

HCR178 HD1

Sustainability Education in
Science Curriculum
EDU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/15/2013

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 178,HD1 REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INCORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION INTO THE SCIENCE CURRICULUM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Purpose of Resolution: Science Curriculum; Sustainability

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) does not support this resolution that requests sustainability education be incorporated in the science curriculum of public schools. The Department educates students at the classroom level, and works with local partners to collaborate on projects, about sustainability and environmental stewardship. We are also poised to share available sustainability curriculum and environmental stewardship opportunities with schools and complex areas. The Department's sustainability education is aligned with its Strategic Plan priorities and implementation of the Common Core State Standards.

Implementation of this resolution is not without fiscal implications and therefore we are concerned with the impacts to the Executive Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2013-2015 that is aligned with our Strategic Plan.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 9:14:58 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	The Kohala Center - HISGN	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee, I am traveling home on 4/15 from Detroit where I have been for the past week with the new National Program inspired by Michelle Obama called FoodCorps. Hawai'i will be the newest FoodCorps state, which will bring additional resources for developing food sustainability, self-reliance, better nutrition for Hawaii's keiki, and will build through a future Farm to School Program, Hawaii's agricultural economy. If we are funded by Hawai'i State Americorps (We will know in May) we will begin this program in 10 schools in September 2013. After spending 7 days with the Directors and Fellows of 14 other states that have already implemented this plan, I see this as a potential way to address what this Resolution is calling for, creating sustainable systems of food, water, energy and waste through the curriculum of our public school system. Allowing our students to have hands-on experiences in working with the STEM subjects to create innovative new systems, will help position Hawai'i for the coming decade and beyond. Although this is decidedly a long-term approach to changing the difficulties we are currently experiencing in creating sustainability with our food, water, waste, and energy systems, nevertheless, I can see that with proper support from our agencies, institutions, and legislature, we can implement innovative programs that will imbed critical thinking and whole systems learning into the curriculum, that will certainly end up raising HSA test scores, and improve the health of Hawaii's keiki. Flying to Detroit, I read the latest research paper by Rachel Novotny entitled "Dietary Intake Among Native Hawaiians, Filipino, and White Children in Hawai'i." The statistics about low consumption of fresh fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy, and high consumption of meat, salt, and sugar are alarming, and will certainly contribute to students being unable to be at their best daily for learning experiences in the classroom. Allowing students the opportunity, to work with the systems outlined in this Resolution will change our future, their future, and their children's future. Mahalo for your support of HCR 178 and I hope that HDOE create the needed pathways for implementation.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or

distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

I support HCR178. This Resolution calls on the Department of Education to create the opportunity for Sustainability Education in Food, Water, Energy, and Waste to be implemented into the curriculum of Hawaii's schools.

Sustainability Education is a crucial component to developing in students, a healthy understanding of our island, its resources and how they should best be managed to secure our future health. Sustainability Education is vital information and should be taught through the DOE.

Sincerely,
Donna Mitts
Coordinator, Hawai`i Island School Garden Network
The Kohala Center

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mwkoh@hpa.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 10:11:15 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ming Wei Koh	Hawaii Sustainable Education Initiative	Support	No

Comments: Education for and about sustainability is imperative. We have to change our ways of thinking and learn and teach full-cost accounting. The current way of education has resulted in an un-sustainable paradigm. Our children are demanding that we stop wasting their time and future. We must think differently and this a way to start.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: kim@kokuahawaiifoundation.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 2:29:30 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Johnson	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	No

Comments: Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2003 that supports environmental education in the schools and communities of Hawai'i. Our work in sustainability education with students, teachers, parents and community members continues to increase since our founding a decade ago. Incorporation of sustainability education into the DOE science curriculum will not only benefit the students and educators of Hawai'i, but the state as a whole. Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation supports HCR 178 and strongly urges the committee to support this resolution.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: bettygearen@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Monday, April 15, 2013 9:33:12 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/15/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Betty Gearen	The Green House Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Trevor M. Tanaka
P.O. Box 315
Kealahou, Hawaii 96750
tanakatmt@gmail.com

April 14, 2013

Senator Jill Tokuda
Chairperson Education Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 218
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HCR 178 HD1 - REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INCORPORATE
SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION INTO THE SCIENCE CURRICULUM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Aloha Senator Tokuda:

As you know, I am a Senior at Konawaena High School. I am submitting testimony today on behalf of myself.

I would like to thank the Senate Education Committee for scheduling a hearing on HCR 178 HD1. I wish I could be there in person to testify, but I am about a month away from graduating and it is difficult for me to miss school and come to Oahu. I previously submitted written and oral testimony in support of HCR 178 and SCR 192, and I am writing again today to thank the committee for its efforts relative to this very important resolution and to once again reiterate the importance of the resolution.

