program every week. After a time we went to the old Sony to record our program, which was scaled down to only 5 minutes, and then after a couple of months we went through technology classes to learn to use the camera equipment as well as attend a producer's course. In order to become licensed we had to complete a project as a class. Once we were licensed we were able to borrow the equipment and do our own taping; however, we did still have the challenge of traveling to town every week, having to find a place to do our filming at, returning equipment back to town and doing our editing in town, too. By this time we were able to do a 30-minute program each week.

I share all of this with you so that you know I understand the value and importance of PEG access and having the right provider in place. PEG access cannot only be about programs, although that is the medium we use as the voice of our community, but PEG access must also be about building and nurturing a community and all the relationships within it.

That is why I support Bill no. 1789, because although the director will still be responsible for designating an access organization and the requirements it must meet, it also states that the 'terms and conditions upon which requirements for the designation is provided are fair to the public, taking into account the geographic, topographic., and economics of providing cable access in the service area.' (Section 1.c.)

Also, I believe that PEG access and the designation of its provider should not be based upon the best bid, but upon the best qualifications of the access organization to meet the needs of the community, the goals set for future growth as well as to provide the necessary facilities, equipment, training, support and fellowship between staff and volunteers that best serve the needs of the communities PEG access exists in. (Section 1.e.)

Respectfully yours,



Pastor Sally Jane Amina
808-696-1790 (for further contact)

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 – RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha Senators Nishihara, Mercado Kim, Tsutsui, and Trimble:

My name is Kawika Nahoopii, I am the Manager of the Olelo Community Media Center at Wai'anae and most importantly a resident of the Wai'anae coast community. I ask for your support of Senate Bill 1789 – Relating to Cable Television Systems. This bill will keep the procedure for designating PEG access organizations and its' requirements essentially the same as it has been for nearly twenty years.

This process has allowed Olelo Community Television to develop and respond to the needs of the many diverse communities on Oahu. The people of the Wai'anae Coast have greatly benefitted from Olelo's wisdom with making PEG services more accessible by placing a Media Center not only in the Wai'anae, but also in five other communities with the hope to open more. Olelo responded to the community's need with providing services, training and equipment to youths.

Olelo not only responds to the public sector, but partners with the Government sector by providing coverage of Neighborhood Board meetings, Town Halls, discussion programs for elected officials, and of course coverage of various meetings and sessions of the Legislature and the Honolulu City Council. Olelo has responded to the needs of the Education Sector by partnering with schools throughout Oahu. Nearly all of Olelo's Media Centers are located on school campuses. This allows Olelo the opportunity to engage school aged students in many thought provoking activities and projects that impact their lives and community, such as littering, recycling, the environment, social issues, cultural events, government and civics, like Capitol Commentary.

It's not that I'm opposed to a procurement or a bidding process for contracts that seek to provide a specific service such as construction of a building or a road. An RFP process for Community Access Television is inappropriate for prescribing the somewhat intangible needs of unique and diverse communities that exists throughout Hawaii nei.

Olelo is about you, me, and community. It's about the world in which we live. Let's keep it the way it is, because it is working successfully for all communities. Support Senate Bill No. 1789.

Mahalo,



Kawika Nahoopii
knaoopii@olelo.org

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 - RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha, my name is Ka'imi Dung, and I am a Wai'anae community resident, a business owner, and an active community events coordinator. I urge your support for SB 1789, Relating to Cable Television Systems.

Olelo Community Television is very important to our community. It is doing what their jingle says "building community" through the children, the youths, the adults and the kupuna. One shouldn't mess with something that is working very well.

Like the saying goes, "don't fix it, if it's not broken." Pass SB 1789, and you'll be doing the right thing.

Mahalo,



Ka'imi Dung
84-1200 Mauna Ola Street
Wai'anae, HI 96792
Ph. 696-7998

**Testimony on S.B. 1789 SD2
Relating to Cable Television Systems
House Committee on Finance
Keali'i Lopez, President and CEO of 'Ōlelo Community Television
March 26, 2008**

Representative Oshiro, Representative Lee, Members of the House Committee on Finance. Aloha. I'm Keali'i Lopez, president and CEO of 'Ōlelo Community Television, and I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 1789.

The Bill authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) to designate public, educational and governmental access organizations (the so-called "PEGs") according to standards that will be established through Chapter 91 rulemaking procedures, and with advice from the Cable Advisory Committee. The Bill expressly exempts the PEG designation from Chapter 103D – the State Procurement Code. 'Ōlelo strongly supports this change, for reasons stated publicly and frequently for the past two years.

We acknowledge that open competition for the majority of government contracts promotes the public's interest by ensuring fair prices and preventing preferential treatment of contractors. However, we believe—and the Legislature has acknowledged—that the application of the Procurement Code for some services can injure the public's interests. The administration of PEG access services is just such a service.

To summarize:

If you distill the essence of our services, you will find that PEG access services organizations exist to enable people to exercise their First Amendment rights. Some fundamental benefits from the exercise of such rights are that the members of the community become empowered, diversity

is promoted, and communities are strengthened. PEG access services and their benefits are not something that can be and put out to bid, or something for which performance standards can be effectively written. For this reason, we have consistently maintained that the PEG access services contracts should not be subject to competition under the Procurement Code.

The DCCA itself recognizes the unique nature of the PEG access services and the fundamental difference between these and other services contracted by the State. This is demonstrated by the DCCA's request for an exemption for PEG access services contracts almost two years ago on the basis that a competed contract would be neither practical nor advantageous to the State. Public testimony on the issue was strongly in favor of an exemption. However, the State Procurement Office denied DCCA's exemption request.

