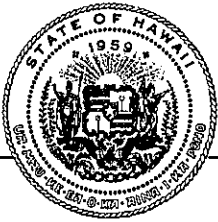


SB 2344

Measure Title: RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Report Title: Majority Package; Climate Change Adaptation Planning; Inter-Agency Climate Council; Appropriation. (\$)

Description: Addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the sustainability coordinator to create initial reports identifying expected climate impacts. Tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator. Establishes an interagency climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050. Appropriates funds for staffing and resources. Effective July 1, 2014.



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**
Thursday, February 6, 2014
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of
SB 2344
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Water and Land.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the joint majority package bill SB 2344 (companion bill HB 1714 - house majority caucus package), provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget, and offers the following comments for your consideration.

We are grateful that SB 2344 appropriates funds for staffing and resources related to OP's duties, enumerated therein; however, we urge you to consider augmenting the appropriated sum of \$110,000 to accurately reflect the revenues required to fund "two full time equivalent (FTE) positions, and resources to carry out the mission of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii." See Section 4.

In particular, OP requests that there be appropriated, at minimum, \$118,000 to cover the starting salaries of two Planner VIs (\$57,720 each/annually) and associated overhead (2%), based on the current salary schedule for Collective Bargaining Unit 13-SR26 as of January 1, 2014. See Compensation Plans for the State of Hawaii at <http://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Complan-010114.pdf>. In addition, OP also requests that supplementary funding be appropriated to provide, on a contractual basis, state and county agencies with technical assistance beyond that of the Planner VIs' expertise, including, but not limited to, scientific evaluation necessary to inform climate change adaptation planning.

Given the stated budget requests, OP urges you to consider the following amendment to page 17, lines 3 through 11:

“SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of [~~\$110,000~~] \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the office of planning with staffing including two full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, and resources to carry out the mission of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii.” (Deletions are bracketed. Additions are double underscored).

Lastly, OP offers a minor technical amendment to the language on page 3, lines 5 through 7. We recommend the following changes: “Hawaii is one of the last coastal states that has yet to adopt a statewide climate adaptation plan, yet is among the most vulnerable.” (Deletions are bracketed. Additions are double underscored).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act. The legislature finds that climate change is the paramount challenge of this century, posing both an urgent and long-term threat to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life.

The 2012 Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment found that throughout the Pacific warmer and drier conditions will decrease fresh water supplies. Rising sea levels, exacerbated by storms, will increase coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal ecosystems and infrastructure and affecting agriculture, tourism, military bases, and other industries. Higher sea-surface temperatures will increase coral bleaching, leading to coral death and habitat loss. Increasing ocean acidification will have negative consequences for the entire marine ecosystem. In the long term, open-ocean fisheries will decline. Rising temperatures, and in some areas reduced rainfall, will increase the risk of extinctions. Threats to the traditional lifestyles of indigenous communities may include destruction of coastal artifacts and structures and reduced availability of traditional food sources and subsistence fisheries, which will make it difficult for Pacific Island communities to sustain their connection with a defined place and their unique set of customs, beliefs, and languages.

The legislature further finds that beach erosion, drought, and rising temperature are already having measurable impacts on Hawaii and are expected to accelerate in the years to come. With beaches continuing to erode, rain continuing to diminish, and sea levels projected to rise one foot by 2050 and three feet by 2100, Hawaii is highly vulnerable.

In 2012, the legislature enacted Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, creating Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines encouraging collaboration to address climate change and recognizing that it will impact the following: agriculture; conservation lands; coastal and

nearshore marine areas; natural and cultural resources; education; energy; higher education; health; historic preservation; water resources; the built environment, such as housing, recreation, transportation; and the economy.

In 2013, Hawaii's landmark policies were included in the international Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership when Hawaii signed on as the first sub-national government, after which President Obama appointed Governor Abercrombie as one of eight governors to the State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

Hawaii is one of the last coastal states that has yet to adopt a statewide climate adaptation plan, yet is among the most vulnerable.

The legislature also finds that it is time to ensure that Hawaii adapts to the effects of climate change before they grow beyond our ability to prevent the worst impacts on our economy, environment, and way of life.

The purpose of this Act is to address the effects of climate change through 2050 to protect the State's economy, health, environment, and way of life. Recognizing Hawaii's unique geography as the only island State and its susceptibility to sea-level rise, the initial focus of this Act is to address the impact of sea level rise on Hawaii and to support ongoing climate change adaptation efforts of the State through the following actions:

- (1) Establish an Interagency Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Committee, attached to the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes, to develop a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report for Hawaii through the year 2050;
- (2) Authorize the office of planning to coordinate the development of a statewide climate adaptation plan and to use the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report as a framework for addressing other climate threats and climate change adaptation priorities identified in Act 286 (2012); and
- (3) Allocate funding and create positions to carry out these purposes.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER
INTERAGENCY SEA LEVEL RISE
VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION COMMITTEE**

SECTION 1. **"§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Committee" means the interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee."

"Chairperson" means the "chairperson of the department of land and natural resources."

§ -2 Interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established, an interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee that shall be placed within the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes only.

(b) Coordination of the committee shall be headed by the chairperson of the department, or his designee.

The committee shall:

- (1) Develop a sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that contains the following:
 - (A) Identification of the major areas of sea level rise impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;
 - (B) Identification of expected sea level rise impacts based on the latest scientific research for each area through 2050;
 - (C) Identification of economic ramifications of sea level rise;
 - (D) Identification of applicable federal laws, policies, or programs that impact affected areas; and
 - (E) Recommendations for planning, management, and adaptation for hazards associated with increasing sea level rise.

The report shall be made publicly available pursuant to this paragraph no later than December 31, 2017, and shall be updated every five years.

