

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 21, 2008  
9:30 a.m.  
by  
Dr. Andrew G. Hashimoto

SB 2833, Relating to Sustainability

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, 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, 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.

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.

**testimony**

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**From:** MKH [moeuhane@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 2:30 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Cc:** Lynette Ramos; Kekahuna Keaweii  
**Subject:** Testimony Opposing SB 2833

**THE SENATE  
 TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
 REGULAR SESSION OF 2008  
 STATE OF HAWAII**

February 19, 2008

**Senate Committees on: Ways and Means**

**Hearing Date & Time: Thursday, February 21, 2008,  
 9:30 a.m. (HST)**

**Attention: Chair: Roslyn Baker**

**Testimony Opposing SB 2833 - RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Aloha Chair **Baker and Members of the Committee**. My name is **Foster Robin Ampong** and I am testifying in **strong opposition** to **SB 2833** which seek to adopt The "Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan" because the language of this bill fails to properly identify, define and adopt the fundamental tenets of the Ahupua`a Lifestyle as it existed prior to 1778 AD, the beginning of foreigners arriving to these islands.

In addition to being a participant in the Public Review Sessions held in the later part of 2007 along with numerous ethnic-Hawaiian attendees, and the historical and scientific fact that the inhabitants, my lineal ancestors of these islands prior to 1778, **conclusively demonstrated** in achieving a "sustainable" lifestyle yet to be equaled in our time, I must make clear, I am 100 percent in favor of a sustainable plan for the land, sea and people of Hawaii; but not in the context implied in SB 2833.

In its present form, this plan will sustain corporate interest at the expense and detriment (high-Cost of living) of the middle/poor income residents and force in large numbers a majority of the remaining native Hawaiians to move away from their ancestral homelands. This is not a "sustainable" plan, it is exploitation and displacing of the people in the guise of this "Hawaii 2050 Sustainable Plan."

**REMEDY:**

If the State of Hawaii is sincere in seeking to adopt a plan which will achieve "sustainable Living" by the year 2050, this bill must be extinguished now; and a more involved and comprehensive discussion with the lineal descendants of all islands be held.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Living Being in the HuMan function with the attached name

Foster Robin Ampong

Phone: (808) 281-3894 - Email: [kekahunakeaweiwi@yahoo.com](mailto:kekahunakeaweiwi@yahoo.com)

## testimony

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**From:** Arun Savara [arun.savara@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 2:20 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 2833

Everyone should work towards sustainability, but it should not be necessary to hire consultants lines 16-22 page 12 the council should be able draw on the expertise of the employees of the state government, we have plenty of them, with qualification in engineering, management, law, finance etc.

To achieve sustainability for example in water, one has to reduce water consumption using waterless urinals, low flow devices, grey water recycling. No one requires consultants to have the permitting

section require those in new construction or in renovations. That will also control waste to the treatment plants

To reduce burning fossil fuels, require solar water heaters, solar panels, allow wind turbines.

to improve education, get rid of DOE and have small school districts. and so on

Arun Savara

## testimony

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**From:** Ted Coombs [tedc@science.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 1:51 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Testimony for Senate Bill 2833

I have taken part in the creation of the Hawaii 2050 plan so I am very familiar with its content. I am a futurist by trade, and it is my strong belief that the resultant 2050 Plan is without merit and should not be adopted into law. I further believe that the plan, which purports to look 42 years into our future has no vision whatsoever. There are hundreds of scientific and technological advancements that are now in the process of changing the world in which we live. Hawaii has not looked to adopt any of these advancements, to introduce new science research centers or new clean industries to provide new jobs at all levels. Simply, continuing to support tourism, increasing agriculture, and supporting the military is a short-sighted and unsustainable plan. Hawaii needs to think outside the box when it comes to the future of the islands. It can no longer rely on the industries that have supported the residents for so long. These industries are already proving unsustainable.

Agricultural businesses are closing in the islands due to the inability to maintain the cost of government oversight. Adding more government into the business process, as this bill is certain to do, is the wrong direction. We need to figure out as a State how we can streamline business processes, create new job opportunities in diversified fields, so that our young who attend our excellent university do not have to leave the islands to find jobs. Adding more science and technology education into our university system is only a mandate to have more of our native youth leave the islands, or give up on their careers and become either farmers or tourist service professionals. Hawaii, along with the United States, is experiencing a downturn in tourism. This is happening contrary to historic patterns where a lower dollar meant more tourists. The dollar is reaching record lows and so are the tourists.

This trend is not likely to change any time soon. Agricultural land is slowly being swallowed up by real estate, as the island population continues to grow. Unless we want the islands to be one large military base, the other two industries are just no longer sustainable. This is true even if the population ceases to grow, which it won't.