'Ōlelo and others also submitted petitions to the State Procurement Policy Board for a determination that the PEG access organizations were properly exempted from the application of the State Procurement Code. 'Ōlelo's petition demonstrated that a competed contract for the administration of PEG services is clearly impracticable and certainly not advantageous to the state, in large part because PEG access services are so complex and include intangible community benefits that cannot be quantified. More than 100 members of the public testified in support of 'Ōlelo's petition, expressing their concerns that under a competed contract, the critical First Amendment freedoms and community-building benefits of PEG access services would be lost. The Procurement Policy Board, while it denied 'Ōlelo's petition, recognized that community-building is a critical component of our services and noted that a Request for Proposals should include community-building as a requirement under a competed contract.

Unfortunately, however, this has not happened, and community-building seems to have been forgotten somewhere along the procurement process.

We respect the best efforts of the procurement professionals who have tried to fit the PEG access services into the narrow procurement mold. However, their efforts have failed. The State issued two separate drafts of a Request for Information for the PEG access services before issuing the final RFP. Both drafts contained many flaws and neither addressed community-building. Likewise, the State's final RFP, which was issued in July 2007, is faulty in many respects. 'Ōlelo's protest to the RFP, which is pending, identifies a number of critical legal deficiencies. I will mention only two of those deficiencies here: first, that the RFP contains no recognition of the critical community building aspect of the PEG access services, and second, that the RFP identifies no performance standards whatsoever. We believe that these deficiencies demonstrate our point: that the PEG access services are not appropriate services for the application of the Procurement Code's competitive processes.

'Ōlelo does not support an exemption in order to get a "free ride". In fact, there is no guarantee that the DCCA will continue to designate 'Ōlelo – or any other organization – to provide PEG access services, even in the absence of a competed contract.

In addition, 'Ōlelo is already accountable to the DCCA under comprehensive oversight provisions in the current PEG access services contract. The DCCA accountability relates primarily to the general management of the PEG access services and monitoring of the administration of the PEG access funds by the providers. The DCCA does not, however, restrict or control the services that the PEG access organizations provide to our clients, including the public – as it should not.

Instead, we have the flexibility to adapt or respond to changing communities' needs; to introduce new technologies that meet those needs; and to determine, based on our collaborative relationships with our diverse clientele, how to best provide the PEG services in each community.

Although we welcome the necessary accountability to the State, we desire an exemption because we fear that this flexibility will be lost under a competed contract.

Senate Bill 1789SD2 provides significant additional accountability by requiring that the DCCA establish its standards for designating the PEG access organizations through Chapter 91 rulemaking. It also provides for further input into the designation process by expanding the role of the Cable Advisory Committee. These provisions will make sure that the designation process is transparent, objective and fair.

All of us – the Legislature, 'Ōlelo, the DCCA, and clients of PEG access services – have the same goal: to provide access to the members of all of Hawai'i's communities, regardless of the content of their messages, so that their voices can be heard.

We believe that Senate Bill 1789SD2 is the best way to meet this goal, and that a change to 440G to exempt PEG access services contracts from Chapter 103D is justified. We hope that you will support the bill.

That concludes my testimony. Thank you for your time and attention.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
DATE: Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 12:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

Support of SB 1789, SD2 -- RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.
(SSCR2728)

Aloha,

My name is Jeremiah Gene Wilkerson. I am a senior at Waianae High School and also an Intern at Waianae Olelo C.M.C. I am in support of Senate Bill 1789 because this bill is very important to my colleagues. Without Olelo I would be in drugs and other illegal activities such as drinking, smoking marijuana, going with my friends to the street races, chicken fighting, and hanging out with the wrong crowd. Then I join Waianae Olelo. I change a lot by stop hanging out with the wrong crowd. I stop going to chicken fights. I slowly stop drinking and stop going street races and stop smoking marijuana and such illegal activities. I now enjoy free diving riding dirt bike fishing and just spending time with family and my new friends. Since I have stop all the bad things in my life I meet a special girl that I enjoy being with. I love what I have become and I would never change my ways to go back how I was before. I would like to say a special thank you to Waianae Olelo gang for all ways being there for me and much mahalo for helping me change my ways. Without the Waianae Olelo and if I did not change. I would be in jail or not dead. Since I have change my life around .I have over come some of my fears like being afraid of the computer and speaking in public .so with that. I have to say a special thank you to Waianae Olelo.

FINTestimony

From: D. V. Shaw [diana.shaw@hawaii-sbdc.org]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2008 10:36 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SB2833, Date of Hearing: March 26th, Agenda Number 3
Importance: High
Attachments: image001.gif

I am providing written testimony only – I urge you to support this bill. Our community and our Islands as a whole need to position ourselves to ensure that we live and plan for the future. The 2050 Hawaii Sustainability Plan, if written into law, will provide us with the pathway and guidance to be successful. The future and health of our Islands are depending upon your support. Diana Shaw



H. Prater
H. Prater
H. Prater
H. Prater

FINTestimony

From: Al Beeman [albeeman@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 8:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In favor of SB2833 SD1 March 26 2008 Agenda #3

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am strongly in favor of SB2833 SD1 and urge you all to pass this bill and work to see that it gets enacted in this session.

The work done by the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force has been outstanding and inclusive of all the many viewpoints and ideas about the future of Hawaii Nei.