- (c) The committee shall include the following members:
 - (1) The chairs of the standing committees of the legislature with subject matter encompassing environmental protection and land use;
 - (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural resources or the chairperson's designee;
 - (3) The director of business, economic development, and tourism or the director's designee;
 - (4) The director of the office of planning or the director's designee;
 - (5) The chairperson of the board of directors of the Hawaii tourism authority or the chairperson's designee;
 - (6) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the chairperson's designee;
 - (7) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian affairs or the officer's designee;
 - (8) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission or the chairperson's designee;
 - (9) The director of transportation or the director's designee;
 - (10) The director of health or the director's designee
 - (11) The adjutant general or the adjutant general's designee; and
 - (12) The chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee;
 - (13) Directors of each of the county planning departments, or their designees; and
 - (14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.

(d) In addition to the members listed in subsection (c), the chairperson may designate members of the public; experts in the field; and county, state, or federal officials necessary for the formulation of the report.

(e) In the formulation of the report, the committee shall solicit public views and concerns.

(f) In the formulation of the report, the committee shall coordinate with the various county, state, and federal agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation planning initiatives.

(g) The committee shall reevaluate the sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report every 5 years.

SECTION 2. Section 225M-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The office of planning shall gather, analyze, and provide information to the governor to assist in the overall analysis and formulation of state policies and strategies to provide central direction and cohesion in the allocation of resources and effectuation of state activities and programs and effectively address current or emerging issues and opportunities. More specifically, the office shall engage in the following activities:

- (1) State comprehensive planning and program coordination. Formulating and articulating comprehensive statewide goals, objectives, policies, and priorities, and coordinating their implementation through the statewide planning system established in part II of chapter 226;
- (2) Strategic planning. Identifying and analyzing significant issues, problems, and opportunities confronting the State, and formulating strategies and alternative courses of action in response to identified problems and opportunities by:
 - (A) Providing in-depth policy research, analysis, and recommendations on existing or potential areas of critical state concern;
 - (B) Examining and evaluating the effectiveness of state programs in implementing state policies and priorities;
 - (C) Monitoring through surveys, environmental scanning, and other techniques-- current social, economic, and physical conditions and trends; and
 - (D) Developing, in collaboration with affected public or private agencies and organizations, implementation plans and schedules and, where appropriate, assisting in the mobilization of resources to meet identified needs;
- (3) Planning coordination and cooperation. Facilitating coordinated and cooperative planning and policy development and implementation activities among state agencies and between the state, county, and federal governments, by:
 - (A) Reviewing, assessing, and coordinating, as necessary, major plans, programs, projects, and regulatory activities existing or proposed by state and county agencies;
 - (B) Formulating mechanisms to simplify, streamline, or coordinate interagency development and regulatory processes; and
 - (C) Recognizing the presence of federal defense and security forces and agencies in the State as important state concerns;

- (4) Statewide planning and geographic information system. Collecting, integrating, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating various forms of data and information, including geospatial data and information, to further effective state planning, policy analysis and development, and delivery of government services by:
 - (A) Collecting, assembling, organizing, evaluating, and classifying existing geospatial and non-geospatial data and performing necessary basic research, conversions, and integration to provide a common database for governmental planning and geospatial analyses by state agencies;
 - (B) Planning, coordinating, and maintaining a comprehensive, shared statewide planning and geographic information system and associated geospatial database. The office shall be the lead agency responsible for coordinating the maintenance of the multi-agency, statewide planning and geographic information system and coordinating, collecting, integrating, and disseminating geospatial data sets that are used to support a variety of state agency applications and other spatial data analyses to enhance decision-making. The office shall promote and encourage free and open data sharing among and between all government agencies. To ensure the maintenance of a comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date geospatial data resource that can be drawn upon for decision-making related to essential public policy issues such as land use planning, resource management, homeland security, and the overall health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's citizens, and to avoid redundant data development efforts, state agencies shall provide to the shared system either their respective geospatial databases or, at a minimum, especially in cases of secure or confidential data sets that cannot be shared or must be restricted, metadata describing existing geospatial data. In cases where agencies provide restricted data, the office of planning shall ensure the security of that data; and
 - (C) Maintaining a centralized depository of state and national planning references;
- (5) Land use planning. Developing and presenting the position of the State in all boundary change petitions and proceedings before the land use commission, assisting state agencies in the development and submittal of petitions for land use district boundary amendments, and conducting periodic reviews of the classification and districting of all lands in the State, as specified in chapter 205;
- (6) Coastal and ocean policy management. Carrying out the lead agency responsibilities for the Hawaii coastal zone management program, as specified in chapter 205A. Also, developing and maintaining an ocean and coastal resources information, planning, and management system further developing and coordinating implementation of the ocean resources management plan, and formulating ocean policies with respect to the exclusive economic zone, coral reefs, and national marine sanctuaries;
- (7) Regional planning and studies. Conducting plans and studies to determine:
 - (A) The capability of various regions within the State to support projected increases in both resident populations and visitors;
 - (B) The potential physical, social, economic, and environmental impact on these regions resulting from increases in both resident populations and visitors;

- (C) The maximum annual visitor carrying capacity for the State by region, county, and island; and
- (D) The appropriate guidance and management of selected regions and areas of statewide critical concern.

The studies in subparagraphs (A) to (C) shall be conducted at appropriate intervals, but not less than once every five years; [~~and~~]

- (8) Regional, national, and international planning. Participating in and ensuring that state plans, policies, and objectives are consistent, to the extent practicable, with regional, national, and international planning efforts[-]; and
- (9) Climate adaptation planning. Conducting plans and studies and preparing reports as follows:
 - (A) Develop, monitor, and evaluate strategic climate adaptation plans and actionable policy recommendations for the State and counties addressing expected statewide climate change impacts identified under Act 286 (2012) through the year 2050;
 - (B) Provide planning and policy guidance and assistance to state and county agencies regarding climate change; and
 - (C) The office shall publish its findings, recommendations, and progress reports on actions taken no later than December 31, 2017, and in its annual report to the governor and the legislature thereafter."