I have not seen any plans for nanotechnology fabrication centers. I have not seen suggestions for stem cell and genetic research centers. These are some of the many technologies that will dominate the next fifty years. How can the Hawaii 2050 plan not take these into consideration?

Therefore, my deep concern is that any committee mandated with ascertaining whether future projects fit into the 2050 plan will actually become an artificial limit on our ability to grow with the times as they realistically take shape. The world is on the verge of one of the greatest paradigm changes mankind has ever experienced. I do not get a sense that this was even considered in the development of this plan. Of course we will use green technologies. Industry itself is making sure this happens with billions of dollars being expended in the development of new green technologies and products. Of course we want clean water and clean air. The 2050 plan has almost zero foresight into how Hawaii can become a center for developing and adopting these new technologies and products.

Please do not limit Hawaii's future by making this law. Please vote against Senate Bill 2833.

Regards,

Ted Coombs  
Kurtistown, Hawaii

## testimony

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**From:** haikulani@gmail.com on behalf of Michael Foley [mfoley@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 3:04 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 2833

Aloha Senate,

Please accept this testimony in support of Senate Bill 2833, which will adopt the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan into law. The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan is a great guide for Hawaii to become more independent and self-sufficient. We are the bull's eye of the Pacific and it is our responsibility to set an example for our neighboring nations. If we feel that Hawaii is a special place worth sustaining for future generations to enjoy, then we should take the necessary steps to support a plan which aims to do just that. The 2050 Sustainability Plan was developed with a wonderfully organized set of community input opportunities, and thus, it captures the voice of Hawaii's people. The creation of a sustainability council seems necessary to implement the people's plan for preserving Hawaii's unique natural, cultural, and economic blessings.

Mahalo,  
Michael Foley

## testimony

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**From:** Al Rabold [arabold@hawaii.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 3:30 PM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan SB 2833

I have two major comments regarding SB 2833:

- 1) The definitions section makes no sense. Defining Ahupuaa and Kanaka Maoli is unnecessary and useless as neither term is referred to in the body of the text.
- 2) A clause should be inserted requiring testimony by unbiased, unvested professionals from the appropriate scientific community on any and all issues beyond the experience of the average participant, ie environmental issues, sustainable energy, public transportation, construction, agriculture, traffic management, etc.

Al Rabold  
Kula, HI



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

WRITTEN ONLY

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

Before the

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thursday, February 21, 2008, 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

SB 2833 Relating to Sustainability

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to voice concerns about SB 2833 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.

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? These are but three of numerous specific projects and programs that would immediately and concretely help address energy, self-sufficiency, and the cultural heritage of our state.



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. 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 on these committees. Enact legislation that provides Native Hawaiians, Kanaka Maoli, with \$200 million in assets to allow them to become masters of their own destiny. 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 also has the opportunity to address the high cost of living by enacting proposals for tax relief and tax refunds to working families.

In conclusion, we share the goal of solving the most fundamental issues that face our state in the 21<sup>st</sup> 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.



***The Chamber of  
Commerce of Hawaii***

*Since 1850*

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2833 RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, 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 with comments.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing 1100 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. 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.

H.B. No. 2590 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 provided that the above is taken into consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

## testimony

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**From:** Nancy L. Hedlund, Ph.D. [nancyhedlund@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 5:12 PM  
**To:** testimony; Sen. Roz Baker; Sen. Shan Tsutsui; Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland; Sen. J. Kalani English; Sen. Carol Fukunaga; Sen. Gary Hooser; Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye; Sen. Ron Menor; Sen. Donna Mercado Kim; Sen. Jill Tokuda; Sen. Fred Hemmings; Sen. Paul Whalen  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of SB 2833 for Thursday, 2/21 AM -- Ways & Means

Dear Respected Senators on the Ways and Means Committee;

Please accept my testimony in support of the bill SB2833 and my support for the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan. This is so important for our state -- for the immediate and long-term dangers associated with climate change and for the long-term obligation we share to protect Hawai'i lands and ocean and resources for the children of future generations.

I support this bill.

Thank you - Nancy Hedlund  
Member, Ala Moana/Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board

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# HAWAI‘I 2050 SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE



Sen. Russell Kokubun,  
Chair

## TESTIMONY

**To:** The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair and Members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means

**From:** The Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force

**Re:** TESTIMONY SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 2833, RELATING TO  
SUSTAINABILITY

**Date:** February 21, 2008

**Place:** Room 211

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 Thorlakson  
Beth Tokioka  
Sen. Jill Tokuda  
Michael Tresler  
Pamela Tumpap  
Rep. Ryan Yamane

Aloha chair and committee members,

We, the members of the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Task Force, support and endorse Senate Bill 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.”