I think that adopting the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and establishing the Sustainability Council will prove to be the most important work the Legislature does this year.

As energy prices rise you can see every aspect of our cost of living become less and less affordable. Almost everything comes here by freight from somewhere else and those freight costs seem to be rising almost daily. \$4.00, \$5.00 even \$6.00 gas seems likely. The price of everything seems to go up with it exception our salaries and pensions. **Auwe!**

Our income depends so heavily on tourism and most of the Visitors come here by plane. But fuel costs are destroying airlines everywhere, including Aloha Air here at home. It is only a matter of time before it will be too expensive for many of our tourists to fly so far for a vacation. There goes much of our income. **Auwe!**

Then there is the damage we our doing to our planet. Global warming! Wasteful use of water. Pollution of land and sea. Over-fishing. **Auwe ho'!!!!**

We really need to start paying attention to our future if we are to have one!

More than any other state we are isolated and so dependent on oil and goods from somewhere else. We must change to a sustainable lifestyle or our paradise will become very difficult and even more expensive place to live.

We are blessed with many potential energy sources: wind, solar, geothermal, wave and even ocean temperature difference but we are not using them to their full potential.

We are also blessed with great weather for crops and the production of sustainable construction materials, food and fuels.

What we need is a plan and an entity that encourages us to innovate and to conserve and respect our aina.

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and the Sustainability Council are need at this critical moment for the future of Hawaii. We cannot afford to ignore the situation any longer.

I urge you to pass and work to enact SB2833 SD1.

Me ka mahalo, (Respectfully,)

Al Beeman
Hilo

FINTestimony

From: Cory (Martha) Harden [mh@interpac.net]

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 7:12 AM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: SUPPORT SB2833 House Finance Com Wed 3-26 12:30 p.m. room 308

Dear Legislators,

Please support SB 2833 to adopt the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan into law. We can't continue business as usual with soaring oil prices and global warming. Mahalo! Cory Harden, Hilo



Cardax Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
99-193 Aiea Heights Drive, Suite 420, Aiea, HI 96701
telephone 808.457.1400 fax 808.297.5981

TESTIMONY

To: The Honorable Marcus Oshiro, Chair, Honorable Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance

From: David G. Watumull
President & CEO, Cardax Pharmaceuticals

Re: TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SB 2833 RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
House Committee on Finance
Agenda # 3
Wednesday, March 26, 2008
State Capitol Room 308 @ 12:30 PM

Date: March 26, 2008

Aloha chair and committee members,

I am David Watumull of Cardax Pharmaceuticals and I strongly support and endorse SB 2833 which codifies the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan (Hawaii 2050).

Hawaii 2050 embodies the expressed thoughts, opinions and values of communities across our islands. The Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan is truly the "people's plan."

I believe that the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan should reflect the will and sentiments of Hawai'i's citizens. Thirty-six meetings across the state drew thousands of residents. Two general population surveys were conducted. Everyone from county mayors to council members to planning directors, policy makers, and experts, as well as dozens of youth, community, business, environmental, labor and other stakeholders and organizations have been involved.

The overwhelming majority of people in Hawai'i want a balanced approach to Hawai'i's future where economic, social and environmental goals are in balance.

Our citizens inherently recognize that these three pillars of our society are interdependent. We want a vibrant, diversified economy; a healthy quality of life that is grounded in a multi-ethnic culture and Kanaka Maoli values; and thriving natural resources.

Hawaii 2050 achieves this. It has goals for the future of our state that resonate with citizens. The plan has priority actions that express the sense of urgency that citizens feel – they want action now.

Hawaii 2050 has a mechanism for accountability – the Sustainability Council. A citizen-led body, the Sustainability Council will implement Hawaii 2050 and publish a public "report card" about sustainability.

Please vote for SB 2833. Mahalo for your time.

Please accept this written testimony as I will not be attending in person.

Ravan Shelton
Kipapa St.
Mililani, Hawai'i 96789

My name is Ravan Kahokuokalani Shelton. I am a 14-year-old male, and I go to Mililani High School. I support the SB2833 Bill. My friends and I think this island is going to be overpopulated when we're older. If it becomes overpopulated then more land is needed, and more land gets taken away. I think that when I'm older I won't be able to own land because there'll be so many hotels. I think it'll be hard to find jobs, too. I already see it, but I think it's going to get worse. The more people that come, the environment gets damaged, too. I think that we should keep it green and keep our island's beauty the same. I've never left this island, and I think living here is all I need to do to be okay. This is my home. I hope that my voice helps make a difference, and that this bill will keep our islands green.

FINTestimony

From: Dana Beatty [danarobbin@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 10:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB2833, March 26, agenda 2

kamaile napoleon <hawaiianhoneyaz@hotmail.com> wrote:

From: kamaile napoleon <hawaiianhoneyaz@hotmail.com>
To: dana <danarobbin@yahoo.com>
Subject: Here is my testomony for the Sustainability Bill
Date: Tue, 25 Mar 2008 02:00:03 -0700

Dana,

Here's my testimony. Hope that it will get us far.

