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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Interim Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND BUSINESS
AND
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Tuesday, March 22, 2011
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
SB 283, SD 1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.

Chairs McKelvey and Hanohano, Vice Chairs Choy and Lee, and Members of the House Committees on Economic Revitalization and Business and Hawaiian Affairs.

SB 283, SD 1 establishes a new part to HRS Chapter 226, *Hawaii State Planning Act*, to append the Hawaii 2050 sustainability policy. We support the intent of this measure but do not support this bill at this time.

Among the duties of Office of Planning under HRS Section 226-53, is that it review and evaluate the Hawaii State Planning Act and recommended amendments as needed to the legislature. One of the top priorities of the Office of Planning under the new Administration is the implementation of the Hawaii State Plan. A review of the work of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force will be an important component in implementing the State Planning Act, since a tremendous amount of work and public participation went into that effort and report.

Incorporating the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force report into existing programs and procedures under the Hawaii State Planning Act is a workable solution. The concepts in this current bill are very similar goals and objectives that are already included in Part I of the Hawaii State Planning Act under HRS Sections 226, *et seq.*, for example, Part I provides as follows:

- *State Goals* under HRS Section 226-4 are enumerated as follows:
 - A strong, viable economy, characterized by stability, diversity, and growth, that enables the fulfillment of the needs and expectations of Hawaii's present and future generations;
 - A desired physical environment, characterized by beauty, cleanliness, quiet, stable natural systems, and uniqueness, that enhances the mental and physical well-being of the people; and
 - Physical, social, and economic well-being, for individuals and families in Hawaii, that nourishes a sense of community responsibility, of caring, and of participation in community life.

- *Objectives and Policies* for the state include the following:
 - Exercise an overall conservation ethic in the use of Hawaii's natural resources (HRS Section 226-11);
 - Protect those special areas, structures, and elements that are an integral and functional part of Hawaii's ethnic and cultural heritage (HRS Section 226-12);
 - Foster recognition of the importance and value of the land, air, and water resources to Hawaii's people, their cultures and visitors (HRS Section 226-13);
 - Foster increased knowledge and understanding of Hawaii's ethnic and cultural heritages and the history of Hawaii (HRS Section 226-25); and
 - Support activities and conditions that promote cultural values, customs, and arts that enrich the lifestyles of Hawaii's people and which are sensitive and responsive to family and community needs (HRS Section 226-25).

Thank you for your consideration.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

by
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
and
Susan Chandler, Director
Social Sciences Public Policy Center
College of Social Sciences, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 283 SD1 Relating to Sustainability

Chairs McKelvey and Hanohano, and honorable members of the House Committees on Economic Revitalization & Business and on Hawaiian Affairs, thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 283, SD1, relating to sustainability.

I am the director of the Social Sciences Public Policy Center ("Center") at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and, with Dr. Sharon Moriwaki, we worked on updating the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan ("H2050 Plan") as directed by the legislature. As you recall, the state's H2050 Task Force developed the H2050 Plan that identified crucial areas for future planning to revitalize the state's economy, protect the environment, and preserve the culture and quality of life for future generations. This plan set in place an important long-term planning process for Hawai'i's future.

In 2008, the legislature adopted Act 225 that requested the Center to review the plan, consult with citizens and leaders from across the state to prioritize the goals and objectives in the Plan, and develop benchmarks for each of the major goals. The Center completed its work and submitted its findings to the Legislature in January of last year (see the report on our website, www.publicpolicycenter.hawaii.edu). Briefly, the report covered the following:

- ❖ Data gathered from email surveys and face to-face cross-sector meetings in each county, with representation from 10 major sectors of our community-- business, labor, the environment, kanaka maoli, youth, the military, the health sector, the non-profit sector, education and government (state and county level);
- ❖ Developed a sustainability resource guide; and
- ❖ Researched data sources and benchmarks.

The report proposed five major recommendations based on the voices of the community:

- ❖ **Incorporate the H2050 Plan definition of sustainability and its goals as a new section in Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.**
- ❖ **Develop and implement policies based on common themes heard across the state and counties in the cross sector dialogs.**
- ❖ **Support the continuing public-private collaborations, community discussions, activities, and work on sustainability efforts.**
- ❖ **Adopt measures of accountability, including data and data sources, indicators and benchmarks.**
- ❖ **Develop a sustainability coordinating entity to carry forward the H2050 Plan.**

S.B. 283, SD1 addresses the first recommendation. It provides for a sustainability policy to be incorporated in the Hawai'i State Planning Act, Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes. It puts into law the definition of "sustainability" that was adopted by the many thousands of citizens who provided input in the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, ie., "a Hawai'i that respects the culture, character, beauty, and history of the State's island communities, strikes a balance between economic, social and community, and environmental priorities; and meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." And further it provides seven guiding principles and five goals to achieve a sustainable Hawai'i by 2050.

We believe it is extremely important to support the sustainability efforts throughout the states by incorporating the sustainability policy into the Hawai'i State Plan as proposed in S.B.283, SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I will be happy to answer any questions.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
(Provided by Mark Fox, Director of External Affairs)
Commenting on S.B. 283 SD1 Relating to Sustainability
House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 9:30AM, Rm. 312

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawaii'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 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. 283 SD1 Relating to Sustainability.

