

OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, March 31, 2017
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
SB 559, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the intent of SB 559, SD1, HD1 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. We also provide the following comments and proposed amendments to the bill.

- 1) OP finds that the intent of SB 559, SD1, HD1 supports potential implementation activities consistent with addressing Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 226-109, Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines, specifically to: “explore adaptation strategies that moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities in response to actual or expected climate change impacts to the natural and built environments” (HRS § 226-109(6)). The measure will further expand on the authority delegated to OP in Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, to coordinate development of a statewide climate adaptation plan to address the effects of climate change through 2050.
- 2) In order to ensure the Hawaii climate commission’s work is complementary to the tasks OP will complete to fulfill its duties under Act 83 (2014), OP recommends amendments to Section 6 (Page 15, lines 10-14), to read as follows:

“SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$40,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the purposes of this Act.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of planning for the purposes of this Act.”

- 3) For consistency with comment 2 above, OP recommends the following amendments to Section 7 (Page 15, line 17 to Page 16, line 4) to read as follows:

“SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$65,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) climate mitigation and adaptation coordinator to support the Hawaii climate commission.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of planning for the purposes of this Act.”

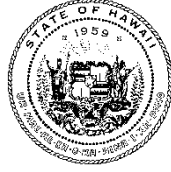
- 4) Likewise, for purposes of consistency with the proposed amendments in comments 2 and 3 above, OP recommends that Section 5 (Page 8, lines 10-14) be amended to read as follows:

“Hawaii climate commission; general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is established the Hawaii climate commission that shall be placed within the office of planning for administrative purposes only.”

- 5) Lastly, in order to encourage a smooth transition between the Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee (ICAC) and the Hawaii Climate Commission, OP recommends amending the measure’s effective date to January 1, 2018. This effective date would allow the ICAC to complete its task mandated in Act 83 (codified in HRS § 225P-3(b)(1), to develop and deliver the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report which is due publicly on December 31, 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017
3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308

S.B. 559, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 559, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the measure and offers the following comment for the committee's consideration.

Section 6 of the measure provides an appropriation to DAGS for purposes of the Act. Since DAGS is not a participant under the measure, DAGS recommends that the appropriation be placed with the department of business, economic development, and tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Friday, March 31, 2017
3:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 559, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Senate Bill 559, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 proposes to highlight Hawaii's legacy of environmental protection and climate change leadership and supports the goals of the December 2015 Paris Climate Agreement as a framework to undertake strategies and mechanisms to reduce and mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions of all Hawaii state departments and agencies. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates and supports the current version of this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request.**

The Department applauds the Legislature's clear statement that climate change is real and the overriding challenge of the 21st century. The Department agrees that the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement is a hugely important step forward for the world, and that whether or not opposing efforts to roll back or abandon those agreements succeed, it is local and regional leadership and action that is needed to ensure those global agreements are actually implemented.

The Department has been actively engaged in climate change adaptation work in support of the goals of the Paris Agreement.

The Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative <http://governor.hawaii.gov/sustainable-hawaii-initiative/> has established goals to decrease or eliminate dependency on fossil fuels, protect our watersheds, improve biosecurity, increase food self-sufficiency, and effectively manage our marine areas.

In addition, the Department is in the process of establishing a new Carbon Credits Initiative <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/blog/2017/01/31/nr17-015/> to offset carbon emissions through

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

reforestation of degraded lands. The Department is also interested in potential conversion to electric or hybrid vehicles, and/or biofuel use, for emissions reductions.

The State Planning Act was amended in 2012 with the addition of the Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines (Act 286). These guidelines were created to encourage collaboration needed to address climate change recognizing that impacts will occur to multiple sectors including agriculture, conservation lands, coastal and nearshore marine areas, natural and cultural resources, education, energy, higher education, health, historic preservation, water resources, and the economy.

Furthermore, the Department and the Office of Planning (OP) are presently engaged in assessing potential impacts and planning for climate change and sea level rise for the State as directed by the Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014. Act 83 established an Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee (within the Department, co-chaired by the Department and OP), which is presently focused on developing a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report for the State. The Report, related data and maps, and recommendations will help in the assessment of and planning for potential impacts resulting from projected sea level rise for development, infrastructure, and coastal environments.

Finally, Act 83 “Authoriz[ed] the office of planning to coordinate the development of a statewide climate adaptation plan and use the Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report as a framework for addressing other climate threats and climate adaptation priorities...”

Senate Bill 559, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1 strengthens on-going state efforts to curb emissions that contribute to global warming, and promotes climate change adaptation efforts.

The Department notes that a core next step for Hawai‘i is to review the multifaceted goals and actions of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement to prioritize best actions for Hawai‘i to implement, given Hawai‘i’s actions to date, as well as the existing capabilities and resources of our state offices and gaps in our efforts that need to be filled.

The Department offers editorial comments:

Page 12, starting on line 7”agencies, federal agencies, and other partners as appropriate regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation”.

Page 12, starting on line 18 ...”~~[adaptation and mitigation]~~ mitigation and adaptation efforts”.

Page 13, starting on line 17 ...”a mission statement as well as access to climate change mitigation and adaptation related”...

Page 14, starting on line 20...”December 31, 2017, and the commission [~~committee~~] shall”.

Page 15, starting on line 4 ...”the commission [~~committee~~] shall”:

Page 15, line 15 refers to “the department of accounting and general services”. This should be changed to “the department of land and natural resources” to be consistent.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**Healthy Climate
Communities**

Testimony in support of SB559 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Friday, March 31, 2017 3:00pm

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee on Finance,

Healthy Climate Communities is a Hawaii-based non-profit seeking to empower communities to slow and adapt to climate change. **We strongly support SB559.**

You, our State legislators, have already shown vision and commitment to confronting this problem. You have passed multiple laws and allocated funding to plan for the adverse effects of climate change on our environment, our physical structures, our economy and our safety, as well as to move away from use of fossil fuels, thus reducing our carbon emissions.

SB559 enhances past initiatives by tasking a single government commission with coordination of our initiatives aimed at reducing carbon emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

SB559 also makes an important statement to all the signatories of the Paris Agreement. Whatever our Federal government may do, as a State we stand with them in their attempts to minimize the harm to our planet and the generations that follow us.

Mahalo,

Dr. Lisa Marten
Executive Director
Healthy Climate Communities



735 Bishop Street, Suite 424
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
www.hawaiigreengrowth.org

Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals and serve as a model for integrated green growth

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William J. Aila Jr.
Department of Hawaiian
Homelands

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth In Support of SB559 SD1 HD1 Relating to Climate Change House Committee on Finance 31 March 2017, 3:00 PM, Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth supports SB559 SD1 HD1 to enact appropriate provisions of the Paris Agreement as Hawai'i state law, including an appropriation to support capacity in administering strategic and mechanisms to reduce and mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions of all state departments and agencies.

Hawai'i's *Aloha+ Challenge* has been recognized nationally and internationally as model that can be scaled to support the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a joint leadership commitment launched by the State Legislature (SCR69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners. This statewide framework outlines six ambitious 2030 sustainability goals in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resource management, solid waste, smart sustainable communities, and green education and workforce. Hawai'i Green Growth partners identified climate resiliency as an important priority to support implementation on Hawai'i's *Aloha+ Challenge* 2030 sustainability goals.

Given evolving federal climate and energy policy, local leadership and strategic partnerships to address the urgent impacts of climate change will be critical. In addition, this builds on the recent Hawai'i hosted 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress with over 10,000 participants from 190 countries and the current Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. **SB559 SD1 HD1** is an opportunity for Hawai'i's continued leadership on sustainable development and resiliency, and begins the important dialogue on implementation.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth strongly supports **SB559 SD1 HD1** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 559 SD1 HD1 Relating to Climate Change
House Committee on Finance
Friday, March 31, 2017, 3:00PM, Room 308

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 depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 559 SD1 HD1 to ensure statewide commitment to combat climate change by enacting into Hawai'i law the principles of the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015 at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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 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. Healthy coral reefs that are free of non-native invasive algae and runoff and have healthy fish and native limu populations are better able to withstand and recover from the effects of temperature changes and acidification, while continuing to provide food and storm protection for coastal areas. Investing in local energy and agriculture security are also 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 effort as contemplated in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wmanonsen@consultant.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Anonsen	The Maritime Group, LLC	Support	No

Comments:

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To: FINTestimony
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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 3/29/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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TESTIMONY to House Committee on Finance

Regarding: S.B. 559 SD 1 HD1 Relating to Climate Change

Friday, March 31, 2017 3:00PM in House conference room 308.

Submitted in **OPPOSITION** by: Mary Smart, Mililani, HI 96789

Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty Cullen and Committee Members:

1. I Strongly **OPPOSE SB 559 SD1 HD1**. What Hawaii does will have little to no impact on climate but your approval of this bill will make the lives of your constituents more difficult and harm their families. This bill has unrealistic goals and wastes tax revenues. We can't afford any more Solyndra "[good ideas](#)" that achieve nothing and end in bankruptcy. **Hawaii does not need a Hawaii climate commission. The bill (page 15) doesn't show the cost of this unnecessary expense. Hawaii doesn't need nor do your constituents want a new "climate mitigation and adaption coordinator" position funded.**

2. The list of possible catastrophe's is impressive but not likely. According to the bill "Countless" scientific studies have concluded that greenhouse gases are leading contributing factor to global warming" -- means very little since "countless" scientists come to the opposite conclusion. According to [a study](#) of 1,868 scientists working in climate-related fields, conducted in 2015 by the PBL Netherlands Environment Assessment Agency, three in ten respondents said that less than half of global warming since 1951 could be attributed to human activity, or that they did not know. Even among those scientists who think warning over the next century could be harmful, "... **only 22 percent thought that "all" or a "large" amount of the harm could be prevented "through mitigation and adaption measures.**" Rather than continuing the debate, those promoting climate change want to silence opposing scientists using the justice system under [RICO measures](#) to threaten acceptance of this faulty science. Consensus is an opinion, not science. If so few scientists think we can mitigate the change, Hawaii legislators should not use our tax dollars on this futile pursuit. All the previous tax and fee measures imposed on Hawaii residents are legislating your constituents out of prosperity. These measures are making us poorer. Making us poorer doesn't improve our health or quality of life nor move closer to a goal of "sustainable development". Think of all the cost increases we are experiencing as our homeless numbers increase.

3. [Reports](#) indicate that climate scientists are not using the scientific method to come to their conclusions. During a [recent hearing](#) of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Representative Lamar Smith, the committee chair indicated that researchers in the area of climate change have left behind the scientific method. He made it clear that climate projections such as those of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), saying that any predictions made to the end of this century are simply not credible. He stated: "Alarmist predictions amount to nothing more than wild guesses,"

4. [David Legates, a University of Delaware professor who formerly headed the university's Center for Climatic Research](#), recreated John Cook's (author of the 2011 book *Climate Change Denial: Heads in the Sand*) study, he found that "only 41 papers — 0.3 percent of all 11,944 abstracts or 1.0 percent of the 4,014 expressing an opinion, and not 97.1 percent," endorsed what Cook claimed. Several scientists whose papers were included in Cook's initial sample also protested that they had been misinterpreted. "Significant questions about anthropogenic influences on climate remain," Legates concluded.

5. As members of the finance committee, you know how much government programs are driving up the cost of living for your constituents. There are numerous tax increases being considered this session just to cover the expenses of current initiatives. The heavy burden of these taxes and government imposed business regulations are driving many people into homelessness. The homelessness exists now. We can see and feel the negative impact on our community. Climate change effects are predicted to occur in decades to come. Many scientists, especially those who don't depend on climate change research grants challenge the findings of these government funded scientists.

6. Those who are familiar with computer models know that the information provided to the model is more important than the outcome. Computer model outcomes can be manipulated to give the desired conclusion. It was already in the news that that happened with climate change models that were used by [discredited Penn State "climate scientist" Mike Mann](#), who just eliminated data that didn't support his premise from the climate model. History has shown that climate changes with and without human intervention. It has been reported that climate was warmer in [Roman and medieval](#) times, well before fossil fuels were used in abundance.

7. Please use fiscal prudence in your decision making. Until other countries come up to the standard of the United States, funds spent by Hawaii will only waste our limited tax revenues trying to solve a global problem. The United States has made progress in improving air and water quality. Hawaii has some of the best water and air in the country -- except for the VOG . Man can't do much about the volcanic activity -- which is not man-made.

8. Climate Change legislation is a tax the poor to support the rich scheme. Those of us who can't afford beachfront property will see our taxes spent to protect elites who live in luxury on our pristine beaches -- all in a belief that man can keep the seas from rising. The rich should pay to protect their own property and not rely on those who have to live in the central part of the islands to bail them out. Climate change theory is a redistribution of wealth maneuver. Anyone who has studied the environmentalist agenda since the mid 1960's and the publishing of the [Report from Iron Mountain](#), as wells as the goals of the United Nations [Earth Summit in Rio \(1993\)](#) and the updated goals of [Agenda 2030](#) for "sustainable development", are aware of the global end-game, which is not necessarily to improve conditions in Hawaii.

9. Economics teaches about the cost of money. Addressing climate change issues now, before it becomes a problem is costly. If we wait until the problem is more imminent, the cost of the remedies will likely go down. Being an "[early adaptor](#)" is costly and usually recommended for the "super rich." Many of us in Hawaii don't fit into that category.

10. As we look at the global problem we see that [India, China](#) and other industrialized nations outside the USA need to take measures to clean their water and air to reach the level of the USA. The USA has done enough for now and doesn't need this bill and its costly demands. There is nothing "sustainable" about Sustainable Development.

11. **Please vote no on SB 559 SD1 HD1.** This bill and its costs is clearly what can be called "government waste." The legislature is already raising taxes and creating new fees just to get by with current costs. **It is time for this bill to die in committee.**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:52 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ronirooks@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Veronica J Rooks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SB559 enhances past initiatives by tasking a single government commission with coordination of our initiatives aimed at reducing carbon emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Please pass this Bill. Mahalo, Dr. Veronica Rooks

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Sonja@wailuaweb.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sonja Kass	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Luke and Committee Members, I strongly support SB559. Climate change, global warming, ocean acidifications, droughts, sea level rise, and extreme weather are the biggest threats of our times. We need to move towards clean energy as fast as possible and save / restore our environment so we leave a livable planet to our children. Hawaii needs to stand by the Paris Climate Agreement, even if the federal government does not. This Bill will provide a single agency to document and coordinate the efforts. Sincerely, Sonja Kass, Kauai

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: goran@haleakalasolar.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Goran Radovanovic	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura McIntyre	Individual	Support	No

Comments: For additional information please see: <http://health.hawaii.gov/epo/climate/>
I'm happy to answer any questions. My work number is 586-4338

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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:58 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bbreis@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brijit Reis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of FIN, Hawaii faces the threat of rising sea levels which will destroy homes and businesses and damage our supplies of fresh water. The rising temperatures and increased acidification of the ocean water are damaging our marine ecosystems. We have more frequent warnings of extreme weather events. We cannot wait for leadership at the national level, we need to take action now to minimize the damage and the cost of mitigation. Thank you, Dr. Brijit Reis, Kailua

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: alohasteph@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
stephanie frazier	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To the Committee on Finance and Chair Luke, This comprehensive Bill ties together many of Hawaii's existing laws which seek to prepare for climate change, move towards clean energy and restore our environment. The efforts can be better coordinated with a central agency setting goals, facilitating communication between agencies and documenting progress. Sincerely, Stephanie Frazier

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: cochrah@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Cochran	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Heather Cochran, ask that you pass SB559. Hawaii faces the threat of rising sea levels which will destroy homes and businesses and damage our supplies of fresh water. The rising temperatures and increased acidification of the ocean water are damaging our marine ecosystems. We have more frequent warnings of extreme weather events. We cannot wait for leadership at the national level, we need to take action now to minimize the damage and the cost of mitigation. Sincerely, Heather Cochran MA, MEd

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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: vickieinkailua@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vickie Fullard-Leo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of FIN, Please pass SB559 so Hawaii can prepare as much as possible for the negative impacts of climate change. Rising sea levels will destroy homes and businesses and damage our supplies of fresh water. The rising temperatures and increased acidification of the ocean water are damaging our marine ecosystems. We have more frequent warnings of extreme weather events. We cannot wait for leadership at the national level, we need to take action now to minimize the damage and the cost of mitigation. Mahalo, Vickie Fullard-Leo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: laniquinns@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Representatives and Chair Luke< At this time, when the federal government seems likely to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, Hawaii can show solidarity to the signatories and leadership within the United States. This Bill can become a model for other States also wishing to show their commitment to combatting climate change. Thank you, Julie Quinn

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mwahl17@punahou.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mikaila Wahl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a High School student and I ask that for my generation, you pass SB559. Our lives will be shaped by adapting to climate change. This Bill helps speed up progress on that task. Thank you, Mikaila

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:16 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rangood4@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Erickson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee on Finance, Please act to pass SB559 today. This comprehensive Bill ties together many of Hawaii's existing laws which seek to prepare for climate change, move towards clean energy and restore our environment. The efforts can be better coordinated with a central agency setting goals, facilitating communication between agencies and documenting progress. Thank you, Randy Erickson, Kaneohe

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:14 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sksb@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chari Luke, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the Committee on Finance, I urge you to pass SB559. Climate change is the biggest challenge we face, with negative consequences for our economy, our health, and our security. We need to make sure our good intentions to reduce our emissions and plan for the coming changes are translated into action. This Bill will provide a single agency to document and coordinate the efforts. Thank you, Karen Simmons

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: annmarten@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Marten	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and members of FIN, Please pass SB559. Climate change is the biggest challenge we face, with negative consequences for our economy, our health, and our security. We need to make sure our good intentions to reduce our emissions and plan for the coming changes are translated into action. This Bill will provide a single agency to document and coordinate the efforts. Mahalo, Ann Marten

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jlarson@lejardinacademy.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julie Larson Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke and FIN Committee members, As a mother and a teacher I ask you to pass SB559. We need to do everything we can to make our efforts to plan for the impacts of climate change effective. The commission will coordinate and centralize our efforts. Mahalo, Julie Larson Hicks

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 1:27 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: donascot67@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 3/30/2017

Testimony for FIN on Mar 31, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Scott Sullivan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee members, SB559 takes an important step forward in our efforts to address climate change in Hawaii. Action now can decrease the damage to our infrastructure, fresh water supply, and prepare us for extreme weather events. We also need to reduce our own emissions to contain the negative consequences we are already seeing in our oceans. This Bill will provide a single commission to document and coordinate State efforts. Thank you, Scott Sullivan

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Katherine T. Kupukaa
Mililani, Hawaii

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

LATE

DATE: Friday, March 31, 2017
TIME: 3:00 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: OPPOSE SB 559, SDI RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

I oppose this bill because it states that climate change poses immediate and long-term threats to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life. I differ from this belief and this should not be one of the legislature's priority. We have more urgent issues to deal with such as unfunded public liability, high cost of living, more affordable housing, and the economy to name a few.

Just to relay information you may or may not know about. Dr. John Bates NOAA scientist has irrefutable evidence that paper presented at UN climate conference in Paris in 2015 was based on misleading unverified data. It was never subjected to NOAA's rigorous internal evaluation process which Dr. Bates devised. A posting at Real Climate Science reveals Arctic sea ice today is about the same thickness as it was 75 years ago. That is despite prediction to the contrary by Al Gore and his crew of hypocrites, liars, and scientific fraudsters. To quote Gore "Say goodbye to polar bears and a whole lot of ice. New research suggests the Arctic ocean could be ice-free by 2015 with devastating consequences for the world. Can it be stopped?"

I believe we are in dire need to change the curricula in science in our schools. When I attended school I recall learning that carbon dioxide is what we as human beings exhale and plants absorb this gas and go through photosynthesis and produce nutrients for the plant. As I did my research I came across Time for sensible sense.

Thousands of laboratory and field observations confirm that rising CO2 concentrations boost plant photosynthetic activity, yield productivity, water-use efficiency and resistance to environmental stresses. Climate researcher Craig Idso estimates that rising CO2 concentrations boosted global crop production by \$3.2 trillion during 1961 – 2011 and will increase output by another \$9.8 trillion between now and 2050. Knowing this I would like to see use of God's creation of trees planted instead of installing solar panels on land. How beautiful Hawaii's landscape would be. Also no more windmills be installed as they do not produce energy economically and they are killing hoary bats and birds.

May I remind you that we have a new president now so let's look forward and forget what former President Obama's appointment of former Abercrombie to serve on Climate Preparedness and Resilience. This belief of global warming is debatable and is not necessarily shared by all scientists.

There should be no funds appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii. Please do not pass this bill. It is a waste of tax payer's money. Thank you for allowing me to voice my concern.

WRITTEN COMMENTS OF RICHARD TILLOTSON
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2017, 3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308



S.B. 559-SD1-HD1

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Ty J.K. Cullen, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on S.B. 559-SD1-HD1.

My name is Richard Tillotson. I am a constituent in Hawaii House District 25.

I write today in support of S.B. 559-SD1-HD1, and I would like to direct the committee's attention to two documents in the public domain, which I believe provide compelling reasons for your support as well. For your convenience, I am providing URL links to these documents, but I will also append digital files which can be printed.

The first document is the Senate Concurrent Resolution, SCR70, introduced by Senator Mike Gabbard, which provides a number of reasons to support SB559-SD1-HD1.
http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/bills/SCR70_.PDF

The second document is a 2014 study funded by the State of Hawaii and produced by the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program, "CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN HAWAI'I: A summary of climate change and its impacts to Hawai'i's ecosystems and communities." This deeply researched, 36-page study by Hawaii's own scientists provides forceful and undeniable evidence of the need for your vote in support of the bill.

The study makes clear that some degree of climate change is inevitable no matter what we do, and it will cost our state money. But anticipating the effects of climate change and doing our best to adapt to them now will in the long run save us and our descendants great expense.

SB559-SD1-HD1 contains a prudent provision for Hawaii not just to reduce carbon emissions, but also to begin to take measures now to adapt to climate change. I urge you to support the bill.

The link here will take you to the full Sea Grant study. The Executive Summary is appended below.
<http://seagrantsoest.hawaii.edu/sites/default/files/publications/smfinal-hawaiiclimatechange.pdf>

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony, and thank you for your service.

Best regards,
Richard Tillotson

S.C.R. NO. 70 MAR 07 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO ABIDE **BY** THE STANDARDS ADOPTED IN
THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

WHEREAS, more than ninety percent of the world's
scientists agree that global warming is occurring as a
result of human activity, particularly the burning of
fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, scientists predict that if left unchecked,
global warming will cause a sea level rise of one to
six feet or greater by the end of this century; and

WHEREAS, a sea level rise of one to six feet will cause
billions of dollars' worth of property damage in the
Hawaiian

Islands and have profoundly adverse effects on the
tourism industry and Hawaii's way of life; and

WHEREAS, scientists also predict that if left
unchecked, global warming will cause increases in the
size and frequency of hurricanes, thereby endangering
the lives and property of the people of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the International Paris Agreement (Paris
Agreement) entered into force on November **4, 2016**, and has
the central aim of strengthening the global response to
the threat of climate change by holding the increase in
the global average temperature this century to well
below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and
at the same time pursuing efforts to even further limit
the temperature increase to **1.5** degrees

Celsius above pre-industrial levels; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the
ability of countries to address the impacts of climate
change and to reach these ambitious goals through
appropriate financial flows, a new technology
framework, and an enhanced capacity building framework,
thus supporting action by developing countries and

THE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017 STATE OF HAWAII

||/|

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Page 2

S.C.R. NO. 70

1. 1 the most vulnerable countries, in line with their own national
2. 2 objectives; and
- 3
4. 4 WHEREAS, one hundred ninety-seven countries, including the
5. 5 United States, are currently parties to the Paris Agreement; and
- 6
7. 7 WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement recognizes the role of non-
8. 8 party stakeholders in addressing climate change, including
9. 9 regions, cities, other subnational authorities, civil society,
10. 10 the private sector, and others who are all invited to scale up
11. 11 their efforts and support actions to reduce emissions, build
12. 12 resilience, and decrease vulnerability to the adverse effects of
13. 13 climate change; and
- 14
15. 15 WHEREAS, Hawaii enacted Act 97, Session Laws of Hawaii
16. 16 2015, the most aggressive clean energy bill in the United
17. 17 States, calling for Hawaii to become completely energy self-
18. 18 sustaining by using one hundred percent renewable sources by
19. 19 2045; and
- 20
21. 21 WHEREAS, in addition to reducing Hawaii's carbon emissions

22. **22** and Hawaii's contribution to global warming, Act 97(2015) will
23. **23** have the practical benefit **of** making Hawaii's electricity
24. **24** considerably cheaper, saving consumers and businesses an
25. **25** estimated \$4,000,000,000 a year, which is currently sent out **of**
26. **26** the State to pay for fossil fuels; and

27

28. **28** WHEREAS, Hawaii wishes to be an example to other states of
29. **29** how they, as individual states, can make contributions to reduce
30. **30** global warming; now, therefore,

.31

32. **32** BE **IT** RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
33. **33** Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
34. **34** House of Representatives concurring, that this body urges the
35. **35** State to abide by the standards set forth in the Paris Agreement
36. **36** and to reduce Hawaii's carbon emissions by the same or greater
37. **37** percentage as sought by the United States under the Paris
38. **38** Agreement; and

39

40. **40** BE **IT** FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the State to
41. **41** abide by all other conditions of the Paris Agreement, insofar as

2

Page 3

S.C.R. NO. 70

1. **1** it is able as a non-party stakeholder, including the requirement
2. **2** to report regularly on emissions and implementation efforts; and

3

4. **4** BE **IT** FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this

5. **5** Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretariat of the
6. **6** United Nations; President of the United States; White House
7. **7** Secretary, who is requested to distribute a copy to each
8. **8** national news organization represented in the White House Press
9. **9** Corps; Secretary of the United States Senate and Clerk of the
10. **10** United States House of Representatives, who are requested to
11. **11** distribute a copy to each member of the United States Congress;
12. **12** Governor of each state; and the heads of each state legislature.

13 14 15

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2017-0493 SCR SMA.doc



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is now widely accepted that human activities are affecting global climate systems in a significant way. While there are disagreements about the exact nature, magnitude, and timing of these changes, the science is clear that global climate change is being observed. This report is intended to provide a basic summary of the observed and projected changes to Hawai'i's ecosystems and their resulting impacts for Hawai'i's residents.

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) prepared this climate change impacts report to provide Hawai'i communities with a foundational understanding of the effects of global climate change on Hawai'i's resources and ecosystems. The report presents a summary of the current state of scientific knowledge regarding climate change and how it is expected to affect Hawai'i, including marine, coastal, terrestrial, and freshwater ecosystems, built systems, and human health so that Hawai'i can be better prepared for the changes to come. The first part includes an overview of global climate science, followed by a summary of observed and projected impacts by specific ecosystem and sector. Where applicable, context is provided for how the changes in these ecosystems have bearing for Hawai'i's communities, economic sectors, and the built environment.

This structure

is intended to serve a broad audience, including communities and government agencies that are involved or interested in issues related to climate change impacts in Hawai'i, to improve the basic understanding of how climate change is expected to affect Hawai'i.

UH Sea Grant, in partnership with state, local, and non-governmental entities, strives to address the climate change adaptation needs of Hawai'i through additional research and technical support for state climate change adaptation planning. UH Sea Grant strives to support the adaptive capacity and resilience of Hawai'i's communities through university extension, education, and partnerships. The first step in building adaptive capacity is sharing knowledge about existing vulnerabilities to climate change impacts.

Global Climate Change and Hawai'i

Climate change is now observed globally. The scientific consensus presented in the global body of climate research, including the fifth report released by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2013, is that warming of Earth's climate system is unequivocal (IPCC, 2013). The fifth IPCC assessment report concludes that it is "extremely likely"¹ that most of the temperature increase since the mid-20th century is caused by increased concentrations of greenhouse gases from human activities. This finding is supported by detection of land and sea temperature increases, changes in global water cycle, reductions in snow and ice, sea-level rise, and changes in climate extremes.

¹ Defined as 95–100% probability by the IPCC, 2013 Summary for Policy Makers. "It is extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century."

<http://www.climate2013.org/spm>

Summary of Local Impacts of Climate Change to Hawai'i

The rate of warming air temperature in Hawai'i has quadrupled in the last 40 years to over 0.3°F (0.17°C) per decade. This warming could cause thermal stress for plants and animals, and heat-related illnesses in humans as well as expanded ranges for pathogens and invasive species.

A decrease in the prevailing northeasterly trade winds, which drive orographic precipitation on windward coasts, has been recorded in Hawai'i over the last 40 years.

Hawai'i has seen an overall decline in rainfall in the last 30 years, with widely varying precipitation patterns on each island. It is projected that Hawai'i will see more drought and heavy rains causing more flash flooding, harm to infrastructure, runoff, and sedimentation.

Declining precipitation trends have caused a decrease in stream base flow over the last 70 years, and could reduce aquifer recharge and freshwater supplies and influence aquatic and riparian ecosystems and agriculture.

Sea surface temperatures have warmed between 0.13°F and 0.41°F (0.07°C and 0.23°C) per decade in the Pacific for the last 40 years. This trend is projected to accelerate, warming by 2.3°F to 4.9°F (1.3°C to 2.7°C) before the end of the century. This warming can influence ocean circulation and nutrient distribution.

2

Global ocean acidity has increased by 30% due to marine uptake of CO₂, correlating to a pH change of 0.1. Acidification is expected to continue, with additional pH changes between 0.1 and 0.4 by the end of the century. Ocean acidification could trigger a wide range of impacts on marine biota, including inhibiting shell and skeleton growth in corals, shellfish, and plankton.

Sea level has risen over the last century on each island at rates varying from 0.5-1.3 inches (1.5-3.3 centimeters) per decade, which has contributed to shoreline recession. Accelerating rates of sea-level rise have been detected in global sea level data. Rates of rise are projected to continue to accelerate, resulting in a 1-3 foot (approximately 0.3-1 meter) rise, or more, by the end of the century. Sea-level rise will exacerbate coastal inundation, erosion and hazards, leading to the degradation of coastal ecosystems, beach loss, and increasing damage to infrastructure in low-lying areas.

Threats to human health posed by Hawai'i's warming climate may include increased heat-related illness and wider ranges of vector-borne diseases such as dengue fever.



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Finance
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Friday, March 31, 2017 3 pm
Room 308

LATE

Support for SB 559 SD 1 HD 1 Relating to Climate Change

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 559 SD 1 HD 1, which requires the State to expand strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions statewide in alignment with the principles and goals adopted in the Paris Agreement; renames the Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee as the Hawai'i Climate Commission; establishes the duties of the Commission; and makes appropriations.

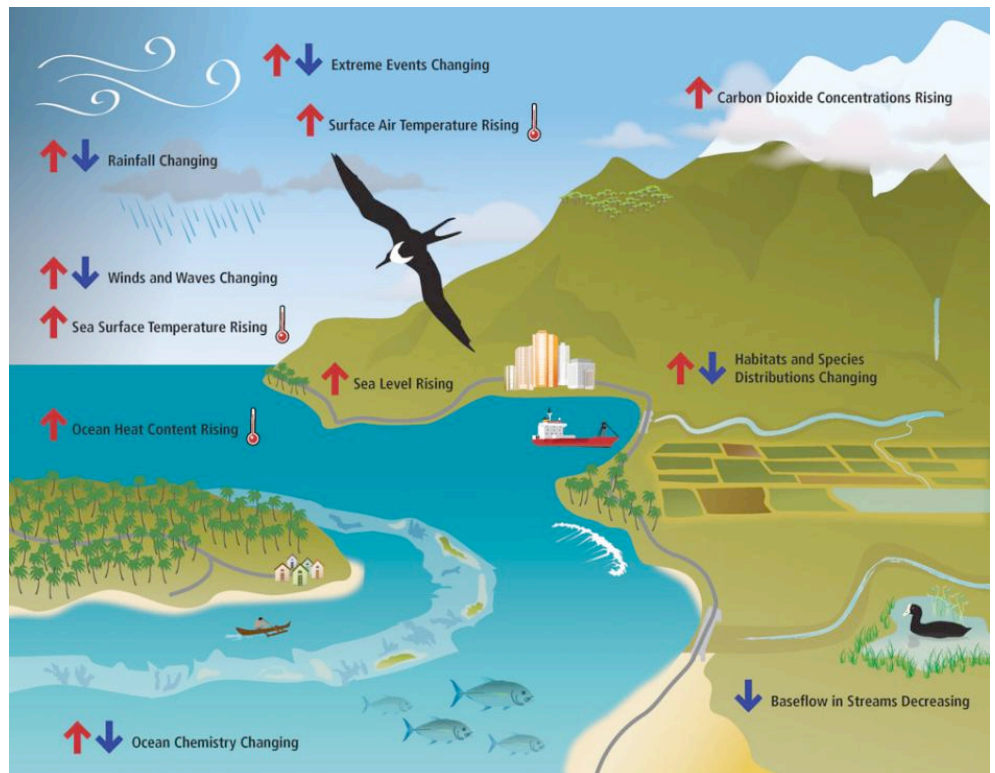
Climate change and invasive species are the most dangerous threats to our environment, human health and safety, quality of life, and economy.

Please pass SB 559 SD 1 HD 1. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler

Marjorie Ziegler



Telephone/Fax: 808.593.0255 | email: info@conservehi.org | web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 | Honolulu, HI 96802 | Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 215 | Honolulu, HI 96814
President: Wayne Tanaka | Vice President: Koalani Kaulukukui | Secretary: Rachel Sprague
Treasurer: Les Welsh | Director: Anne Walton
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters





SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, March 31, 2017 3PM Room 308

SUPPORT SB 559 Relating to Climate Change

LATE

Aloha Chairwoman Luke, and members of the FIN Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports** SB 559, because every effort to address climate change in Hawai'i is important.

This measure has been amended to create a climate change adaptation commission, administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and focused on identifying the impacts of climate change in Hawai'i. While this is important, we find that much of this work is already done and that enacting relevant sections of the Paris Climate Agreement as state law are needed to counter and prevent the worse effects of climate change.

The Paris Climate Agreement is a groundbreaking, ambitious, and historic agreement between 192 countries that seeks to mitigate the effects of anthropogenic global climate change. By setting a series of progressively significant emissions mitigation benchmarks, it is one of the single most important agreements ever ratified by any collection of states. In both scale and scope, it seeks to address and combat many of the effects of global climate change, by allocating an emissions specific target to each participating country.

Unless action is taken to address global climate change, Hawai'i and its people will suffer catastrophic effects. A recent report conducted by the UH Manoa Sea Grant College Program found conclusively that global climate change will negatively impact sea temperature, rainfall, sea level rise, and coastal infrastructure and communities.¹ Hawai'i, more than any other state in the United States, is at risk and in need of the most protection.

SB 559 seeks to ratify parts of the Paris Climate Agreement into state law to safeguard and protect our state and its people. This bill isn't only recommended, it is absolutely necessary. Given the tenuous relationship the federal government now seems to have with enforcing their

¹ <http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/sites/default/files/publications/smfinal-hawaiiclimatechange.pdf>

end of the agreement², enacting this bill into law allows Hawai'i to control its own destiny and dictate its own terms.

Through this measure, Hawai'i demonstrates to the nation that addressing global climate change and mitigating its effects on the state, the environment, and its people is paramount. Protecting the environment supersedes national agendas and international politics. As the famous astronomer Carl Sagan once said about protecting our planet, "it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known."

We urge the committee to pass SB 559.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Mahalo,
Marti Townsend
Director

2

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2017/01/31/former-trump-aide-says-us-will-pull-out-paris-climate-deal-within-days.html>