

SB 559

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 Senate Committees on
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
and
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
and
TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY**

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017
3:00 P.M
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 559
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Senate Bill 559 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) supports the intent of this measure for Hawai'i to take local leadership responsibility for implementation of the global Paris Climate Agreement, and offers the following comments.**

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

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

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
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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.

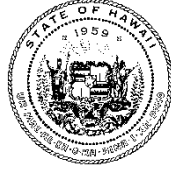
In addition, the Department and the Office of Planning (OP) are presently engaged in assessing potential impacts and planning for climate change and sea level rise for the State as directed by the Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014. Act 83 established an Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee (within 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...”

The Department believes that this measure warrants further discussion.

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
SENTATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY
ON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017
3:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225

S.B. 559

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Chairs Gabbard, Kim, and Inouye, Vice Chairs Riviere, Ruderman, and Dela Cruz, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 559.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) appreciates the intent of the bill, but offers concerns for the committees' consideration.

1. DAGS does not currently possess the requisite subject matter expertise to develop and implement strategies and mechanisms to reduce and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. DAGS does not have the staff resources to prepare and develop successive state-determined goals, and to be the lead in communicating and maintaining those goals for all state departments and agencies. DAGS recognizes the importance of the bill's objectives, but it is not adequately resourced to meet the bill's objectives.

Although DAGS serves all of the State's departments and agencies, it may not be the best department in which to house such an expansive program. DAGS' mission has been to help State agencies by providing: superior public facilities, operational support, fiscal guidance, oversight

of administrative services, and preservation and promotion of cultural heritage; none of which reflects the requisite subject matter expertise to formulate and implement critical and highly technical programs to address climate change.

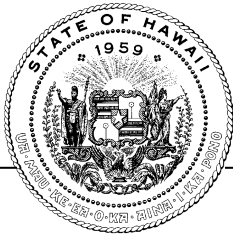
2. Some objectives of the bill appear to be established by Act 286, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2012, and Act 83, SLH 2014. Act 286 established the climate change adaptation guidelines, which were codified in §226-109, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). Act 83 established an interagency climate adaptation committee whose purpose is to address the effects of climate change to protect the State's economy, environment, health, and way of life.

Act 83 also authorizes the Office of Planning (Office) 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. Act 83 provided funding for the Office (\$108,874) and DLNR (\$458,874), and established one full-time equivalent position in each agency to carry out the purposes of Act 83. Pursuant to §225M-2(b)(9)(C), HRS, the Office is required to publish its findings, recommendations, and progress reports on actions taken no later than December 31, 2017.

In light of the resources that have been committed under Act 83, and the similarity of the objectives in Act 83 with the measure, it may be useful to wait for the Office's publication of its findings, recommendations, and progress reports in December.

Additionally, since the Office is charged with addressing expected statewide climate change impacts identified under Act 286 through the year 2050, it may be appropriate and more cost effective to expand the Office's responsibilities to incorporate the objectives of this bill, since it has acquired the knowledge and expertise to develop a statewide adaptation plan.

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



**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
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT,
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY**
Wednesday, February 14, 2017
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
SB 559
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

Chairs Gabbard, Kim, and Inouye, Vice Chairs Riviere, Ruderman, and Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committees on Agriculture and Environment, Government Operations, and Transportation and Energy.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the intent of SB 559 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget, and provides the following comments.

SB 559 enacts relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement as Hawaii State Law and designates the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) as the lead agency to undertake strategies and mechanisms to reduce and mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions of all state departments and agencies.

OP finds that SB 559 supports potential implementation of 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 Section 226-109(6)).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 3:00PM

IN SUPPORT OF SB 559, Relating to Climate Change

Aloha Chair Inouye, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee, my name is Marti Townsend and I represent the Sierra Club of Hawai'i.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly **supports** the intent SB 559. This measure seeks to enact relevant provisions of the Paris Climate Agreement into Hawai'i state law as well as make an appropriation in order to achieve these goals.

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 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

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

²

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

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



ADA

HAWAII

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer
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DIRECTORS

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MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96823

www.adaaction.org

February 3 , 2017

TO: Honorable Chairs Gabbard, Klm, and Inouye and relevant Committee Members

RE: SB 559 Relating to Climate Change
Support for hearing on Feb. 8

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 559 as it would, through the lead of the Department of Accounting and General Services, undertake strategies and mechanisms to reduce and mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions of all state departments and agencies. All state departments and agencies will have to pursue local mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the goals. The successive state-determined goals shall represent a progression beyond the State's current state-determined contribution of greenhouse gas emissions and shall reflect its highest possible ambition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change is coming. We must both prepare for this change and mitigate the change. Our economy demands this.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President



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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The Nature Conservancy

William J. Aila Jr.

Department of Hawaiian
Homelands

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth In Support of SB559 Relating to Climate Change Senate Committees on Agriculture & Environment, Government Operations, and Transportation & Energy

February 14, 2017 at 10:10 am in Room 414

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees:

Hawai'i Green Growth supports SB559 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** 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** and appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 559 Relating to Climate Change
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 10:10AM, Room 414

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 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.

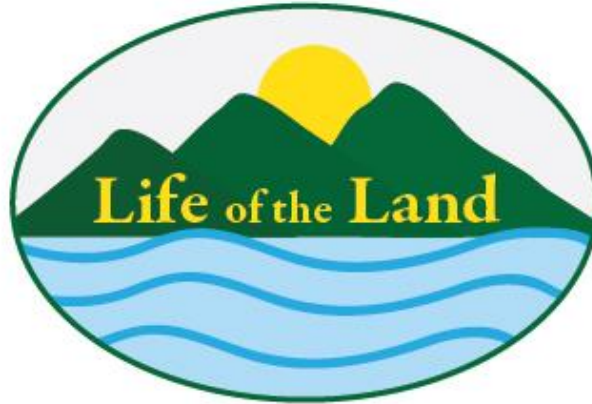
In response, we must plan and implement mitigative and adaptive measures to ensure the resilience of our natural and human systems.

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 adaptation effort as contemplated in this bill.

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96837-0158
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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2017

TIME: 10:10 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 414

SB 559 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chairs Gabbard, Kim and Inouye, and Members of the Committees

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for 47 years. 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 559 enacts relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement as Hawaii state law.

Climate Change is a serious issue. We must all lead by example. To those that say that Hawai`i plays a small role in greenhouse emissions, we account for about 0.2% of the vote in national elections and about 0.3% in national emissions.

Mahalo,
Henry Curtis, Executive Director



**Conservation Council
for Hawai'i**

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment,
Senate Committee on Government Operations,
and Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
By the Conservation Council for Hawai'i
Hearing: Friday, Tuesday, February 14, 2017 10:10 am
Room 414

Support for SB 559 Relating to Climate Change

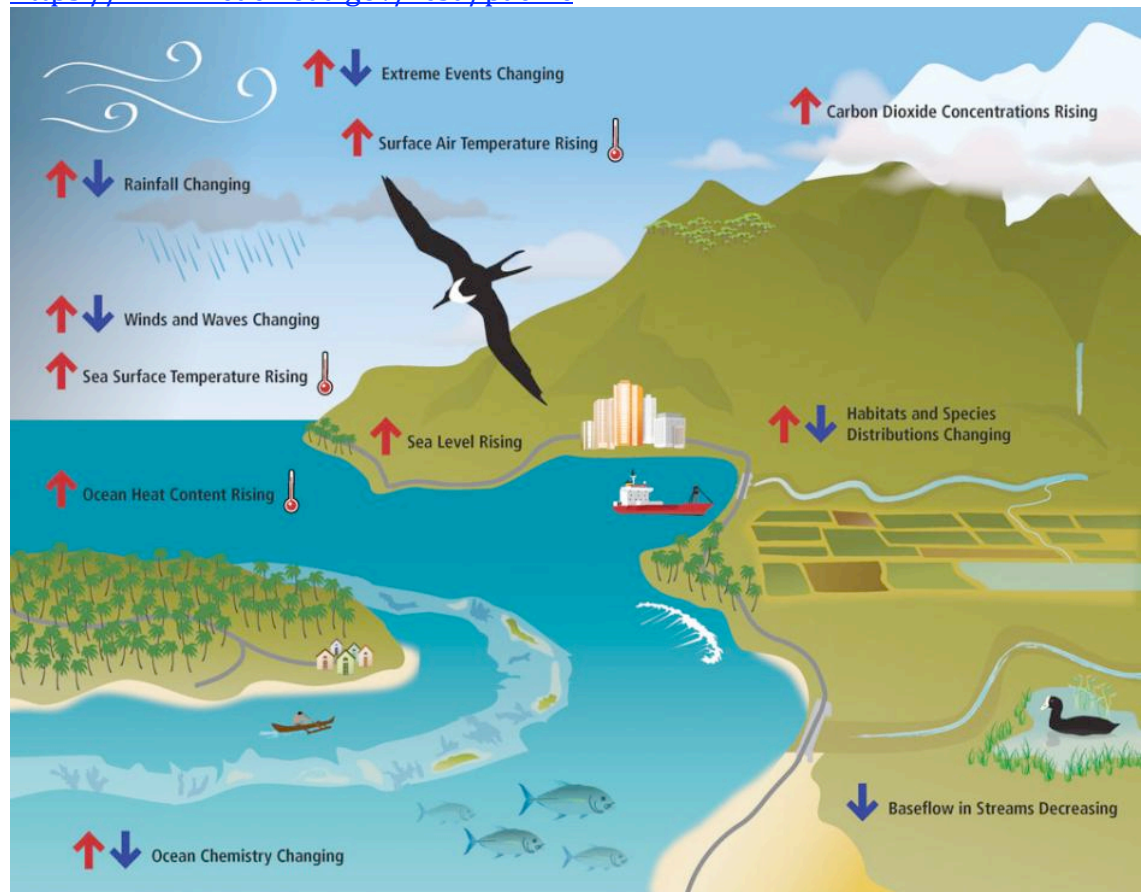
Chair Gabbard, Chair Kim, Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Riviere, Vice Chair Rudderman, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees,

