



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

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LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

February 5, 2013, 1:15 P.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 517

Aloha Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with over 10,000 dues-paying members and supporters, *supports* SB 517. This measure would ensure Hawai'i state and federal public housing residents have a choice to save money and energy by using a clothesline to dry their clothes.

Electric clothes dryers can consume over 10% of a household's energy demand. This is a cost to any public housing that offers electric dryers must bear, or pass along to its residents. Reducing the use of clothes dryers could substantially decrease the amount of fossil fuel electricity consumed. Unfortunately, some public housing areas may prohibit the use of using the sun to dry clothes—clotheslines—and some simply make it very difficult to use a clothesline.

While we are searching for ways to reduce our dependency on fossil fuel, save residents' money, and decrease global warming pollution, let's not forget about the basic—and decidedly low-tech—approaches to energy conservation. This bill, as amended, is a fair and balanced means to allow local residents to do the right thing for Hawaii's environment and economy.

The Sierra Club respectfully asks that this committee advance this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

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Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

January 30, 2013

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 517
Relating to Public Housing

Aloha Chair Senator Chun Oakland, Vice Chair Green and members of the Human Services Committee. My name is Alex Santiago and I am testifying in support of SB 517.

This bill will allow for residents of any public housing project or state low-income housing project to install and use clotheslines to dry their clothes. It is my understanding that in certain public housing and state run low income housing projects residents are prohibited from using clotheslines, even when it would be advantageous, environmentally friendly, and less expensive for them to do so. I would encourage this committee to pass this measure to allow for continued discussion about this issue.

Mahalo,

Alex Santiago