The health of Hawaii'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 benefits 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 Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan provides a strong and defined foundation for sustainability, guiding principles and values, and strategic goals and actions to help lead us toward the Hawai'i we all want for ourselves and future generations.

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COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

Testimony of
Sharon Y. Moriwaki
Co-Chair, Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business and
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Tuesday, March 22, 2011
9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 225

Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

Ms. Stephanie Ackerman, The Gas Co.
Mr. Robbie Alm, HECO
Ms. Amy Asselbayer, Office of US Rep. Neil Abercrombie
Ms. Madeleine Austin, World Business Academy
Mr. Warren Bollmeier, Hawai'i Renewable Energy Alliance
Mr. Carlito Caliboso, PUC (Observer)
Mr. Albert Chee, Chevron
Ms. Elizabeth Cole, The Kohala Center
Mr. Kyle Datta, New Energy Partners
Ms. Laura Dierenfield, People's Advocacy for Trails Hawai'i (PATH)
Mr. Mark Duda, HI Solar Energy Asst.
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Mr. Mark Glick, OHA
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Dr. Robert Harris, Sierra Club
Mr. William Kaneko, Hawai'i Institute for Public Affairs
Mr. Darren Kimura, Energy Industries Holdings
Ms. Kelly King, Sustainable Biodiesel Alliance
Mr. Mike Kitamura, Office of US Senator Daniel K. Akaka
Mr. Kal Kobayashi & Victor Reyes, Maui County Energy Office
Mr. Laurence Lau, State of Hawai'i DOH
Mr. Allyn Lee, C&C of Honolulu Dept. of Design & Construction
Dr. Stephen Meder, UH Center of Smart Building & Community Design
Dr. Sharon Miyashiro, UH College of Social Sciences Public Policy Center
Rep. Hermina Morita, Hawai'i State House of Representatives
Mr. Dean Nishina, Div of Consumer Advocacy
Mr. Tim O'Connell, USDA-Rural Development
Ms. Melissa Pavlicek, Hawaii Public Policy Advocates
Mr. Ted Peck, State of Hawai'i DBEDT Strategic Industries Division
Mr. Randy Perreira, Hawai'i State AFL-CIO
Mr. Victor Reyes, Maui County Office of Economic Development
Dr. Rick Rocheleau, UH HNEI
Mr. William Roiston, Hawai'i County Dept. of Research & Development
Mr. Peter Rosegg, HECO
Mr. Steven Rymsha, KIUC
Mr. Riley Saito, PowerLight Corporation
Mr. Glenn Sato, Kaua'i County Office of Economic Development
Mr. Bill Short, BIA of Hawai'i
Ms. Joelle Simonpietri, Simonpietri Enterprises LLC
Mr. H. Ray Starling, Hawai'i Energy
Mr. Lance Tanaka, Tesoro Hawai'i Corp.
Dr. Don Thomas, UH Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes
Ms. Maria Tome, State of Hawai'i DBEDT Energy Office
Mr. Murray Towill, Hawai'i Hotel Association
Mr. Joshua Wisch, Office US Representative Mazie Hirono
Mr. Alan Yamamoto, Office US Senator Daniel Inouye

IN SUPPORT OF SB 283, SD 1 – Relating to Sustainability

Chairs Angus McKelvey and Faye Hanohano, Vice Chairs Isaac Choy and Chris Lee, and Members of the House Committees on Economic Revitalization & Business and on Hawaiian Affairs:

I am Sharon Moriwaki, Co-Chair of the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum ("Forum"). The Forum is comprised of 45 representatives from the electric utilities, oil and natural gas suppliers, environmental and community groups, renewable energy industry, and federal, state and local government, including representatives from the neighbor islands. We have been meeting since 2002 and have adopted a common vision and mission, and a comprehensive "10 Point Action Plan," which serves as a framework and guide for meeting our preferred energy vision and goals.

The Forum supports the passage of SB 283, SD 1. This bill calls for amending the Hawai'i State Planning Act, Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to add a new part, entitled "2050 Sustainability Policy." It incorporates a definition of "sustainability" that respects its culture and history; balances economic, community, and environmental priorities; and meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. It also includes goals and guiding principles to achieve a sustainable future for Hawaii by 2050.

While the amendment does not include specific energy goals, its goals, guiding principles, and foundation in civic engagement are strongly aligned with the Forum's mission. We particularly support the inclusion of "sustainability" into state planning – which all of our counties and many organizations and individuals across the state are already doing and should be encouraged to continue to do.

The passage of SB 283, SD 1, will codify sustainability policy, clearly defining "sustainability" for Hawaii, along with its guiding principles and goals. Incorporating sustainability policy in the Hawai'i State Planning Act will set the standard for Hawai'i's future – one based on responsible consideration of our state's natural assets and resources and of the quality of life for future generations.

Based on the foregoing, the Forum supports SB 283, SD 1, and respectfully urges passage of the bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

This testimony reflects the position of the Forum as a whole and not necessarily of the individual Forum members or their companies or organizations.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 7:09 PM
To: ERBtestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB283 on 3/22/2011 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for ERB/HAW 3/22/2011 9:30:00 AM SB283

Conference room: 312
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carl p Jellings Sr
Organization: Individual
Address: .
Phone:
E-mail: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 3/16/2011

Comments: