



THE HOUSE  
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2009

LATE

2-10-09  
2:45pm

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 10, 2009  
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 225, State Capitol

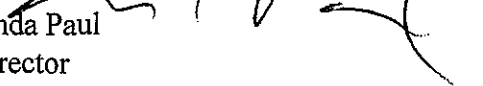
SENATE BILL NO. 266  
Relating to Global Warming

Senator Gabbard, Senator English, members of the committee, my name is Linda Paul and I am testifying today in behalf of the Ocean Law & Policy Institute of the Pacific Forum CSIS. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 266, which would establish a global warming task force to assess the impacts of climate warming and rising sea levels on this State.

We firmly support the establishment of a Global Warming Task Force. It is important that we identify as soon as possible the many impacts that rising sea levels will likely have on our coastal zone infrastructure. This task needs to be undertaken as soon as possible and the Legislature needs to be informed about its conclusions before the next session.

In the 2009 legislature there is at least one bill, HB 980, that proposes to establish a new industrial park in Keehi Lagoon. With rising sea levels in our near future our coastal zone is no place for a new industrial park. The rise in sea level associated with climate change makes it highly inadvisable to continue to pour tax money into new coastal zone infrastructure within the tsunami inundation zone. We are very shortly going to have to spend enormous sums of money to rebuild our docks and harbor infrastructure to adapt to sea level change. And the rise in sea level is expected to occur exponentially, much faster than we will be able to adapt. We need to start planning now.

Establishing a such a task force will help focus attention on the urgency of the situation. Please pass this bill. Thank you.

  
Linda Paul  
Director  
Ocean Law & Policy Institute, Pacific Forum CSIS  
ph. (808) 262-6859



SB 266 - latestest - 02-10-  
245

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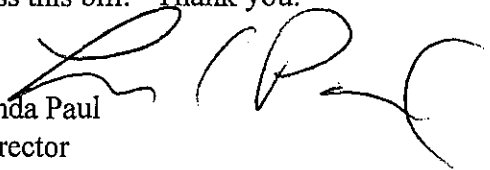
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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Dear Committee Chairs Gabbard and Nishihara, Vice Chairs English and Galuteria and Members of the Committees:

I am writing in **qualified support** for Senate Bill 266. I support the spirit and purpose of this bill, but disagree with the proposed administration and terminology.

1. I believe that the placement of the global warming task force (lines 1-3) within the department of health for administrative purposes is inappropriate and detrimental to the success of its purposes. The issue of climate change adaptation is tangentially related to health. Also, the Department of Health has a poor track record of administrating environmental issues, as evidenced by the slow and poorly-publicized greenhouse gas emissions task force and by the lack of support for the state's primary environmental review process required under Chapter 343.

Climate change adaptation is primarily a development issue that relates most strongly to planning and disaster management.

Therefore, the **coastal zone management program, the state office of planning, or the University of Hawaii's SOEST or SeaGrant programs should administer the task force.**

2. **'Climate change' should be used instead of 'global warming'**. Global warming refers to the increase in the earth's average surface temperature. Climate change refers to variability in temperature and impacts.

Sincerely,

Scott Glenn  
1415 Victoria St, Apt 410  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
Phone: (808) 780-4888

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair  
Sen. J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, Feb 10, 1009

TIME: 2:45 pm PLACE: Conference Room 225 \_\_\_\_\_ Copies to members

BILL: SB 266 RELATING TO GLOBAL WARMING

SUPPORT

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

We support SB 266, which establishes a global warming taskforce. We in Hawaii have an urgent need to get serious on climate change and energy issues. It seems strange to place such an important umbrella issue under the Department of Health, but we are in favor of whatever it takes to bring high-level attention to climate change.

Thank you.

Duane & Sarah Preble  
3347 Anoa'i Place  
Honolulu HI 96822

988-7500