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$57,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the office of planning with staffing including one full-time equivalent (FTE) position, and resources to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$57,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the department with staffing including one full-time equivalent (FTE) position, and resources to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to enable the department to research and develop a coordinated, multidisciplinary Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report pursuant to this Act.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the chairperson for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the office of planning to carry out its duties pursuant to this Act.

SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: _____

Report Title:

Majority Package; Climate Change Adaptation Planning; Interagency Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability And Adaptation Committee; Appropriation.

Description:

Addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the interagency sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee under the department of land and natural resources to create a sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that addresses sea-level rise impacts statewide out to 2050. Tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations using the sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report as framework for addressing other statewide climate impacts identified under Act 286 (2012). Appropriates funds for staffing and resources. Effective upon approval.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act. The legislature finds that climate change is the paramount challenge of this century, posing both an urgent and long-term threat to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life.

The 2012 Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment found that throughout the Pacific warmer and drier conditions will decrease fresh water supplies. Rising sea levels, exacerbated by storms, will increase coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal ecosystems and infrastructure and affecting agriculture, tourism, military bases, and other industries. Higher sea-surface temperatures will increase coral bleaching, leading to coral death and habitat loss. Increasing ocean acidification will have negative consequences for the entire marine ecosystem. In the long term, open-ocean fisheries will decline. Rising temperatures, and in some areas reduced rainfall, will increase the risk of extinctions. Threats to the traditional lifestyles of indigenous communities may include destruction of coastal artifacts and structures and reduced availability of traditional food sources and subsistence fisheries, which will make it difficult for Pacific Island communities to sustain their connection with a defined place and their unique set of customs, beliefs, and languages.

The legislature further finds that beach erosion, drought, and rising temperature are already having measurable impacts on Hawaii and are expected to accelerate in the years to come. With beaches continuing to erode, rain continuing to diminish, and sea levels projected to rise one foot by 2050 and three feet by 2100, Hawaii is highly vulnerable.

In 2012, the legislature enacted Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, creating Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines encouraging collaboration to address climate change and recognizing that it will impact the following: agriculture; conservation lands; coastal and

nearshore marine areas; natural and cultural resources; education; energy; higher education; health; historic preservation; water resources; the built environment, such as housing, recreation, transportation; and the economy.

In 2013, Hawaii's landmark policies were included in the international Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership when Hawaii signed on as the first sub-national government, after which President Obama appointed Governor Abercrombie as one of eight governors to the State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

Hawaii is one of the last coastal states that has yet to adopt a statewide climate adaptation plan, yet is among the most vulnerable.

The legislature also finds that it is time to ensure that Hawaii adapts to the effects of climate change before they grow beyond our ability to prevent the worst impacts on our economy, environment, and way of life.

The purpose of this Act is to address the effects of climate change through 2050 to protect the State's economy, health, environment, and way of life ~~by establishing a statewide climate adaptation plan that will.~~ Recognizing Hawaii's unique geography as the only island State and its susceptibility to sea-level rise, the initial focus of this Act is to address the impact of sea level rise on Hawaii and to support ongoing climate change adaptation efforts of the State through the following actions:

~~(1) Assess the major areas of expected climate impacts in Hawaii;~~

~~(2) Create a model framework for assisting communities in developing recommendations for~~

- (1) Establish an Interagency Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Committee, attached to the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes, to develop a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report for Hawaii through the year 2050;

Authorize the office of planning to coordinate the development of a statewide climate adaptation based on site specific studies;

~~(3) Develop short and long term plans and actionable policy recommendations to ensure the state and counties address the impacts of plan and to use the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report as a framework for addressing other climate threats and climate change;~~

~~(4) Establish an interagency climate council to facilitate ongoing coordination among state departments, counties, federal agencies, and partners; and~~

~~(4)(2) (5) Update expected impacts and adaptation policies every five years, as necessary, priorities identified in Act 286 (2012); and~~

~~(3) Allocate funding and create positions to carry out these purposes.~~

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"CHAPTER

~~INTERAGENCY CLIMATE COUNCIL~~

~~"§ -1 INTERAGENCY climate council; coordinator~~SEA LEVEL RISE

VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. "§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

"Committee" means the interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee."

"Chairperson" means the "chairperson of the department of land and natural resources."

§ -2 Interagency sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established ~~on January 1, 2015, an interagency climate council~~sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee that shall be temporarily placed within the office of the governor; ~~provided that on January 1, 2018, the interagency climate council shall be permanently established within the department of land and natural resources for administrative purposes only.~~

(b) Coordination of the ~~interagency climate council~~committee shall be headed by the ~~governor's sustainability coordinator. The coordinator shall have, at minimum;~~chairperson of the department, or his designee.

~~(1) Professional training or work experience in the field of environmental science and environmental sustainability; and~~

~~(2) Direct experience in programs, projects, or services relating to climate change.~~

~~(c)~~

The ~~coordinator~~committee shall:

(1) ~~(1) Develop a climate change impact~~sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that contains the following:

(A) ~~(A) Identification of the major areas of climate change impact~~sea level rise impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;

- (B) ~~Impact expectations~~ Identification of expected sea level rise impacts based on the latest scientific research for each ~~issue~~ area through 2050;
- (C) ~~Identification of economic ramifications of major climate impacts~~ sea level rise;
- (D) ~~Analysis~~ Identification of climate change adaptation applicable federal laws, policies, or programs that impact affected areas; and

Recommendations for planning in other jurisdictions relevant to Hawaii, management, and

- (E) ~~A model framework for assisting communities in developing recommendations for climate adaptation based on site specific studies~~ for hazards associated with increasing sea level rise.

The report shall be ~~published~~ made publicly available pursuant to this paragraph no later than December 31, ~~2015~~ 2017, and shall be updated every five years.

- (2) ~~Develop a plan to transition the interagency climate council's administrative placement to the department of land and natural resources by no later than January 1, 2018.~~

~~(dc)~~ The interagency climate council committee shall include the following members:

- (1) ~~(1)~~ The chairs of the standing committees of the legislature with subject matter encompassing environmental protection and land use;
- (2) ~~(2)~~ The chairperson of the board of land and natural resources or the chairperson's designee;
- (3) ~~(3)~~ The director of business, economic development, and tourism or the director's designee;
- (4) ~~(4)~~ The director of the office of planning or the director's designee;
- (5) ~~(5)~~ The chairperson of the board of directors of the Hawaii tourism authority or the chairperson's designee;
- (6) ~~(6)~~ The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the chairperson's designee;
- (7) ~~(7)~~ The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian affairs or the officer's designee;
- (8) ~~(8)~~ The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission or the chairperson's designee;
- (9) ~~(9)~~ The director of transportation or the director's designee;
- (10) ~~(10)~~ The director of health or the director's designee;
- (10)(11) The adjutant general or the adjutant general's designee; and
- (11)(12) ~~(11)~~ The chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee;

~~(13) ——— (e) Directors of each of the county planning departments, or their designees;
and~~

~~(14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.~~

~~(d) In addition to the members listed in subsection (d), the following shall be requested to participate, the chairperson may designate members of the public; experts in the activities of the interagency climate council:~~

- ~~(1) The governor;~~
- ~~(2) The commander of the United States Pacific Command;~~
- ~~(3) The director of the department of planning and permitting of the cityfield; and county of Honolulu;~~
- ~~(4) The planning director of the Kauai county planning department;~~
- ~~(5) The planning director of the planning department of the county of Hawaii;~~
- ~~(6) The director of the department of planning of the county of Maui;~~
- ~~(7) The president of the University of Hawaii;~~
- ~~(8) The director of the University of Hawaii sea grant program;~~
- ~~(9) The executive director of the national disaster preparedness training center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~(10) The dean of the school of ocean and earth science and technology of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~(11) The dean of the college of tropical agriculture and human resources of the University of Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- ~~(12) The regional administrator of region A of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or regional administrator's designee;~~
- ~~(13) The regional administrator of region IX of the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security;~~
- ~~(14) The Honolulu field office director of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;~~

~~_____ (15) The commander and district engineer, state, or federal officials necessary for the Honolulu district, United States Army Corps of Engineers; formulation of the report.~~

~~_____ (16) A representative of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;~~

~~_____ (17) A representative of the United States Department of Energy;~~

~~_____ (18) A representative of the United States Department of Agriculture; and~~

~~_____ (19) Representatives of any other agency or organization related to climate change that the coordinator designates as appropriate.~~

~~_____ (f) The council shall be responsible for implementing a general state policy to address the effects of climate change through 2050 to protect the State's economy, health, environment, and way of life.~~

~~_____ § -2 Definitions. As used in this chapter:~~

~~_____ "Council" means the interagency climate council."~~

~~_____ (e) In the formulation of the report, the committee shall solicit public views and concerns.~~

~~_____ (f) In the formulation of the report, the committee shall coordinate with the various county, state, and federal agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation planning initiatives.~~

~~_____ (g) The committee shall reevaluate the sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report every 5 years.~~

~~_____ SECTION 32. Section 225M-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:~~

~~"(b) The office of planning shall gather, analyze, and provide information to the governor to assist in the overall analysis and formulation of state policies and strategies to provide central direction and cohesion in the allocation of resources and effectuation of state activities and programs and effectively address current or emerging issues and opportunities. More specifically, the office shall engage in the following activities:~~

- ~~(1) —(1)—State comprehensive planning and program coordination. Formulating and articulating comprehensive statewide goals, objectives, policies, and priorities, and coordinating their implementation through the statewide planning system established in part II of chapter 226;~~
- ~~(2) —(2)—Strategic planning. Identifying and analyzing significant issues, problems, and opportunities confronting the State, and formulating strategies and alternative courses of action in response to identified problems and opportunities by:~~

- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Providing in-depth policy research, analysis, and recommendations on existing or potential areas of critical state concern;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Examining and evaluating the effectiveness of state programs in implementing state policies and priorities;
 - (C) ~~————— (C) —~~ Monitoring through surveys, environmental scanning, and other techniques--current social, economic, and physical conditions and trends; and
 - (D) ~~————— (D) —~~ Developing, in collaboration with affected public or private agencies and organizations, implementation plans and schedules and, where appropriate, assisting in the mobilization of resources to meet identified needs;
- (3) ~~—(3)—~~ Planning coordination and cooperation. Facilitating coordinated and cooperative planning and policy development and implementation activities among state agencies and between the state, county, and federal governments, by:
- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Reviewing, assessing, and coordinating, as necessary, major plans, programs, projects, and regulatory activities existing or proposed by state and county agencies;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Formulating mechanisms to simplify, streamline, or coordinate interagency development and regulatory processes; and
 - (C) ~~————— (C) —~~ Recognizing the presence of federal defense and security forces and agencies in the State as important state concerns;
- (4) ~~—(4)—~~ Statewide planning and geographic information system. Collecting, integrating, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating various forms of data and information, including geospatial data and information, to further effective state planning, policy analysis and development, and delivery of government services by:
- (A) ~~————— (A) —~~ Collecting, assembling, organizing, evaluating, and classifying existing geospatial and non-geospatial data and performing necessary basic research, conversions, and integration to provide a common database for governmental planning and geospatial analyses by state agencies;
 - (B) ~~————— (B) —~~ Planning, coordinating, and maintaining a comprehensive, shared statewide planning and geographic information system and associated geospatial database. The office shall be the lead agency responsible for coordinating the maintenance of the multi-agency, statewide planning and geographic information system and coordinating, collecting, integrating, and disseminating geospatial data sets that are used to support a variety of state agency applications and other spatial data analyses to enhance decision-making. The office shall promote and encourage free and open data sharing among and between all government agencies. To ensure the maintenance of a comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date geospatial data resource that can be drawn upon for decision-making related to essential public policy issues such as land use planning, resource management, homeland security, and the overall health, safety, and well-being of Hawaii's citizens, and to avoid redundant data development efforts, state agencies shall provide to the shared system either their respective geospatial databases or, at a minimum,