Like many other seniors across the state, my high school days are coming to an end. This gives us time to reflect on the last four years and to look ahead to our future. I recently presented my Senior Project, the topic of which was not surprisingly Sustainable Education, to a panel that consisted of two high school counselors and three high school teachers. At the end of the presentation, I was overwhelmed by the support and encouragement I received from the panelists. It was especially important to me that teachers supported the idea/resolution. One of the panelists, a counselor, told me she was so inspired that she was now going to start a garden in her back yard with her two young children. This is exactly the type of change I am hoping the resolution will have. Each and every one of us here in Hawaii must realize the importance of sustainability. We all must think and act differently.

Change does not come easy and I know it is difficult for the Board of Education and Department of Education to make changes because they are already faced with so many challenges. So it boils down to priorities. As United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said in his closing remarks at the 2010 Sustainability Education Summit, "preparing our students to be good

environmental citizens is some of the most important work any of us can do. It is for our children, and our children's children, and generations yet to come." We must make a conscious decision to make sustainability a priority in our daily lives.

Sustainable education is being incorporated into curriculums around the world, around the nation, and in some schools in Hawaii, but it must be incorporated into the curriculum of all of Hawaii's schools to ensure that this vital information reaches all of Hawaii's students. Because of Hawaii's geographic location, unique environment, and cultural history, Hawaii's students should be able to learn and do more with sustainability than students elsewhere. Hawaii can even become a sustainable model for the world.

On behalf of myself and all of Hawaii's students, I humbly ask for your continued support of this resolution.

Sincerely
Trevor Tanaka

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Friday, April 12, 2013 1:14:13 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/12/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: artteacher@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Friday, April 12, 2013 2:57:42 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/12/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jane Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Adding sustainability to the science curriculum is essential for the future of our state. Our future leaders need to understand it deeply.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Friday, April 12, 2013 3:05:46 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/12/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyn Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a great bill, I wholly support it -

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: dsabo73@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Friday, April 12, 2013 4:21:43 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/12/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dan Sabo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Our island children need to learn about sustainability for their futures, whether here in Hawaii or anywhere in our world.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: joannaschiller1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Friday, April 12, 2013 11:35:55 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/12/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanna Schiller	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support Sustainability Education for all Hawaii youth. I am an educator and see the growing need for students to have exposure to education about their environment.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: peters@whea.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Saturday, April 13, 2013 7:05:33 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/13/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Peters	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: As a teacher, I believe the primary role of education is to put our youngest generation in a position to succeed. To be successful, it is imperative that they learn the importance of natural resource management. With that in mind, I urge you to mandate sustainability education in our public school system. Thank you.
Sincerely, Christopher Peters Faculty West Hawaii Explorations Academy
peters@whea.net

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: mz.l.gee@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Saturday, April 13, 2013 7:50:56 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/13/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Galloway, PhD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: kristajoan@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Saturday, April 13, 2013 1:47:24 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/13/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Krista Donaldson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: It is a moral obligation to arm children with the scientific understanding they will need to address the environmental and social issues of the future. I am a school garden teacher and Director of Sustainability at Innovations Public Charter School in Kailua-Kona. Science-based sustainability curriculum excites youth and inspires them to participate in their education. Mahalo for providing funding to support sustainability education in all public high schools.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: allenhe@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 8:55:18 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allen Eggleston, Ed. D	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a former teacher and administrator, I fully support the measure.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: localdelight@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 2:21:14 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Chivers	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill and believe sustainability education is long overdue in our society. This would educate all of our young people about the resources that we are responsible for either maintaining or abusing. It is a perfect opportunity for students to be engaged in real life problem solving and has the potential to deeply affect each one of their lives while improving our communities and protecting our planet. As a Garden Educator at a public school of 160 students, I can assure you there is nothing students are more passionate about than making a difference in their world. They only need to be introduced to the concept.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: natalie.mckinney@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 2:31:02 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie McKinney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: msgn@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM*
Date: Sunday, April 14, 2013 4:00:21 PM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/14/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lehn Huff	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: ryhoppster@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Monday, April 15, 2013 6:02:01 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/15/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: These standards of sustainability must be taught to our keiki!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: klhold@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Monday, April 15, 2013 9:04:39 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/15/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Holderman	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Sustainability education is an important tool in assuring the well-being of the planet and therefore the human species. Students are the future. Please consider giving them the tools necessary to assure a healthy future for all.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: ilanastout@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR178 on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM
Date: Monday, April 15, 2013 9:42:34 AM

HCR178

Submitted on: 4/15/2013

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2013 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ilana Stout	Keaau High School Science Teacher	Support	No

Comments: As the Environmental Science teacher at our school, I have been shocked at how little 11th and 12th graders know about sustainability issues. Many of them have no concept of conservation past the phrases " go green " and " recycle". My students are hungry for this information and when provided with background about natural resource conservation I see that they begin to make more educated choices in their behaviors and are empowered to share with their families and communities.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