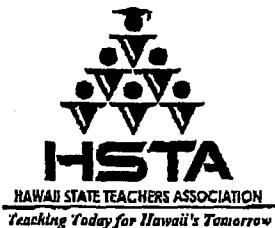
We believed steadfastly that the Hawai‘i 2050 Sustainability Plan should reflect the will and sentiments of Hawaii’s citizens. Our outreach has been extensive and rigorous. Thirty-six meetings across the state drew thousands of residents. We conducted two statistically sound general population surveys. We met with county mayors, 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 participants 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 goals for the future of our state that resonate with citizens. The plan has 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. Mahalo for your time.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

**Roger K. Takabayashi**  
President

**Wil Okabe**  
Vice President

**Karolyn Mossman**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Mike McCartney**  
Executive Director

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS**

**RE: SB 2833 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.**

February 21, 2008

**ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:**

The Hawaii State Teachers Association strongly supports SB 2833 and appreciates the Legislature’s acknowledgement of the need to increase Hawaii’s self-sufficiency in all areas. Key to an ongoing sustainability movement will be an educated public. Successful public school students are essential to our state’s economic, environmental and cultural sustainability.

For these goals to be achieved, adequate funding for quality public schools must be sustainable. Research in best practices in public school funding indicates there is a relationship between tax policy and the current shortfall in funding needed to sustain quality schools. Correcting this relationship and establishing sustainable quality public schools is the basis for the taxes, economic development and school funding strategy favored by HSTA, which is better know by the acronym TEF.

Research conducted by a team of economists found that spending tax dollars on corporate tax holidays and other subsidies in hopes of attracting businesses to a state or region were not only ineffective but also undermined the quality of public education in locales that adopted such policies. Ironically, the same research demonstrated that the single most important factor in determining whether a business located in a community or stayed in a community was the quality of the community’s public education system.

There is considerable quantitative data, as well as anecdotal evidence, that substantiate the contention that when a community spends the money to attract and retain the best teachers and invests in a quality physical infrastructure for its public education system, there are both long- and short-term economic benefits.

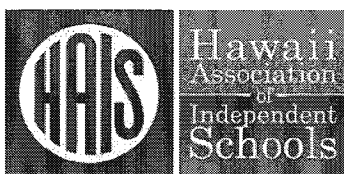
In the short term, economic benefits are spread over a wide range of businesses and industries. From the construction industry that employes workers to build and maintain school facilities to the vendors who furnish the schools and supply the industry, there is a widespread positive financial impact. This, in turn, creates an economic multiplier effect that extends the economic benefits to small businesses of all types. These businesses enjoy increased sales from the workers and businesses involved in constructing schools and supplying them with goods and services.

In the long-term, the propensity of businesses to locate in areas with quality schools is well documented. In the case of Hawaii, there are too many examples of businesses which became successful and then left the state for locales distinguished by better funded school systems.

For these reasons, HSTA agrees with the idea contained in this measure that tax credits should be used judiciously and our tax dollars should be invested sufficiently in our public education system, which is the foundation upon which Hawaii's economic, environmental and cultural sustainability depends.

We strongly urge the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



February 21, 2008  
9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY TO  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB2833 – Relating to Sustainability

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Witt, executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents approximately 100 private and independent schools and educates over 30,000 elementary and secondary school students across our state.

HAIS strongly supports the intent of Senate Bill 2833, which is to adopt the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and establish a governing body to coordinate and evaluate the plan's implementation.

We believe that it is extremely important that we, as a state, address questions about the long-term limits of growth in Hawaii and call attention to the need for collaborative planning and action to preserve the natural resources and way of life that are so unique to our islands. We also support the development of a more diverse and resilient economy so that, in the future, our children will have both the opportunity and ability to live and work in Hawaii as adults.

To that end, our association of independent and private schools has been involved in the development of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan. We have also been working with members of the Sustainability Task Force and other Hawaii 2050 supporters, such as the Department of Education, Girl Scouts of Hawaii and Kanu Hawaii, to come up with new ways to involve students in our state's sustainability efforts and, on behalf of our member schools and students, will continue to advocate for a more sustainable Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting S.B. 2833 Relating to Sustainability  
Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Thursday, February 21, 2008, 9:30AM, Room 211**

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*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.*

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**The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i supports S.B. 2833 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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Stanley Hong J. Douglas Ing Mark L. Johnson Dr. Kenneth Kaneshiro Bert A. Kobayashi, Jr. Faye Watanabe Kurren Duncan MacNaughton  
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**Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways & Means  
Conference Room 211**

**February 21, 2008 at 9:30 am**

**SB2833        RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

**Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, 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, 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 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. Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha United Way  
200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938  
Telephone (808) 536-1951  
Fax (808) 543-2222  
Website: [www.auw.org](http://www.auw.org)



**Aloha United Way**

February 19, 2008

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair  
Thursday, February 21, 2008, 9:30 a.m.

**Senate Bill 2833 Relating to Sustainability – Written Testimony in Support**

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha United Way supports and encourages your favorable consideration of SB 2833 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 highly 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 and the concepts included in the report, particularly those dealing with strengthening our social safety nets and our educational systems. In addition we believe that the establishment of the council will be essential in ensuring that the purposes of the plan are accomplished and the vision of a sustainable future is achieved.

We urge the Committee to continue to move the measure forward. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important measure.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Au Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Au Doyle  
President & Chief Professional Officer  
Aloha United Way



Actus Lend Lease, LLC  
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Suite 2400  
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February 21, 2008

To the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

**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

## TESTIMONY

### Senate Bill 2833—Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan—Feb 21, 2008

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The following testimony is regarding the establishment of a *Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan* per Senate Bill No. 2833, under review on February 21, 2008 by the Senate' Committee on Ways and Means.

This testimony is by 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 volunteer time in October and November of 2007 reviewing the "Hawai'i 2050 Issue Book" and the "draft Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan" and providing detailed verbal and written feedback to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force, including, in condensed form, the following.

Senate Bill No. 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 Hawai'i's urgent need to have a comprehensive, long range sustainability plan, and is why **I recommend that the Senate' Committee on Ways and Means approve the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan per Senate Bill No. 2833.**

However, I do believe it is important that it be recognized by the joint committee that the Hawai'i 2050 plan per Senate Bill No. 2833 could and should be strengthened in several areas, as follows:

**Recommendations.** The present Hawai'i 2050 plan should:

1. Be considered the equivalent of an advanced concept paper, to be developed into a comprehensive strategic "best practice" plan<sup>1</sup> within six months of approval by the legislature.
2. Include a commitment to conducting a Hawai'i 2050 baseline survey on each island, preferably employing the proven "ecological footprint" analytical approach. A summary sustainability analysis—with graphical representations—of the critical environmental, social-cultural, and economic trends facing Hawai'i from 1950 to 2005 and projected to 2050, including those related to population, food, soil and land, water, energy, pollution, and so on—would emanate from the baseline study.
3. Both the *Hawai'i 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, 8. *Sustainability indicators. The council shall develop, utilize, and analyze sustainability indicators...* to (hereby proposed), 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

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<sup>1</sup> See, for example, Resource Renewal Institute: <http://greenplans rri.org/inaction/newzealand.html>

## testimony

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**From:** George Cattermole [georgecattermole@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:19 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Senate bill 2833

**From:** [georgecattermole@earthlink.net](mailto:georgecattermole@earthlink.net)  
**Subject:** Suggestions re Senate Bill 2833  
**Date:** February 19, 2008 6:13:00 PM PST  
**To:** [testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

The Hawaii Sustainability2050 plan is a good one, but rhetorical allegiance to noble goals is not enough. The measures and means to accomplish these goal must come from dedicated and knowledgeable people - the Plan is only as good as the council and advisory committees charged with implementing the Plan. I recommend the following individuals who have proven themselves to be dedicated to a sustainable Hawaii again and again:

Patricia Tummonds - editor Environment Hawaii  
Doc Berry  
Chuck Burrows  
John Harrison - Professor Emeritus, U of H Manoa  
Duane Prebble - Professor U of H  
Jason Scott Lee - actor, activist  
Henry Curtis - Life of the Land  
Jeff Mikulina - Sierra Club

Each one of these individuals has proven his or her commitment to the goals of Sustainability2050 as well as the leadership ability and knowhow needed to accomplish them. Should you have any trouble contacting any of them, please let me know and I will put you in touch with them.

Sincerely,  
Dr. George Cattermole  
134 Kapahulu Ave. #622  
Honolulu

## testimony

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**From:** slhoenle@gmail.com on behalf of shelly hoenle [hoenle@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2008 9:20 AM  
**To:** testimony  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 2833 -- Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan -- Testimony

Aloha,

I am a Hawaii resident and would like to express my support for Senate Bill 2833 to adopt the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan into law.

Has any plan designed to map the future of Hawaii's communities been more comprehensive and involved more community input? This plan has been rigorously coordinated and revised with the widest input from community members who want to see a sustainable future for our islands in hopes to correct our current unsustainable trajectory. Please hear the voice of the community and support the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan.