especially in cases of secure or confidential data sets that cannot be shared or must be restricted, metadata describing existing geospatial data. In cases where agencies provide restricted data, the office of planning shall ensure the security of that data; and

- (C) ~~—————(C)—————~~ Maintaining a centralized depository of state and national planning references;
- (5) ~~—(5)—~~ Land use planning. Developing and presenting the position of the State in all boundary change petitions and proceedings before the land use commission, assisting state agencies in the development and submittal of petitions for land use district boundary amendments, and conducting periodic reviews of the classification and districting of all lands in the State, as specified in chapter 205;
- (6) ~~—(6)—~~ Coastal and ocean policy management. Carrying out the lead agency responsibilities for the Hawaii coastal zone management program, as specified in chapter 205A. Also, developing and maintaining an ocean and coastal resources information, planning, and management system further developing and coordinating implementation of the ocean resources management plan, and formulating ocean policies with respect to the exclusive economic zone, coral reefs, and national marine sanctuaries;
- (7) ~~—(7)—~~ Regional planning and studies. Conducting plans and studies to determine:
 - (A) ~~—————(A)—————~~ The capability of various regions within the State to support projected increases in both resident populations and visitors;
 - (B) ~~—————(B)—————~~ The potential physical, social, economic, and environmental impact on these regions resulting from increases in both resident populations and visitors;
 - (C) ~~—————(C)—————~~ The maximum annual visitor carrying capacity for the State by region, county, and island; and
 - (D) ~~—————(D)—————~~ The appropriate guidance and management of selected regions and areas of statewide critical concern.

The studies in subparagraphs (A) to (C) shall be conducted at appropriate intervals, but not less than once every five years; ~~and~~

- (8) ~~—(8)—~~ Regional, national, and international planning. Participating in and ensuring that state plans, policies, and objectives are consistent, to the extent practicable, with regional, national, and international planning efforts[-]; and
- (9) ~~—(9)—~~ Climate adaptation planning. ~~In coordination with stakeholder groups consisting of state~~ Conducting plans and county government agencies, academia, federal partners, studies and private and nonprofit organizations, the office shall preparing reports as follows:
 - (A) ~~—————(A)—————~~ Develop, monitor, and evaluate strategic climate adaptation plans and actionable policy recommendations for the State and counties addressing expected statewide climate change impacts identified under Act 286 (2012) through the year 2050 in major climate issue areas identified by the sustainability coordinator's report, pursuant to section —1(c)(1);

~~(B)~~ ~~————~~ ~~(B)~~ Provide planning and policy guidance and assistance to the interagency climate council and state and county agencies regarding climate change; and

(C) The office shall publish its findings, recommendations, and progress reports on actions taken pursuant to subparagraph (A) no later than December 31, 20162017, and shall publish updated reports every five years in its annual report to the governor and the legislature thereafter."

~~_____ SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$110,00057,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the office of planning with staffing including ~~two~~ one full-time equivalent (FTE) ~~positions~~ position, and resources to carry out the ~~mission~~ purposes of the office and assist state and county agencies with scientific evaluation, research, planning, and policy guidance relative to strategic climate change adaptation plans for the State of Hawaii ~~this Act.~~~~

~~———— The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of planning for the purposes of this Act.~~

~~SECTION 5.~~ SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$57,720 and associated overhead of \$1,154, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the department with staffing including one full-time equivalent (FTE) position, and resources to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to enable the ~~sustainability coordinator~~ department to research and develop a coordinated, multidisciplinary ~~climate change study~~ Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report pursuant to this Act.

~~_____ The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor~~ chairperson for the purposes of this Act.

~~_____ SECTION 67.~~ SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the ~~interagency climate council~~ office of planning to carry out its duties pursuant to this Act.

~~The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor.~~

~~_____ SECTION 78.~~ SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

~~_____ SECTION 89.~~ SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; ~~provided that sections 4, 5, and 6 take effect on July 1, 2014.~~

INTRODUCED BY: _____

—
Report Title:

Majority Package; Climate Change Adaptation Planning; ~~Inter-Agency Climate Council~~ Interagency Sea-Level Rise Vulnerability And Adaptation Committee; Appropriation.

Description:

Addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the ~~sustainability coordinator~~ interagency sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation committee under the department of land and natural resources to create ~~initial reports~~ identifying expected climate sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report that addresses sea-level rise impacts statewide out to 2050. Tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations ~~based on reports from sustainability coordinator~~. Establishes an ~~interagency~~ using the sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation report as framework for addressing other statewide climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050. ~~impacts identified under Act 286 (2012)~~. Appropriates funds for staffing and resources. Effective ~~July 1, 2014~~ upon approval.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII

Testimony of
JACQUELINE KOZAK THIEL
State Sustainability Coordinator

Before the Senate Committees on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
and
WATER AND LAND

Thursday February 6, 2014
2:45 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2344
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Senate Bill 2344 proposes to address climate change impacts in Hawaii with an integrated approach to support research, planning and coordination. **The State Sustainability Coordinator strongly supports this measure and the amendments proposed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) in their testimony.**

The proposed amendments align with the overall approach of the bill and build on existing efforts to focus resources and address immediate needs for climate change adaptation in Hawaii.

DLNR believes that sea level rise (SLR) is a critical first step of the long-term Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative. As an island state, Hawaii is especially vulnerable to the impacts of SLR. SLR is recognized as a priority, high-risk climate change impact in Senate Bill 2344, as well as in House Bill 1714. It is urgent to assess and adapt to the SLR projections that will have impacts on multiple sectors and communities as part of an overall climate change adaptation strategy.

By first focusing on SLR, we can create a framework that can be used to address other climate change impacts that considers the Hawaii Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines (Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012), localized and site-specific information, policy recommendations, and economic implications for long-range planning and implementation.

While the State Sustainability Coordinator is currently a temporary position within DLNR, tasking DLNR and the Office of Planning (OP) with coordinating the studies and delivering the reports will solidify institutionalized relationships and leverage additional assistance from the State Sustainability Coordinator position.

The Governor reaffirmed the importance of this initiative in his State of the State and will continue to direct interagency collaboration and prioritization for climate change adaptation. DLNR and OP have been spearheading climate change adaptation efforts and are well-positioned to lead the interagency climate initiatives.

The State Sustainability Coordinator deeply appreciates the majority support for the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure that invests in strategic action to address the paramount challenge of climate change for present and future generations.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



GARY L. GILL
ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
S.B. 2344, RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Testimony of Gary L. Gill
Acting Director of Health

February 6, 2014
2:45 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health **SUPPORTS** this measure because of the
2 coordinated strategy it sets forth to address the effects of climate change in Hawaii. However, the
3 Department requests that it be added to the list of Interagency Climate Council members described in
4 section (d) of the new chapter on the Council in Section 2 of the measure.

5 **Fiscal Implications:** The measure requests an \$110,000 appropriation out of the General Fund for
6 fiscal year 2014-2015 to provide the Office of Planning with staff and resources to assist with planning
7 and policy-making. It also requests \$400,000 in General Funds to enable the State Sustainability
8 Coordinator to research and develop a coordinated, multidisciplinary climate change study, and \$50,000
9 for the Interagency Climate Council to carry out its duties.

10 **Purpose and Justification:** Given the effects of climate change on the people of Hawaii and on the
11 environment as a whole, the Department supports this measure because of its recognition of the
12 unprecedented challenges that climate change presents to the State's sustainability, security, and
13 economy and the need for planning to adapt to and address these challenges. The measure's creation of

Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness

1 the Interagency Climate Council is an important step towards formulating a coordinated climate change
2 strategy, and the Department supports the creation of the Council. However, it requests that the Director
3 of the Department of Health (or Director's designee) be included in the list of members set forth in
4 section (d) of the "Interagency Climate Council" chapter described in Section 2 of the measure.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Honorable Malama Solomon, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land
February 6, 2014
S.B. 2344
Testimony of BIA-Hawaii

We would encourage the legislature to consider using existing resources supplemented with private consultants and/or research grants to address the first two phases discussed earlier as an alternative to immediately creating another government entity. Once the science and policies have been identified and developed, the legislature will be in a better position to identify the focus, staffing and funding levels for a new entity to implement or oversee the implementations of the policy recommendations, as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.

Submitted by

Shannon Wood, *President*
Windward Ahupua`a Alliance
P.O. Box 6366
Kane`ohe, HI 96744
Voicemail: 808/247-6366; Cellular: 808/223-4481 or 808/224-4496 (personal)
Website: <http://www.waa-hawaii.org>; E-mail: info@waa-hawaii.org

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair
Sen. Russell Ruderman, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Sen. Malama Solomon, Chair
Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

2:45 pm
Thursday, February 6, 2014
Conference Room 225

SB 2344 - RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE
Comments & Proposed Amendments

I am Shannon Wood, the co-founder and president of the *Windward Ahupua`a Alliance*, a 501c3 Hawai`i non-profit corporation which was established in July, 2002, to create the Ko`olau Greenbelt & Heritage Trails System to restore, protect & provide public access to the *mauka* lands on the Windward side of O`ahu along the base of *Na Ko`olau* as well as to support locally-owned sustainable economic activities in the more developed areas. Its mandate, however, has greatly expanded over the past eleven-plus years well beyond these important regional issues.

In addition to planning how & where we will live, work & play, *WAA* also advocates on matters as diverse as developing new waste management programs; setting long-term watershed protection policies based upon *ahupua`a* concepts; creating locally-owned "green" economic development opportunities; supporting renewable energy standards to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and mitigating the impacts of global warming & rising sea levels around the world by working on public policy changes at all three levels of government.

I began working on climate change/global warming issues back in 1998. By 2006, I was actively involved in advocacy, legal, and scientific climate change issues not only here in Hawai`i but also nationally after becoming a member of Al Gore's **CLIMATE PROJECT** team.

In 2008, I started working with legislators to establish a Climate Change Task Force which included a significant number of non-governmental members with strong professional/educational experience. In 2009, the bill was sent up to *Governor Lingle*, but she vetoed it. In a special session in July, 2009, the *Legislature* overrode her veto so it became **ACT 20 - 2009 Special Session**; however, she refused to release the funding so **ACT 20 - 2009 Special Session** died in FY 2011.

I tried to get similar legislation passed two years ago, but it was deferred because the *Legislature* had decided to take a different approach to addressing climate change issues.

In early 2011, I became actively involved with a group of NGOs based in Washington, D.C. and New York working on national & international climate change issues. Over time, I became part of the *Pacific Ocean* sub-tgroup.