Mahalo,
Kamaile

Jeanna Kamailelani Napoleon
430 Keoniana Street
Honolulu, HI 96815

My name is Kamaile Napoleon, I am 21 years old and I attend Kaimuki Adult School. I support the SB2833 bill. I was born and raised in Waimanalo, Hawai'i. I lived in the puuohunua o waimanalo the sovereign nation. We lived off the land, growing our own food, working in the kalo patches, taking care of the fields, getting fresh water from the mountains. I grew up in a community that was started from nothing. We had to clear our own land to build our homes, we grew our own food, and we built the roads in our new land. Living off of the land meant that we respected it, and were mindful to keep growing in a way that it would still provide for us in the future. Since we are an island, it is important to treat the earth with care. Our philosophy was that we were living off the land, but we were also contributing back.

In the beginning, we started from scratch and every week we'd have a meeting and sit together and talk about how we wanted our village to grow. For us, it was important to keep our culture alive and live in the old Hawaiian way. When we talked about our future, we talked about keeping our culture alive so that our children and our children's children will know what it means to be Hawaiian. Preserving the Hawaiian culture is important for several reasons.

Hawai'i is the only place that has our unique culture. The islands are full of the aloha spirit, and we connect on a level I have never seen in another community. Being surrounded by Hawaiian culture makes me feel at home. After traveling around the US, I've come to realize our culture is unique and it makes me want to preserve it that much more.

I believe in keeping tradition. I want to know how my tutu's grandparents and their

grandparents lived, and I want my children and their children to know as well. I don't want our beautiful heritage to die, and I feel like it is.

I support the SB2833 bill because I think that sustainability in Hawai'i, in all aspects but especially for the Kanaka Maoli and environmental reasons, needs to be addressed. We cannot abuse the earth. We cannot lose our culture. And I believe that the 2050 Sustainability plan, and the Sustainability Council, will be a good first step towards preserving these things.

I lived on the mainland for a short time, and while there people wanted to talk to me about Hawai'i. At first, people who'd traveled here told me that they loved it, not only because of the beauty of the land, but mostly because of the aloha spirit. The Hawaiian community showed them so much love that it made them want to visit again, and it made me proud. Over the years, though, the story changed. In the last few years I've heard more people say that it's become just another big city. They didn't experience the same spirit, and some were even frightened to walk down the street. It made me embarrassed and disappointed because it's not the Hawai'i I know. I know that my people have more to offer. We're turning our heaven into another big city America.

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FINTestimony

From: Chuck Prentiss [prentissc001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 10:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Rep. Marilyn Lee
Subject: Testimony In Opposition to SB2833

Testimony In Opposition
SB2833, March 26, 2008
12:30 PM, Room 308, Agenda #3

Written testimony of Charles A. Prentiss, Ph.D
President, Hawaii's Thousand Friends

We feel that this bill will do more harm than good, and that it does not meet the requirement of the State constitution to preserve agricultural land. The problem stems from the provision in (Act 183, 2005) HRS 205-49 (para 3) that allows up to half of important agricultural land to be converted to rural or urban use. This bill will enact the financial means to do that. You cannot preserve important agricultural land by allowing half of it to be developed for urban use.

We suggest that this bill be deferred, and that the provision in 205-49 be studied especially with respect to the constitutional requirement.

Thank you.

FINTestimony

From: Ben Robinson [metroben@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 10:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB2833 / 25 MAR 2008 / Agenda #3

ALOHA -

I am submitting written testimony only.

I am writing to express my support on Senate Bill 2833 (SB2833) regarding Hawaii 2050. For too long, Hawaii has been on a path of unsustainable consumption and neglect of the consequences that surround it which are beginning to show. SB 2833 provides a step ladder to fund a committee to begin moving Hawaii in the appropriate direction of a sustainable society. Please vote in favor of this bill.

Thanks!

Ben Robinson

Nauru Tower
1330 Ala Moana Blvd. #3207
Honolulu, HI 96814-4240
808-265-2657
metroben@verizon.net

FINTestimony

From: Dana Beatty [danarobbin@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 11:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB2833, March 26, agenda 2

Testimony in support of bill SB2833. Student would like to give in-person testimony, as well.

Chin Jonathan <jonathanrchin@yahoo.com> wrote:

Date: Tue, 25 Mar 2008 10:13:28 -0700 (PDT)
From: Chin Jonathan <jonathanrchin@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: testimony
To: Dana Beatty <danarobbin@yahoo.com>

Jonathan Robert Chin
2280 Kuhio Avenue #289
Honolulu, HI 96815

My name is Jonathan Chin and I'm currently a 27 year old graduate student at Hawai'i Pacific University. I am studying Global Leadership and Sustainable Development. As you can imagine, sustainability is something that I find very interesting and important. As a resident of Hawai'i, I think it's especially imperative for Hawaiian leadership to take a stance on this developing issue. Recently, we have all heard about the environmental issues, such as global warming, facing our planet today. However, the issues of sustainability extend far beyond green issues. By declaring sustainability an important issue to address, we are simply saying that the current systems that we employ are not sufficient for ensuring the continuation of future generations. I believe that Hawaii should take proactive measures toward the development of sustainable systems. It is not so much a matter of whether or not Hawaiians need to think about sustainability, but when Hawaiians need to start thinking about these pressing issues. It is inevitable that sustainability will be pushed to the forefront and will require a solution. A sustainability council would be the first in a number of steps that the state can use to meet this end. It also would allow Hawaii to be a front-runner in this growing field. There could be wonderful economic advantages as a whole

sustainability industry can grow here on the islands. In addition, Hawaii seems like the perfect place for this kind of development as resources are finite. All in all, taking the initial steps to a more sustainable future before it is a necessity would be a progressive and smart approach to the new conditions our world faces today and I urge you to act now by supporting the formation of a sustainability council.

