

HR77

Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for EEP/WAL on Mar 18

LATE

Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vicky Newman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/17/2014

Testimony for EEP/WAL on Mar 18, 2014 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vicky Newman	Hudnut LED Lighting	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Kai Lucas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Aloha+ Challenge resolution defines sustainability targets for Hawai'i. Although modest, they are an important step in the right direction. Since these targets were developed collaboratively by lead State agencies with key private partners and endorsed by Hawai'i Green Growth members- more that 50 leaders from government, business and non-profits, this statewide "challenge" already has been vetted by key players. It can provide the needed political leadership to make sustainability a state priority.

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HCR104/HR77
ENDORISING AND SUPPORTING THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
House Committee on Water & Land

March 18, 2014

8:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HCR104/HR77, which would establish six sustainability targets for Hawai‘i to achieve by 2030 in the areas of clean energy development, local food production, natural resource management, waste reduction, climate resilience/smart growth and green jobs.

Hawai‘i, despite its relative isolation, has a rich heritage of sustainability and self-sufficiency. Our ancestors understood the importance of living in harmony with the natural environment, and were able to support remarkable levels of people without depleting our islands’ limited resources. Through an ahupua‘a system of land management and with shared cultural practices of aloha (respect), laulima (cooperation) and mālama (stewardship), Native Hawaiians were able to maintain a desirable pono (balance) between the ‘āina and the people it sustained.

Today, our dependence upon imported goods, combined with the rising costs of fuel and historically short-sighted land use and development policies, has resulted in the incremental displacement and disenfranchisement of local residents, including Native Hawaiians in their own homelands. HCR104/HR77 seeks to focus our attention to alleviating the ever-increasing burdens of modern socioeconomic trends, and achieving the pono that once existed when our ancestors cultivated the land. The Administration of OHA recognizes the importance of such a vision, and OHA already actively supports initiatives to promote the health and restoration of native forests and watersheds, protect coral reefs and ocean resources, grow more local food for local consumption, and produce more clean energy. Accordingly, the Administration of OHA, along with the Governor and the mayors of all the counties, has already agreed to accept the Aloha+ Challenge embodied in these resolutions.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committees to **PASS** HCR104/HR77. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on these measures.

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Callahan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kirsten Rosa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Tuesday, March 18, 8:30am
Testimony in support of SCR 69, HR 77 & SB 2199 SD1 HD1

Aloha,

This testimony is in support of SCR 69, HR 77 & SB2199 SD 1 HD1, all of which set specific goals and targets to reach in the next few decades for a sustainable Hawai'i.

As it stands, these islands are increasingly vulnerable to the current and impending affects of climate change and sea level rise. As a student at UH Mānoa, I attended the 2nd Annual Hawai'i Sustainability in Higher Education Summit, which took place for three days last week to carry forth the discourse and action to make sustainability a priority in our institutes of higher education.

And this January, the Board of Regents passed a Systemwide policy in January emphasizing sustainability and affirming goals of carbon neutrality, zero-waste and local food self-sufficiency. It is undeniable that sustainability is coming to the forefront of the conversations and policies in Hawai'i.

Further, the 2050 Sustainability Plan for Hawai'i stated ambitious goals, yet remains stagnant following the creation of the document. Without clear targets to work towards, we threaten to remain a state of rhetoric and even worse, a state of inaction. The talking and collaboration has largely come to consensus among scientists, professionals, politicians and community members of these islands, and it is time to turn our words into meaningful action.

The President of Kiribati just visited the East-West Center on Thursday to speak to us as the islands of his nation are slowly being lost to sea level rise with significant parts of the coastline sinking every year. As an island state, we have a chance to be a leader in the arena of climate change so that in years to come, we do not find our own leaders having to share stories of the loss of our shorelines and the devastating effects of climate change on our livelihoods and our communities.

My testimony represents 150 students of the Student Sustainability Coalition of Hawai'i which includes dozens of students from neighbor islands who could not make it in person today. Hawai'i's ecosystem faces dire circumstances with myriad endangered and already extinct species on top of loss of viable agricultural land and decline in air and water quality. It is inevitable to address these issues to envision and create a healthier and vibrant Hawai'i, and we have the choice to begin addressing them today.

Mahalo,

Doora Shin