Here are my concerns with regards to **SB 2344**:

1. Too many members who do not have the necessary education/experience to understand the impacts of climate change and to address them with respect to their "day job";
2. Too many bureaucrats who just love sitting around a table talking but don't want to actually go out to educate & inform the public - especially under the age of 40 - and legislators;
3. Not enough scientists and policy advocates;
4. Not bringing in professionals who are working outside of Hawai`i;
5. Not updating the dates when things are going to go out of control;

6. The negative impacts due to changes in the state & county administrations.

Finally, There are at least ten people here in Hawai'i who are either involved with an **NGO** or are working directly on climate change issues as part of their "day job" who should be included in the legislation - not by name but by their work.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share my concerns. I

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2344 Relating to Climate Change
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Thursday, February 6, 2014, 2:45PM, Room 225

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 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 supports S.B. 2344 and its proposed climate change policy, coordination and adaptation planning actions.

Climate change caused by burning fossil fuels is an imminent and unprecedented threat to every person in Hawai'i. It is our responsibility to do what we can and what is necessary reduce our own carbon emissions, however small on a global scale, to contribute to the worldwide effort needed to mitigate the growing effects of climate change.

Even if we drastically reduce CO₂ emissions now, however, we will still feel certain effects of climate change. In Hawai'i, science indicates that this will likely include:

- More frequent and more severe storms that can increase runoff and siltation;
- Overall, less rainfall and therefore less fresh water;
- Higher temperatures that affect watershed and agricultural health, while being beneficial to invasive species;
- Sea level rise and high waves that will harm coastal areas and groundwater systems;
- Ocean acidification that will inhibit the growth of protective coral reefs.

In response, we must plan and implement mitigative and adaptive measures to ensure the resilience of our natural and human systems. Protecting and enhancing the health and function of our forested watersheds as proposed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources is one critically important initiative. Healthy Hawaiian forests that are not overrun by invasive species act like a sponge, collecting rain and moisture from passing clouds, slowly delivering fresh water into streams and aquifers, absorbing greenhouse gases, and reducing runoff and siltation into near shore waters during storm events. Likewise, investing in local energy and agriculture security are essential components of building self-reliance and resilience here in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. It's important to coordinate efforts such as these and others in a comprehensive climate change response and adaption plan.

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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment and Committee on Water
and Land

Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 225

RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2344 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, and Vice Chairs Ruderman and Galuteria, and members of the committees:

The Chamber **supports** the intent of S.B. 2344, which is intended to address climate change adaptation by creating a new government entity, the interagency climate council and tasking the head of this new entity, the sustainability coordinator, with creating initial reports identifying expected climate impacts. The bill also tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator. The bill establishes a goal of having the interagency climate council of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

While we understand the need to address concerns regarding climate change, we believe that the approach should be structured around two narrow goals.

The first would be to establish the facts of what impacts climate change may have on our state. There would be a need to differentiate between normal coastal erosion and sea level rise caused by climate change. Once the "science" is understood, the next question would be to project the rate or rates at which both processes are expected to occur over time. This approach and methodology should provide a range of different outcomes depending on certain established scientific variables.

The second goal would be to take the "science" and develop public policies based on mitigating impacts identified from the science. These policies should establish certain milestones which would trigger policy implementation.

The sheer scope and magnitude of this effort should involve more than government officials as there are significant sections of Hawaii's coastline that are privately owned. Furthermore, much of the State's valuable visitor industry infrastructure and amenities are located along a narrow band along the State's coastline.

Rather than create another layer of government, it may be prudent to engage in a discussion on the "Science" with educators and researchers from the University of Hawaii and other institutions that may have research conducted or in process on the science of climate change. The policy discussions should occur after the science has been obtained.

We would encourage the legislature to consider using existing resources supplemented with private consultants and/or research grants to address the first two phases discussed earlier as an alternative to immediately creating another government entity. Once the science and policies have been identified and developed, the legislature will be in a better position to identify the focus, staffing and funding levels for a new entity to implement or oversee the implementations of the policy recommendations, as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views on this matter.



Thursday, February 6, 2014

Relating To Senate Bill 2344
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, Vice-Chairs Ruderman and Galuteria, and Members of the Senate Committees on Energy and the Environment and Water & Land.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii **supports SB2344 Relating to Climate Change**, which seeks to address climate change adaptation by tasking the sustainability coordinator to create initial reports identifying expected climate impacts; tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator; establishes an interagency climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050; and Appropriates funds for staffing and resources.

The Democratic Party of Hawaii agrees that climate change is the paramount challenge of this century, posing both an urgent and long-term threat to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life. Beach erosion, drought, and rising temperatures are already having measurable impacts on our State and are promising only to worsen in coming years

While the Party supports this legislation, we do suggest that the Interagency Climate Council be immediately and permanently housed with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and that the Chairperson of the Department head the council itself. Doing so strengthens the council's ability to have its policy suggestions enacted upon in a timely manner consistent with the council's conclusions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,
The Legislation Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii.



LIFE OF THE LAND

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96837-0158
Phone: 927-0709; E: henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 06, 2014

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 225

SB 2344 CLIMATE CHANGE

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Galuteria, and Members of the Committee

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for four decades. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

SB 2344 proposes that the Governor's sustainability coordinator create initial reports identifying expected climate impacts.

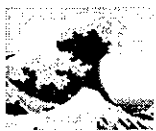
There are no laws that focus on how the public utilities commission should deal with climate change.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

A new section of §269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes is added.

§269-92 Renewable portfolio standards (e) The public utilities commission shall give higher preference to renewable energy resources with lower life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.

Mahalo,
Henry Curtis, Executive Director



Disaster Resilience, L.L.C.