Thank you,

Jonathan Chin

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**Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Conference Room 308**

March 26, 2008 at 12:30 p.m.

SB2833, SD1 RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kathryn Matayoshi, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Business Roundtable ("Roundtable"). I am testifying in opposition to parts of SB 2833, SD1 which adopts the Hawaii 2050 Plan and establishes a sustainability council.

The Task Force's efforts to reach out to the community and begin a very important discussion about our long term future is commendable. The Roundtable recognizes and applauds the effort and openness of the Task Force. The HBR further supports continuing the discussions that have begun amongst many groups with varying viewpoints about the hard questions and choices we face as a community.

However, we are opposed to parts of SB2833, SD1 for the following reasons:

- 1) We are opposed to the creation of a Sustainability Council. The Roundtable does not see a need for another government entity with oversight over a range of areas that overlap with existing jurisdictions of various state departments and agencies. Further, while the Council was described as "advisory" in prior meetings, the language of the bill ("coordinate implement, measure and evaluate") is not consistent with an advisory body. The Council also would have the power to "sue or be sued", which also contradicts the advisory nature that was described in earlier discussions. In addition, with the potential of a slowing economy ahead, the expense of a newly formed Council is not warranted particularly as the State faces competing demands for funding essential public health, safety, and education needs.
- 2) The plan, as set out by the Task Force, is not in the bill. The only portions of the plan are the guiding principles and the goals. The strategic actions and indicators are not in the bill and appear to be left to the Council to develop. (See page 7, lines 9-10; page 11, lines 18-20; page 13, lines 15-20.) It is unclear what the force and authority of the plan would be if not adopted by the legislature. The Council also has the power to amend the plan, but there is no provision for legislative oversight on the changes to the plan, which could prove to be major policy shifts that would seem to be the province of the legislature. It is also not clear what the roles of the various state departments vis a vis the Council would be where the authorities conflict.

If the strategic actions and indicators, as set out in the draft Hawaii 2050 plan, are to be adopted, then the alignment between the goals, strategies and indicators or measures needs to be reviewed, as they are not consistent and also may not be comprehensive. We will not address specific concerns in this testimony, as those provisions are not in the bill.

- 3) It is not clear if the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is to replace the existing State plan. The Findings and purpose section on page 3 imply that the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is a review of the state plan. There are many areas which are not covered by the draft Hawaii 2050 Plan, or are sparingly covered. It is not clear what impact the Sustainability Plan has on areas that are not covered, or where there may be conflict.

The above summarizes the concerns of the Hawai'i Business Roundtable in opposition to SB 2833, SD1. Thank you for your consideration.

HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

Gentry Pacific Design Center, Suite 215A
560 N. Nimitz Highway, #50
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
(808) 524-2249 - FAX (808) 524-6893

March 25, 2008

Honorable Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Honorable Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawaii State Capital
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN OPPOSITION OF SB2833, SD1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY
Hearing: Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 12:30 p.m.

Dear Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and the House Committee on Finance:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for the Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our Council is comprised of 16-construction unions and a membership of 26,000 statewide.

The Council OPPOSES the passage of SB2833, SD1, which enacts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan, establishes a sustainability council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities, and appropriates funds to the sustainability council.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in OPPOSITION of SB2833, SD1.

Sincerely,

William "Buzz" Hong

WBH/dg

FINTestimony

From: HGARVAL [HGARVAL@cfs-hawaii.org]

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 3:11 PM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: 3/26/2008 SB2833 Agenda #3

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am writing to ask for your support of SB2833 that enacts the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and ensures that something will happen by establishing a sustainability council that will "coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities."

A frequent regret about the last sustainability plan under Governor George Ariyoshi was that not enough was done to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan. I believe the sustainability council and funds to support it will ensure that this will not be a regret as we look back years from now. Too many Hawaii residents weighed in and contributed to the development of the plan, that it would be sad and a waste of all the efforts to not provide the structure and resources to ensure that the plan will be implemented, monitored, and evaluated.

Please support SB2833 and ensure real progress towards sustainability in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Howard Garval

Howard S. Garval, MSW

President & CEO

Child & Family Service

91-1841 Fort Weaver Road

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Phone: (808) 681-1418

Fax: (808) 681-1449

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FINTestimony

From: Kristine Castagnaro [kristine.castagnaro@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 1:50 PM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: SB2833, March 26th, Agenda Item #2

Dear Finance Committee,

My name is Kristine Castagnaro and I am a Nuuanu resident. I am also the mother of a beautiful 3 year old daughter and I want to ensure her future and my grandchildren's future will be secure in the beautiful land of Hawaii. I am writing on behalf of my support of SB2823 regarding sustainability.

A sustainable Hawaii would create a balance among economic, social, community and environmental priorities of the state. A sustainable Hawaii would strengthen public education so my daughter would receive the best education possible.

By establishing a Sustainability Council, the State could recognize the values and views of all stakeholders as it explores recycling, reuse and waste reduction strategies to protect Hawaii's limited resources.

Sustainability is a key to the successful future of Hawaii. I urge you to make sure future generations can share in the beauty of our land as we do. Mahalo.

Kristine Castagnaro

Testimony for SB 2833, 2050 Sustainability
Hearing on Wed, March 26, 2008, 12:30, room 308, House Finance

To House Finance Committee Chair Marcus Oshiro, Vice Chair Marilyn Lee, & members

From Pacific Gateway Center, Dr. Tin Myaing Thein, Executive Director

Pacific Gateway Center,* a private non-profit agency, is in support of SB 2833, and the general direction of this bill to create a more sustainability future for Hawaii.

