



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII **LATE**
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Friday March 18, 2016 9AM Room 414

In Support **HB2646** Relating to Environmental Protection

Aloha Chairmen Sen. Wakai, Chairwoman Sen. Baker and members of the Senate EET and CPH Committees,

On behalf of our 12,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports** HB2646 to establish a permanent task force to address the jet fuel leaks from the Navy's storage tanks in Red Hill.

Red Hill Fuel Tanks Threaten Our Water

The Navy's 70-year-old fuel tanks store thousands of gallons of jet fuel 100-feet above the primary drinking water source for the majority of O'ahu. All of the original 20 tanks installed in the 1940's have evidence of leaking jet fuel. Jet fuel contamination has been detected in the aquifer, though not near to the public drinking water pump station. The amount of jet fuel that has leaked, its location, and the options for remediating the contamination remain unknown.

More information and oversight is needed

A public forum for dissemination of information is crucial to ensuring the Red Hill situation is properly handled. The task force originally created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 73 in 2014 helped improve transparency over Red Hill and increased public trust in the decisions being made. This task force provides an opportunity for the public to understand the issues and engage with decision makers.

We ask that the bill be amended to take effect upon signing.

For these reasons, the Sierra Club urges this Committee to move this measure forward. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo,

Martha Townsend
Director