Thank you,  
Shelley Hoenle

**testimony**

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**From:** Ellie Snyder [ellie.snyder@rare-dear.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 8:13 PM

**To:** testimony

**Subject:** Please adopt Senate Bill 2833 - 2050 Sustainability Plan





**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

AFSCME LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO

888 MILILANI STREET, SUITE 601 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2991



Randy Pereira *Executive Director*  
Tel: 808 543-0011 Fax: 808 528-0922

Nora A. Nomura *Deputy Executive Director*  
Tel: 808 543-0003 Fax: 808 528-0922

Derek M. Mizuno *Deputy Executive Director*  
Tel: 808 543-0055 Fax: 808 523-6879

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Senate  
Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony by  
HGEA AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO  
February 21, 2008

**S.B. 2833 - RELATING TO**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of the S.B. 2833 to adopt the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and to establish and appropriately fund a Sustainability Council, with amendment.

The HGEA supports the basic need for a sustainability plan; however we have the following concern regarding the current language of S.B. 2833.

Section 6 (6): we do not support the appointment of officers, agents, and employees, prescribing their duties and qualifications and fixing their salaries, without regard to Chapter 76. Historically, there has been a problem of inequities between exempt employees and civil service employees. The HGEA does not support legislation that unnecessarily creates new exempt positions.

We request that Section 6 (6) be amended to reflect employment of civil service employees.

We hope that S.B. 2833 will be passed with the requested amendment. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura  
Deputy Executive Director



Randy Ferreira  
President

# HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

320 Ward Avenue, Suite 209 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Telephone: (808) 597-1441  
Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
The Senate  
Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony by  
Hawaii State AFL-CIO  
February 21, 2008

## S.B. 2833 - Relating to Sustainability

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO strongly supports the intent and purpose of S.B. 2833.

In this changing economy, work force and environment, it is imperative to plan and take actions to protect Hawaii's future. Adopting the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and establishing an appropriately funded Sustainability Council are steps in that direction. We cannot wait any longer to take positive steps to preserve our unique island home and culture. The Hawaii 2050 effort, which has involved many of our citizens, the business sector and labor, has developed this first step we can take to ensure a sustainable future for our keiki. Your favorable consideration of this historic legislation is requested.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Ferreira".

Randy Ferreira  
President



**SB2833: RELATING TO Sustainability**

**DATE:** February 21, 2008  
9:30am, Conference Room 211

**TO:** Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair

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

**RE: Testimony In Support of the Intent of SB2833**

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

The Hawaii Science & Technology Council (HiSciTech) supports the purpose and intent SB2833 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



**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

February 21, 2008

HEARING BEFORE THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 2833  
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Baker 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.



WAM Committee  
For hearing on Thurs, Feb 21, 2008  
9:30 am

National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter

February 20, 2008

TO: Senator Rox Baker, Chair  
And members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee

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

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

Chair Baker and members of the Senate Ways and Means 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 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 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 and thank you for the opportunity to testify.

# God's Country Waimanalo

From the Mountains to the Sea, Keeping Our Country Country.

Statement of  
**Heidi Ilima Ramseyer**  
**Director of Operations**  
God's Country Waimanalo

Before the  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Relating to **Senate Bill 2833**  
**HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY**

Aloha Committee:

On behalf of the Native Hawaiian Youth Organization, God's Country Waimanalo, I, Heidi Ilima Ramseyer, ask for your support of SB 2833.

An AHUPUA`A concept of living works, it has worked in the past, continues to work today, and will work in the future.

Keep the faith that this plan will be successful. Give this task force the resources and assistance they need to make it happen.

We, at God's Country Waimanalo respectfully ask this Committee to support SB 2833.

Mahalo and God Bless,

H. Ilima Ramseyer  
Director of Operations

February 20, 2008



**SB 2833 RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 21, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Room: 211

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **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 Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and activities. SB 2833 also appropriates funds to the sustainability council.

OHA shares many of the goals of the proposed sustainability council for improving Hawai'i's quality of life by addressing housing, education, economic development, energy, and the environment through careful, integrated planning. SB 2833 takes a necessary systems approach to increase the statewide inventory of affordable housing; improve a public education system that has historically shortchanged the Native Hawaiian community; and attempt to create a greater, sustainable balance of energy and agricultural self-reliance.

These are Hawaiian values that stem from a rich cultural legacy practiced and revered by our indigenous people. It is time we put Hawaiian values to work to balance economic, societal and environmental goals.

We commend the work over a two-year period by the broader Hawaiian community who listened, collaborated, and ultimately developed a consensual framework for the future.

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