Hawaii can and should be an example of sustainability. This 2050 sustainability effort can both help Hawaii and teach others outside of Hawaii what can be done and what cannot be done to create a more sustainable lifestyle within a thriving, modern, and increasing dependent world.

Doing nothing is not an option, just as trying to do everything is impossible. Doing small things to set an example and to find out what works can be a start to better sustainability.

Pacific Gateway Center has started two projects for a more sustainable Hawaii as part of its contribution to the larger issue and to get a jump-start into (hopefully) increasing efforts to develop a more sustainable Hawaii. The two projects in the planning and development stages are:

1. The Green Machine project to make a liquid fertilizer from organic waste products. Hopefully, this will decrease expensive importation to Hawaii of fertilizers as well as produce a more "natural" fertilizer.
2. The Recycle, Reduce, Reuse Plastic Project will collect, recycle, and reuse plastics by transforming them into plastic products by use of a special melting process. The project has both economic development and environmental benefits.

Both projects have dual aims, job/economic development and environmental, because Pacific Gateway Center feels that doing good things for the environment in and of itself is difficult to sustain on a long term or large basis without economic returns.

*The Pacific Gateway Center (PGC), established in 1973 by the Palama Council of Churches, is a 501(c)(3) private non-profit corporation, initially known as the Kalihi Palama Immigrant Center. The Immigrant Center was renamed to the Pacific Gateway Center in 1999 to emphasize the shift in its clientele from immigrants and refugees to low income residents in general. PGC's mission is to empower Hawaii's low-income residents, immigrants and refugees to achieve self-sufficiency through skill-building and access to opportunities while respecting cultural heritages.

FINTestimony

From: Barbara Blomgren [bablomgren@GirlScouts-Hawaii.Org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 4:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: 3/26/2008 SB2833 Agenda

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing this email on behalf of SB2833 for sustainability. My name is Barbara Blomgren and I am the Chief Capacity Building Officer for the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i. I am writing as both a resident of this beautiful state and as a professional working for a non-profit committed to the future of our youth.

Although I was not born here, I consider Hawai'i my home and care deeply about her future. I believe very strongly that it is up to us to do all we can to preserve the richness of our cultures and the beauty of our air, water, and land. In Girl Scouts we teach the concept...."leave a place better than you found it." We are the stewards of our home and it is our responsibility to not just care for our home now for us, but to also leave it better than we found it for future generations to come.

I believe the Sustainability Plan that has been presented by the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force charts the course however, as we know, the future is uncertain and there are things that may come to pass that we can not even dream of now that will require us to change our course. We must be ready and willing to do that...to seize opportunity and innovation to help us.

As a professional, working to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place, I have seen the power of the youth voice and their commitment to our planet. What concerns me is that many of them do not see themselves in Hawai'i's future. Many plan to go away to college on the mainland and stay because they can afford to buy a home and build the lives they have dreamed about. Many who plan to stay, say they stay because they cannot afford to go. We must work now to make life affordable, doable, and desirable for all our youth (regardless of their economic means). We must show leadership and hope to our youth.

The establishment of a Sustainability Council is the way, I believe, to not only manage our course but also to ensure that we don't miss opportunities to change if needed.

I urge you to fully support the Sustainability Plan and the creation of a Sustainability Council.

Mahalo, Barbara Blomgren

Barbara A. Blomgren
Chief Capacity Building Officer
808-675-5518
808-675-5553 (fax)
www.girlscouts-hawaii.org

Girl Scouts of Hawai'i (Headquarters) * 420 Wyllye Street * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817 * (808) 595-8400 Office * (808) 595-3006 Fax

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

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3/25/2008

FINTestimony

From: leona costa [leonacst@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 3:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Favoring of SB2833 SD1 March 26 2008 Agenda #3

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee & Members of the House Committee on Finance,

Please vote in favor of SB2833 SD1 as I urge all of you to pass this bill & work to see it definitely gets enacted in this session.

At this critical time, the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan & the Sustainability Council are strongly needed for the future of Hawaii.

PLEASE PASS SB2833 SD1.

Mahalo

Leona Costa
P.O. Box 495
Pahoa, Hi 96778

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FINTestimony

From: Laraine Heirakuji [Laraine@auw.org] on behalf of Susan Doyle [su@auw.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 3:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: 3/26/2008 SB2833, SD1, 12:30 p.m., Agenda #3

March 25, 2008

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

SB2833, SD1, Relating to Sustainability – Written Testimony in Support
Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 12:30 p.m., Agenda #3

Aloha United Way supports and encourages your favorable consideration of SB2833, SD1, which proposes adoption of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and the establishment of a council to oversee the state's progress towards sustainability.

The process that the legislative Task Force employed in creating the plan was inclusive, and there is a great need for an integrated approach to improving the quality of life in Hawaii. Aloha United Way supports the vision of sustainability, the establishment of the council, and concepts included in the report, particularly those dealing with strengthening our social safety nets and our educational systems.

We urge the Committee to continue to move the measure forward. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Susan Au Doyle
President & Chief Professional Officer
Aloha United Way

Susan Au Doyle
President & Chief Professional Officer
Aloha United Way
Phone: 808-543-2200
Fax: 808-543-2222
E-mail: su@auw.org

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3/25/2008

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FINTestimony

From: Pam Lightfoot Burrell [good.designworks@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2008 3:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 2833,3-26-08 #3

Finance Committee
House of Representatives.