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 559, which enacts relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement as Hawai'i state law and makes an appropriation.

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. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Marjorie
Ziegler

<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/rcsd/pacific>



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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



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 4:02 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Hawaii Island School Garden Network	Support	No

Comments: We do this for all future generations who will need to live here. Mahalo

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Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 12:28 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: legechair@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Simon Russell	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

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February 14, 2017

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair; Sen. Gil Riviere, Vice Chair; and Committee Members

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, Chair; Senator Russell Ruderman, Vice Chair; and Committee Members

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Sen. Lorraine Inouye, Chair; Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Committee Members

Public Hearing, February 14, 2017 at 10:10 a.m., Conference Room 414

**TESTIMONY of WILLIAM F. ANONSEN
MANAGING PARTNER/PRINCIPAL of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC
IN SUPPORT of S.B. 559**

My name is William Anonsen and I am the Managing Partner/Principal of THE MARITIME GROUP, LLC. We strongly support SB 559 which recognizes the critical importance of climate change which poses immediate and long-term threats to the State's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life. This measure would help to enact applicable and relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement as Hawaii state law.

There's a really strong economic self-interest for the state of Hawaii and the United States to try to lead this effort and build a global coalition around climate action. Our Hawaiian Islands archipelago anchored in the middle of the Pacific Basin is interconnected to global markets, we're connected to other ecosystems, we're connected via cultural diversity, migration, via national security issues, so things that happen even outside our own island shores still very much can affect Hawaii, our nation, and the pocketbooks of average Americans.

The historic climate agreement reached at the Paris summit commits for the first time virtually every nation to reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. The stated goal among global climate negotiators has long been to reduce emissions enough so that global temperatures rise no more than 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit, by 2100. That is the level at which scientists say the most catastrophic effects of climate change can be avoided.

The agreement states that countries signing on "recognize the importance" of minimizing and addressing damage caused by climate change and the role of "sustainable development" in reducing the risk of loss and damage. The agreement comes 20+ years after world leaders first began meeting to see whether such an agreement could be achieved. It also comes as the sometimes harsh effects of climate change are becoming apparent: Fourteen of the 15 warmest years in recorded history have come in the last two decades. The warming is forecast to continue, and the agreement reached, promises that efforts to address it, will continue.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment in support of this critically important issue

Sincerely,

William F. Anonsen

William F. Anonsen
Managing Partner/Principal

**1221 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1032, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96814
Tel: (808) 589-1223 www.The-Maritime-Group.com**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2017 2:30 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha. My name is Camila Chaudron, and I live in the Manoa/Makiki area. I support this measure because climate change is real, it's happening, and we need to take drastic steps to counteract the dangerous effects that fossil fuels have on our environment. Hawaii does not have a viable economic or environmental path forward unless it invests heavily in sustainable practices now. For the sake of the health and future of our community, thank you for supporting this measure. Mahalo.

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February 5, 2017

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

RE: SB559

DATE: Wednesday, February 8, 2017

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Conference Room 225, State Capitol

My name is Teal Sargent. I am a long term resident on the island of Kaua'i, Hawai'i. I am currently pursuing a Masters degree in Social Work at the Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. It is great pleasure that I write today to **strongly support** SB559.

