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Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii  
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Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Deputy to the Chairperson

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

MARCH 21, 2017  
9:00 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 118  
URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HAWAII GREEN FUELS INITIATIVE TO  
COINCIDE WITH INCREASE LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION.

Chairperson Lee and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HCR118. This resolution urges the significant growth, development, intensification, and expansion of agriculture to incorporate dedicated food and biofuel feedstock growth to achieve the goals of food and biofuel feedstock sustainability and security through a "Hawaii Green Fuels Initiative". The resolution describes an "integrated food and biofuel supply chain" that "would create storage, pre-processing, and conversion refinery plants, and coupling increased food production with increased biofuel feedstock production would provide additional revenue for farmers and reduce the overall costs of local food production;" (page 2, lines 25-30). The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this resolution to the extent that it supports production agriculture, and offers comments.

Chapter 205 is replete with renewable energy initiatives that are included as permitted uses on all agricultural lands. Some renewable energy facilities such as wind turbines, impact agricultural lands and activities less than others such as industrial scale solar energy facilities with a compatible but negligible agricultural activity. The



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proposed Hawaii Green Fuels Initiative must not disadvantage production agriculture and the resources fundamental to agricultural activities. Further, the proponents of this resolution should keep in mind that a farmer will only plant what he can sell profitably.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

By

Rachel Novotny, Interim Dean

And

J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### HCR 118 – URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HAWAII GREEN FUELS INITIATIVE TO COINCIDE WITH INCREASED LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 118, urging the development of a Hawaii Green Fuels Initiative to coincide with increase local food production.

Hawai'i has made significant strides in transitioning from fossil-based electric power generation to greater reliance on renewable resources, and appears to be on a sound trajectory toward meeting its goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2045. However, unlike renewable electric power, which taps Hawai'i's excellent solar and wind regimes, only agriculture appears to have the potential to contribute significantly to the production of renewable "drop-in" transportation fuels, provide a large platform for the manufacturing of commercial products, and significantly reduce the amount of food imported into our state. Producing home-grown food, bio-based fuels and electricity, and other manufactured products offers excellent opportunities to use Hawai'i's valuable land and water resources and reduce our state's reliance on imported food and fuel, strengthen and diversify Hawai'i's economy and open new markets for local agribusinesses, and have significant, positive environmental and social/community impacts. The timing of this effort is critical, since former plantation lands will become fragmented over time and less usable for biofuel crop production.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of HCR 118.



**CLEAN ENERGY**  
SOLUTIONS

**735 Bishop Street, Suite 421  
Honolulu, HI 96816**

**TESTIMONY of GEORGE PRITCHARD  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS  
IN SUPPORT OF HCR 118**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m.  
Public Hearing – State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HCR 118, which encourages and advocates for the development of a Hawaii Green Fuels initiative to coincide with increased local food production.

Clean Energy Solutions is committed to programs that convert crops, crop residues, dedicated energy crops and agricultural wastes into economically and environmentally sustainable biofuels and value added co-products. The high cost of energy and livestock feed are significant hurdles for the local utilities and farmers in Hawaii. This resolution in support of Hawaii Green Fuels initiative helps to identify and address proposed biofuels alternatives that address the conversion of agricultural crops and byproducts to biofuels and protein feed, with are an important step towards food sustainability and supplemental energy security.

Feedstock produced in Hawaii can be used directly as a highly desirable feed for cattle and dairy cows, in addition to biofuels to produce electricity in Hawaii, in addition to serving as a transportation fuel alternative. The local production of these biofuels could contribute to Hawaii's renewable energy objectives, reduce the impact of world oil price volatility, provide a measure of energy security, provide economic diversification, encourage increased agricultural production, and circulate Hawaii's energy expenditures within Hawaii's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HCR 118.

CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Sincerely,

*George Pritchard*

George Pritchard  
Executive Vice President

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March 21, 2017

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair; Rep. Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair; and Committee Members  
Public Hearing, March 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 325

**TESTIMONY of WILLIAM F. ANONSEN  
MANAGING PARTNER/PRINCIPAL of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC  
IN SUPPORT of HCR 118 (HAWAII GREEN FUELS INITIATIVE)**

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC. We strongly support HCR 118 which encourages and advocates for the development of a Hawaii Green Fuels initiative to coincide with increased local food production. In addition, this resolution helps to identify the various elements that can improve the food production sectors, which could be extended to applications in the energy power generation and transportation sectors.

Mother Nature had always satisfied man's energy needs in a renewable manner, until the industrial revolution pushed mankind to start exploiting the earth's fossil reserves: coal, fossil oil and natural gas. These energy reserves, although abundantly available, are not unlimited and are damaging our environment. The current and future circumstances necessitate that renewable energy programs be accelerated, with biofuels options serving to be a primary solution to address these energy requirements. Biofuels are an excellent option with their high efficiency providing the reliable and consistent firming of Hawaii's power grid, which are being supplemented by intermittent energy sources such as photovoltaic solar systems and wind turbines. Collectively these renewable energy sources will ensure we meet our RPS mandates.

Biofuels are a renewable energy source in that they are created from plants that can be regrown each year. The use of biofuels is basically carbon neutral, since the carbon produced when burning them is offset by the carbon consumed by the plants they came from. In Hawaii, biofuels can help reduce the dependence on foreign oils. Hawaii has the ideal climate year-round and soil conditions for biofuel crops; to produce a renewable and clean, local sustainable source of energy.

The potential benefits of biofuels are immense, to include, but are not limited to:

- Ability to provide significant livestock feedstock for cattle ranches, cow dairies, etc.;
- Creation of new and increased markets for local produced agricultural products;
- Suitable lands that are currently underutilized will be put to the production, enhancing productivity;
- Enhancing energy security and energy independence, in electricity power and the transport sector;
- Contribution to a cleaner environment through reducing greenhouse gas and vehicular emissions;
- Helping to eliminate climate-changing fossil fuel, with clean, local and sustainable source of energy;
- Creation of rural employment and diversification of the rural economy;

The following are some recommendations for the committee's consideration;

- Establishment of an implementation plan for a comprehensive Hawaii Green Fuels initiatives coupled with a biofuels program, to include state policies and strategies for the production and marketing of biofuels;
- Increased awareness of the potential for the production of biofuels throughout the state;
- Set up an institutional framework to promote biofuels by establishing a Biofuels Development Board or a similar autonomous organization to coordinate all aspects of the biofuel program;
- Study the available international experience in all aspects of biofuels including policies, feedstocks, technologies and business models;
- Formulate and adopt holistic and biofuels friendly policies and a workable and practical implementation strategy;
- Showcase pilot projects to demonstrate technology and the workability of the biofuel program.

The establishment of an advanced Hawaii Green Fuels pilot project would be another critical step forward to significantly enhance our state's energy security, energy independence, and assist with our food security for livestock feed in a fiduciary environmentally responsible and economic manner. We can all be very proud that Hawaii is the first U.S. state to adopt this renewable energy standard, the most aggressive clean energy goal in the country, which is workable and is achievable.

***Mahalo for the opportunity to comment in support of HCR 118***

Sincerely,

*William F. Anonsen*

William F. Anonsen  
Managing Partner/Principal

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:29 AM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR118 on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM\*

**HCR118**

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 5:40 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** mamaupin@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR118 on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM\*

**HCR118**

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Margaret Maupin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 7:02 PM  
**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** ccampa1@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR118 on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM

**HCR118**

Submitted on: 3/20/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Many thanks for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of this resolution. A vibrant biofuels industry based in Hawaii intended to coincide with the growth of local agricultural food growth is a Jobs solution for the state of Hawaii as much as it is an Energy security solution. Along with the farm to school program, we could provide the opportunity for local farms to grow by giving them a baseline revenue. This growth would bring about more jobs, both farming as well as higher paying tech jobs to run the processing plants. This would also support the increase in local food production and help bring the costs per unit down. In addition, this would spur the development of both fuel industries in an effort to address the high costs and volatility of the petroleum imports and create high paying and sustainable jobs. I see the opportunity to ramp down the solar PV incentives and ramp up the biofuels incentives. We can create a suite of tax, land use and tech based credits intended to bring investment and opportunity to the State of Hawaii.

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**To:** EEPtestimony  
**Cc:** 808nateyuen@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR118 on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM

**HCR118**

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nathan Yuen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HCR118 which urges the State of Hawaii to expand agriculture to include biofuel crops that promote fuel sustainability and security in Hawaii. This important to the economy of Hawaii and the improve the sustainability of human activities in our islands. Mahalo for considering my testimony.

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