Sarah Henly-Shepard, MPH, Ph.D., Director, Founder

2014

ATTN: THE SENATE, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014, REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Malama Solomon, Chair

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

Regarding Measure: SB2344—Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative Act

Measure Title: RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Introducer(s): KIM, BAKER, CHUN OAKLAND, DELA CRUZ, ENGLISH, ESPERO, GABBARD, GALUTERIA, GREEN, HEE, IGE, IHARA, KAHELE, KEITH-AGARAN, KIDANI, KOUCHI, NISHIHARA, RUDERMAN, SHIMABUKURO, SOLOMON, L. THIELEN, TOKUDA, WAKAI, Taniguchi

Hearing Date & Time: 2/6/2014, 2:45PM, Room 225

Testimony Submitted by: Sarah Henly-Shepard, MPH, Ph.D.
Director, Consultant
Disaster Resilience, L.L.C.
P.O. BOX 256649, Honolulu, HI, 96825
www.disasterresiliencellc.org

Testimony:

My name is Sarah Henly-Shepard, Director and Consultant of Disaster Resilience, L.L.C. based in Honolulu, HI. I have been working in public health, community development, disaster preparedness, response, relief and resilience for over 10 years internationally and 5 years in Hawaii.

The Hawaiian Islands are at significant risk to impacts from natural and anthropogenic hazards, exacerbated by impacts from climate change and an over-dependency on imported food and energy. Although there are multiple agencies and efforts engaged in addressing the multi-faceted issues of climate change adaptation and disaster resilience (i.e. hazard mitigation, disaster preparedness, climate change, disaster risk reduction, planning, sustainable food policy, among others) they remain relatively disconnected. Currently there are multiple community-based disaster preparedness and resilience groups across O'ahu and the State, which are integrating these sectors and issues at the local level, building on local capacity and leveraging partnerships with residents, governmental agencies, non-governmental and community organizations, as evidenced in the recent development of a cross-island community resilience network. These efforts provide case studies and best practices for on-the-ground research and planning that offer sound and relevant guidance for this Measure and the resulting Task Force and Plan.

Thus, I support this bill with reservations, and suggest the following amendments: 1) inclusion of at least one community chairperson as a representative of the cross-island community resilience network (or like group), to serve on the Task Force (see member #19 "Representatives of any other agency or organization related to climate change that the coordinator designates as appropriate"); and, 2) consideration for utilizing and building capacity of current (and future) community-based adaptation and resilience efforts as a key pathway to development of a statewide climate adaptation plan. Mahalo for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Sarah Henly-Shepard, MPH, Ph.D.
Director, Consultant, Disaster Resilience, L.L.C.

SB2344

Submitted on: 1/30/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Borgnino	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: This is a very important bill the state must get ready for the effects of climate change.

SB2344

Submitted on: 1/29/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ed Wagner	Individual	Comments Only	No

Visualizing How To Evaluate GHG Emissions Reductions Targets by National, State, and Regional Governments, Part II - See more at: <http://blogs.law.widener.edu/climate/#sthash.Ho0emjRb.dpuf>

The US commitment to reduce its ghg emissions made in Copenhagen in 2009 of 17% below 2005 by 2020 and commitments of even those US state governments who have shown some leadership on climate change are now woefully inadequate in light of the most recent climate change science.. A new paper helps to explain this:

[Visualizing Why US National and US State Governments' GHG Reductions Commitments Are Now Woefully Inadequate in Light Of Recent Science.](#)

The paper can also be found at Ethicsandclimate.org

The global media in general and the US press in particular are failing to cover this story.

Two important cluster of facts must be understood to fully comprehend the basis for this inadequacy. One is the incredibly **small carbon budget remaining** for ghg emissions that may be emitted by the entire world to avoid dangerous climate change. The second is the **undeniable need of high-emitting nations, regional, state, and local governments, and individuals to set their emissions reductions targets based upon distributive justice and equity** not on equal percentage reductions or national economic interests. This paper seeks to help people visualize these complex facts so that citizens can better understand the inadequacy of the current US policies on climate change.

Donald A. Brown

Scholar In Residence and Professor
Sustainability Ethics and Law

Widener University School of Law, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Part-Time Professor, Nanjing Univ of Information Sci and Technology,
Nanjing, China.

<http://ssrn.com/author=1331896> (papers published on SSRN)
[717-802-1009](tel:717-802-1009) (cell)

Climate Change Ethics: Navigating the Perfect Moral Storm;
<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415625722/>
dabrown57@gmail.com
Ethicsandclimate.org

<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/68368447/01%20Climate%20Change%20v2.pdf>

SB2344

Submitted on: 2/1/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support.

SB2344

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Oppose	No

SB2344

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for ENE/WTL on Feb 6, 2014 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Why are we putting off addressing Climate Change today when we clearly should be dealing with it TODAY? No more stalling! This must be taken care of NOW!

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
And
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Thursday, February 06, 2014; 2:45 pm

By

J. Kenneth Grace

SB 2344 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chairs Gabbard and Solomon, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Galuteria, and members of the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment, and on Water and Land, thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for SB 2344, which addresses climate change adaptation by tasking the sustainability coordinator to create initial reports identifying expected climate impacts; tasks the Office of Planning with establishing and implementing strategic climate adaptation plans and policy recommendations based on reports from sustainability coordinator; establishes an interagency climate council with the task of implementing a general state policy to address climate change through 2050; and appropriates funds for staffing and resources for these purposes.

My name is J. Kenneth Grace, and I am the Interim Associate Dean and Associate Director for Research in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am providing personal testimony today on SB 2344.

Climate change is projected to have significant impacts on island states. Hawai'i has already experienced six years of drought, which has had a serious negative impact on the livestock sector of our diversified agricultural economy. These drought conditions are projected to increase in frequency and duration; average temperatures are projected to increase; and rising seas will increase shoreline erosion problems, with concomitant negative effects on fishing and aquaculture and other shoreline resources, and increasing salinity in near-shore agricultural systems. Impact of drought and increasing temperatures on watersheds and forestry activities are other consequences of climate change that demand preparation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of SB 2344.