As a long term resident in Hawai'i I have invested interest in preserving and protecting the place I call home. There has been ample scientific evidence suggesting the threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources and environment in Hawai'i. This evidence also suggests that if we don't take a two pronged approach in preventative measures now the impacts will be detrimental to our well being as a whole. As a resident, mother and advocate for the community I am very concerned for the future of Hawai'i, my home. If we continue to ignore the threats of climate change our children will have no future here in the islands and thousands of people will lose their culture. Here in Hawai'i we are an advantage to the United States in the sense that we have ample natural resources that we can use for a sustainable future. With all the evidence pointing towards the detrimental effects of climate change it seems ridiculous not to take preventative measures toward preserving our islands. Again I strongly support SB559 to adopt the Paris Agreement and work towards a sustainable future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Teal Sargent
P.O. Box 366
Kilauea, Hi 96754

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 1:41 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: I support this bill. The Paris agreements were a major step forward in reducing human impact on the environment. The goal is to decrease global greenhouse gas emissions to reduce risk and impacts of climate change. Here in Hawaii, we feel the effects of climate change with sea level rise, warming temperatures, and more frequency of storms. We should do all that we can to create more environmentally friendly policies that impact the environment positively. Environmental health directly impacts human health.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 11:02 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: anthony_orozco@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: PURE ARROGANCE! That's all this bill is. That some human's think they can control the weather. I don't want any of my tax dollars going into this climate change foolishness.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 6:53 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: freundtheresa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa Freund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and Members of the Committee, My name is Theresa Freund and I am from Nuuanu. I am in strong support of SB559. There is no question that climate change is real and that we will suffer serious consequences if we do not act soon. We can no longer wait and see, it is time now to reduce and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. If we do not act now, we will face serious threats to Hawaii's economy, sustainability, security, and way of life. Please pass SB559 which will help us become more sustainable and bring us a little closer to reducing our footprint on earth. Mahalo Nui Loa.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 12, 2017 2:52 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: leinani.kaleihuia@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/12/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leinani Kaleihuia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha nui e nā luna ho'omalua o kēia mau kōmike, Kako'o nui wau i kēia pila!
(I strongly support this bill) Mahalo nui!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 5:05 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: seventh-power@outlook.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David McCann	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 3:56 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: jpappas60@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the intent of SB559 and agree with the testimony for this bill submitted by the Sierra Club of Hawaii for the Feb.8, 2017, hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 6:15 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 5:02 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 4:12 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: kaulanad@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulana Dameg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 4:11 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: victor.ramos@mpd.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/10/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 8, 2017
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 225
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 559

Chairs Gabbard, Kim, Inouye and members of the respective committees,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 559.

Climate Change is no longer a buzz phrase or a feel-good movement to support; climate change is now our reality. As a United Nations Fellow in 2003, I sat in countless meetings, high level hearings and permanent mission briefings where the threat of climate change was imminent. As a regular delegate to the United Nation's Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), these discussions are no longer about imminent threats; Nations across the globe are now dealing with the very real effects of climate change.

As the most remote archipelago, in the largest ocean on this planet, the effects of climate change knocks at our doorstep and we have a real opportunity to make serious changes.

Years of careless environment practices, obfuscating environmental regulations and a preponderance of a "top of the food chain" manifest has resulted in cultures and nations losing everything that has defined them. We are all responsible for these atrocities and studies have shown that we can stop and in some cases reverse the effects of our time.

I kindly ask for your consideration in passing this measure.

Mahalo.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:07 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: lcampaniano@wik.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: This is an important bill addressing Hawaii's unique climate change needs.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:22 AM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: edgarespero@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM

SB559

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edgar Espero	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In support of legislation to prevent and reverse the symptoms of climate change.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:41 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM*

SB559

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 8, 2017 15:00PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 6:48 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: mary@mauivortex.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*

LATE

SB559

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 6:49 PM
To: AEN Testimony
Cc: bmurphy420@mail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB559 on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM*



SB559

Submitted on: 2/13/2017

Testimony for AEN/GVO/TRE on Feb 14, 2017 10:10AM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT,
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY**

Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 10AM

IN SUPPORT OF SB 559, Relating to Climate Change

Aloha Chairman Gabbard, Chairwoman Kim, and Chairwoman Inouye, and members of the joint AEN, GOV, TRE committee,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly **supports** the intent SB 559. This measure seeks to enact relevant provisions of the Paris Climate Agreement into Hawai'i state law as well as make an appropriation in order to achieve these goals.

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

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

²

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

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