



WINDWARD AHUPUA'A ALLIANCE

From the Peaks of Na Ko'olau to the Outer Reefs

*Community-Based Planning
Sustainable Economic Development
Restoration, Preservation, Protection & Public Access
Educational & Cultural Programs*

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

*Rep. Marcus Oshiro,, Chair
Rep. Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair*

LATE

PUBLIC HEARING

3:30 pm

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Conference Room 308

SB 536 SD1 HD1 - RELATING TO STARLIGHT RESERVE

Strongly Support With One Amendment

My name is Shannon Wood speaking on behalf of the *Windward Ahupua'a Alliance* in strong support of SB 536 SD 1 HD1 - RELATING TO STARLIGHT RESERVE.

The concepts in this legislation are clearly articulated and well-drafted. The legislation will have a huge impact on all of our lives here in Hawai'i and not just those who are professional or serious amateur astronomers.

The *House* Energy & Environmental Protection and Water, Land & Ocean Resources Committees notes in its report that the temporary advisory committee in this bill will develop an intelligent state-wide lighting law which will help reduce both our usage of fossil fuels & our greenhouse gas emissions.

As for funding SB 536 SD1 HD1: If you turn to the attachment, you will note that HB 1271 HD3 SD2 is in the center of the graphic. I'm still trying to get information from the Ways and Means Committee what changes it made in SD2.

However, the three *Senate* Committees which held a joint hearing on March 24 recommended to *WAM* that "a portion of the barrel fee be used to plan for and help natural systems and communities cope with and mitigate the results of climate change caused by carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from burning fossil fuels."

In fact, there are three bills plus the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Task Force (Act 234 2007) which could be funded by this revenue source: SB 536 SD1 HD1 (Starlight Reserve); SB 718 SD1 HD1 (Complete Streets); and, SB 266 SD2 HD1 (Climate Change). Only the last bill has not yet been heard by the *House Finance Committee*.

Please include language in this bill which references the barrel tax and further specifies that a portion of it be used to fund both new as well as existing programs & policies to help mitigate the damages caused by burning fossil fuels.

We urge that you pass SB 536 SD1 HD1 - RELATING TO STARLIGHT RESERVE with this amendment. *Mahalo* for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

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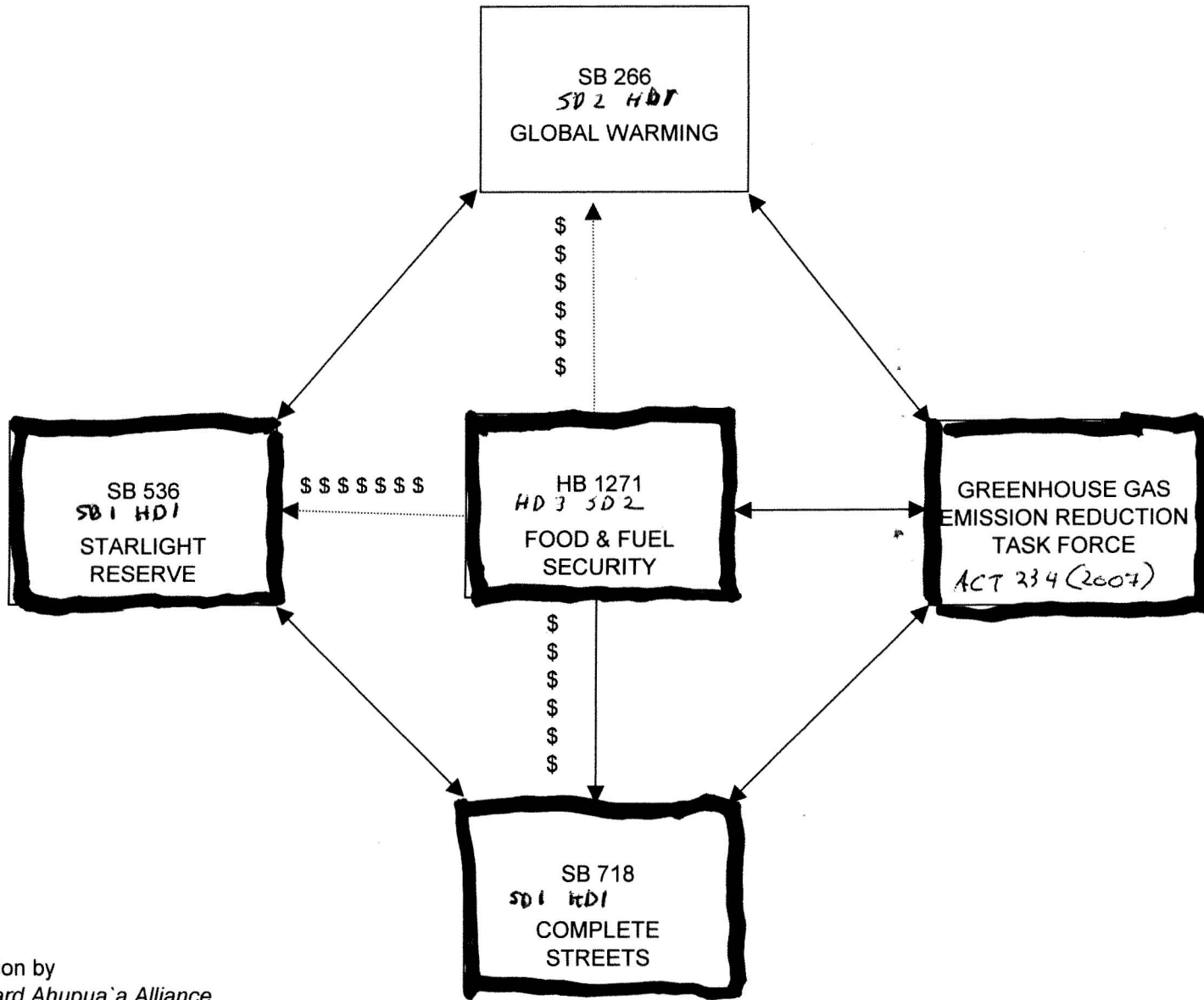


Illustration by
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