Aloha,

I , personally, have become very familiar with the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability goals, having been apart of the task force here on Kaua'i and then on Oahu last year.

A lot of hard work, thoughtfulness and caring for our island has gone in to this effort. I feel it is very important to take these ideals on and turn it in to a reality, especially for the next generation. We, as adults, must give our children some hope for the future and leave them with a legacy to nurture.

Hawaii is a fragile gem on this planet earth. Long range goals to nurture the aina' should be foremost in the plans for Hawaii's future.
Please help make this a reality. Our future is in your hands.

Thank you for your consideration and the work you do.

Pamela Lightfoot Burrell

FINTestimony

From: JSteele [JSteele@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 9:13 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB2833, Hearing March 26, 2008 - Agenda #3

While I am an advocate of the Hawaii2050 initiative and participated in a number of the public activities, I haven't been convinced for the need of an organization under the Auditor's office. Why not locate the function in the Executive Branch? Many of the proposed indicators are tracked by DLNR and other departments. Why can't these be consolidated to a Sustainability web page?

James Steele
801 S King St PH07
Honolulu, HI 96813

FINTestimony

From: haikulani@gmail.com on behalf of Michael Foley [mfoley@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2008 10:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB2833 March 26, 2008 agenda #3

Aloha Finance Committee,

Thank you for accepting this written testimony in support of Senate Bill 2833, which adopts the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan into law. I have been following the development of the 2050 Sustainability Plan since its beginnings and I feel that the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force has put together an excellent document to help guide Hawaii to a sustainable future. I urge you to support the 2050 Plan because it offers us a means for us to judge how well the state is moving towards becoming economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. If we want to preserve the beauty of our Hawaiian culture and environment in this era, then we need to support these sorts of sustainability efforts.

Mahalo,

Michael Foley
University of Hawaii

FINTestimony

From: Paul Brennan [drpbrennan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 7:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Mawaii Nui Marsh

More than ever before, Kawaii Nui Marsh is better known and supported not only by the people in Kailua but all over the windward side. Because it is our cultural KIPUKA, we must educate the younger generations and restore especially Ulupo Heiau and Na Pohaku, as well as the Maunawili Valley that gives it life. An advisory council is therefore absolutely necessary to give overall coordination and insight. We strongly support this bill.

Paul W. Brennan, Ph.D.

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FINTestimony

From: Windward Ahupua`a Alliance [info@waa-hawaii.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 11:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: SB 2833 SD1 - AGENDA 3

SUBMITTED BY:

Windward Ahupua`a Alliance

P.O. Box 6366

Kane`ohe, HI 96744

Phone: 808/247-6366; Cellular: 808/223-4481 or 224-4496

E-Mail: info@waa-hawaii.org

Website: <http://www.waa-hawaii.org>

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Marcus Oshiro, Chair

Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

PUBLIC HEARING - AGENDA 3

12:30 pm

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

Conference Room 308

SB 2833 SD1

STRONGLY SUPPORT

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

My name is Shannon Wood, *Interim President* of the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a 501c3 non-profit organization. Supporting **sustainability** is one of *WAA*'s key mandates as an organization.

Frankly, I was stunned that **SB 2833 SD1** was sent to five committees after *Crossover* especially given the thousands of hours and hundreds of thousands of \$\$\$\$ in creating the **Hawai`i 2050 Sustainability Plan**. I appreciate that this bill was re-referred to the **Finance Committee** and urge that you pass it along unamended for **Third Reading**.

I assume that the *Governor* will veto it since she doesn't seem to grasp the concept of **sustainability**, but there are certainly enough votes in the Legislature to override her veto.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide input on this critically important issue.

The Windward Ahupua`a Alliance works to educate & inform residents, visitors, businesses, policymakers, and the media about using Smart Growth planning principles which promote sustainability. These include: Designing long-term waste management systems; improving illegal dumping/derelect vehicle legislation & enforcement; developing & implementing comprehensive curbside recycling programs; providing research & support on public access issues; establishing both state

& county-level "legacy lands" funds to support affordable workforce housing initiatives and critical land purchases to protect against inappropriate development; creating alternative energy systems to reduce Hawai`i's dependency on fossil fuels & to mitigate the impacts of global warming; and, setting long-term watershed protection policies based upon ahupua`a concepts & principles.

FINTestimony

From: stacie thorlakson [stacie@thorlakson.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 9:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Testimony for SB2833

Aloha Chair Oshiro and Committee Members,

I, Stacie Thorlakson, a Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force Member provide written testimony today in support of SB2833.

First, I would like to recognize your committee and say Mahalo for all your hard work!

Second, with your support, the funds allocated for The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force over the year(s) we were able to develop a plan for the 2008 session, which has received many positive reviews and one that we should all be proud of its results! The plan is important because it stems from comments and actions from the hearts of our diverse community; it is the "People's Plan!" Now, more than ever, we need your support to approve the request of appropriate funds for the final phase of the plan, which is to implement a sustainability council!

Lastly, people and businesses today are finding ways to work together to make our islands more sustainable and self-sufficient for a better tomorrow! The timing is right, let's implement a sustainability council in order to set benchmarks and make the "People's Plan" a reality before and/or by the year 2050!

Regards,

Stacie Thorlakson
Hawaii 2050 Task Force Member
Maui County

FINTestimony

From: richard morse [rb_morse@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 11:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Re SB2833 __ testimony against --CORRECTION, please disgaurd earlier post

Testimony From Richard Morse;
 Regarding SB#2833, public hearing by House FIN committee, March 26--12:30pm--agenda #3.

In opposition of this legislation.

My Opinion: SB #2833 should be deferred by the House Finance committee at this time ; and that the "Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan" --as produced and published (February 11 2008) by the Hawaii sustainability task force-- should receive a careful review by an independent panel of experts at the University of Hawaii before this measure is adapted by the Hawaii State Legislature.

I am not an expert in Sustainable Development. However, the subject is of interest to me, and I have made a study of it in recent years...and in years earlier in my life. And, while I am only an amateur, I believe I have a pretty good grasp of the fundamental principals of modern sustainability theory.

Also, I have followed the HI 2050 task force process for the past year, as a member of the public; and have read the Sustainability Plan publications.

I. Based on this experience, I have reason to opine that the 2050 PLAN, currently before the House Finance Committee is not a suitable sustainability plan for Hawaii; and that it lacks the basic elements that should be included in any sustainability plan. For examples:

a) it makes no study of the concepts of "synergy" or "Ephemerization"--(the idea of '*doing more with less*')...each of which are fundamental principals of sustainable development;

b) The HI 2050 PLAN emphasizes a 'non-workable' model of sustainable development, called "the triple bottom line" model. This approach to sustainable development is increasingly rejected by modern sustainability theorists. It is replaced by a more comprehensive model that emphasizes the protection of the natural environment...above all other priorities. The 'HI 2050 Plan' makes no mention of this alternative model.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/05/23091323/4>

c) Even the basic definition of sustainability, in the 2050 PLAN is vague, confusing, carelessly worded...rife with bad grammar:

"... Thus, sustainability is defined as a Hawaii that achieves the following:

(1) Respects the culture, character, beauty, and history of the state' island communities

(2) Strikes balance between economic, social, and community, and environmental priorities;

(3) Meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

[I, for one, am reluctant to allow the fate of my grandchildren to be determined by a PLAN devised by a 23-member committee that--between them--is unable to put a clear definition on this 'basic objective', (or who, apparently, have trouble putting a proper sentence together)...even after two years trying.]

I could continue this critique--in more detail, but on such short notice, I will leave it at that.

II. The "Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan" is being solicited to the Legislature as "**the people's plan**". Based on my experience with the 2050 process, and observation of the numerous negative reactions from 'people' to the PLAN, I would hold that claim in question. e.g. Dave Shapiro, Honolulu Advertiser:
<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2008/Feb/13/op/hawaii802130373.html>

Have 'the people' really chosen the "triple bottom line" PLAN as the best path to sustainability?

Did 'the people' really suggest that a powerful, "quasi-governmental" Sustainability Council was the key to sustainability in Hawaii?

These, I think, are dubious claims, of which I would ask for better verification.

But just the fact that the PLAN has been 'so-recently published--in the peoples name--one would be justified to ask if 'the people' have had a reasonable opportunity to verify their authorship of the this document. I would say, "no". It has not been a FAIR period of time for 'the people' to review 'their plan'.

III. I am skeptical of the political process in which this legislation is being "rushed" through the Legislature. For example, on February 11th, SB#... was *passed* through the (8-member) Senate CPH Committee, on three 'Aye' votes; with three members absent...and one 'Aye'--with "reservations", ON THE VERY DAY IT WAS PUBLISHED!

I have to ask: "Is that normal legislative procedure?" Considering the significance of this PLAN, it seems kind of 'careless' to me.

Concluding.

As I say at the beginning of this testimony, 'I am no expert' on sustainable development; or, for that matter, on 'politics'. However, I am confident that there are enough 'questions' surrounding this legislation, and the HI 2050 Sustainability Plan", itself, to give pause before adapting the measure and making it LAW.

TO BE FAIR, though...to be FAIR to the Sustainability Task Force and their two years of efforts; and to be FAIR to 'the people' in whose name this PLAN is written and published; and to be FAIR to Hawaii State Legislators who bare the full burden of accountability for this PLAN; but mostly to be FAIR to the unborn generations, who are the focus of our Sustainability efforts; and the kekis, who are today-voiceless in this conversation...TO BE

FAIR TO EVERYBODY...

I would request and suggest A SECOND OPINION from qualified members of the academic community at the University of Hawaii; before this PLAN is adapted and passed into LAW.

Such authorities at the University of Hawaii, that are presently being assembled and commissioned by such legislation as HB#2510, might be just the people to examine the HI 2050 Sustainability Plan, with a proper, independent, two-year vetting; to see if it is a 'good' PLAN for Hawaii.

If, in 2010, these authorities report back that this PLAN is indeed a 'good' PLAN, then, go ahead and adapt it. In my unqualified opinion, that would be a FAIR course of action for everyone involved. All I am requesting is A SECOND OPINION.

Thank you for your consideration,
Richard Morse

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P.S. Note that notification of this public hearing, via the 2050 task force memo, arrived by e-mail, Mon, 24 Mar 2008 16:23:49 -0400 (EDT), allowing less than 24 hours to compose a testimony. Therefore this submission is late, by the given deadline March 25 at 12:30 p.m. This is typical of the rushed process this legislation is undergoing. It is also typical of the ongoing process that the task force has taken to develop this "peoples plan". If I were allowed to speak at this public hearing, I would. But since this testimony is 'late', I probably won't have the chance.

Thanks again,
R. Morse

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3/26/2008