TESTIMONY to the Senate Committee on Education and
Committee on Higher Education

H.C.R. 178 H.D. 1

Requesting the Board of Education to incorporate Sustainability Education into the
Science Curriculum of Public Schools

Monday, April 15, 2013
1:15 PM -- Conference Room 414

Submitted in **OPPOSITION** by Mary Smart, Mililani, HI

Chairwoman Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Committee Members

1. This proposal must be rejected. Sustainability/Sustainably Development is not based on fact, therefore could never be considered a science. Science has right and wrong answers. Sustainable Development is a theory with an agenda to transform our world into a global community under the United Nations. Our citizens are becoming aware of Agenda 21 which initiated this movement and its potential harm to our state and nation.
2. Unproven theories should never be presented as truth. British courts required the [nine](#) blatant errors of Al Gore's "Inconvenient Truth" to be highlighted if that topic were taught in their schools. America's students were probably were unaware they were being exposed to false information in the classroom. Global warming or "climate change" is often taught as truth even though there are [many scientists](#) to have exposed it as a tremendous hoax as discussed in the Forbes op/ed "[Climate Change: 'Hoax' Or Crime Of The Century?](#)" Sustainability is a highly disputed topic. We can't perpetuate the practice of introducing erroneous information into the classroom, especially under the notion that it is "science."
3. Sustainable development values, activities and principles are not American values. It is pure propaganda and indoctrination. Many parents would object to the values and attitudes" of Sustainability that would be taught to their children. The terms "Sustainability" and "Sustainable Development" are intentionally vague so parents and citizens won't know what is actually promoted by this global effort. A good resource is a study titled, [Sustainability Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors, a Review of Multinational and Global Trends](#) by Anthony A. Leiserowitz, Robert W. Kates, and Thomas M. Parris. As the study reports, Sustainability advocates for redistribution of wealth, collectivism, equality of outcome (not opportunity), extreme environmentalism, population control through contraception, and global governance through the United Nations.
4. Instead of Sustainability, students should be taught about free markets, which are not based on greed but in meeting the needs of others. A good video explanation of why this is a more sustainable and fair system than the one proposed under the guise of "Sustainability" can be found [here](#). Solving poverty is often offered as a justification for

"Sustainability," and the "gap" between the rich and poor is offered as a measure of why some redistribution or intervention is needed. However, the concept the "gap" being the problem has been debunked for decades. Sadly we lost British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher recently, but we remember her lively [debate](#) on why the gap isn't as important as the level of prosperity for all. With free markets, barriers are broken down. Sustainability measures will only bring down the prosperous, not raise up the poor. Children should not be exposed to this inaccurate and highly politicized information.

5. Globalization and forced changes in lifestyle and institutions are key components of Sustainability. As the Hawaiians are determined to maintain their culture, the American culture is equally worthy of preservation. The "Great Transition" is essentially the imposition of a "New Age" religion and a "planned economy" on the population. According to the Leiserowitz, Kates, and Parris study, "The Great Transition scenario posits a world beyond 2050 in which the quality of human knowledge, creativity and self-realization are the measure of development, not the quantity of goods and services. While providing material sufficiency for all, it embraces equality, empowerment, and deep respect for the intrinsic values of nature. The Great Transition scenario specifically declares value change as a major tool and requirement for attaining a sustainable world, which would also require changes in lifestyles and in economic and social institutions. The Great Transition Initiative has since suggested that the requisite values are the quality of life, human solidarity, and ecological sensibility." That quote infers Sustainability fosters big government control over every aspect of our lives much like the politics of communism. America the most advanced nation and best stewards of our natural resources on the face of the earth based on virtue and religious values as clearly expressed in the book, "[The 5000 Year Leap](#)" by Leon Skousen. Hawaiian Queen Ka'ahumanu saw the value in the Christian religion and wished her people to join. Religion and virtue (other than atheism, humanism, paganism) appear to be missing in the values promoted by "Sustainable Development." The ahupuaa system was required when there was less mobility, technology, education, and private property. People had to do the bidding of royalty. They were forced into a collective economy. When the king redirected their efforts to the lumber trade, little fishing and farming was accomplished and many of the people starved to death. It is dangerous to develop an economy that depends only on local products and managed by an "elite". If there is a major drought, or other disaster, we must be able to import from the outside. Promoting a society that relies only on local products is impractical, costly, and not sustainable in the long run. Being able to import and export fresh products from other nations is evidence of our advanced civilization. We must maintain a robust Navy and Merchant Marine to keep the sea lanes open.

4 The Public Schools in Hawaii are failing. We are not adequately teaching our students the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Schools accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) was reported to be an embarrassing 38% in 2012. This is not the time to add a questionable and highly controversial topics into the curriculum. The only relationship to science would be in the Science Fiction department.