



# AMEL Technologies, Inc.

Engineering Consulting Services

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**LATE**

April 4, 2017

To: **Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair**  
**Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair**  
Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 9:45 AM  
Conference Room 211

Subject: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT** of SCR 59

Dear Committee Members;

My name is Melek Yalcintas and I am the president and owner of AMEL Technologies, Inc. (AMEL), an engineering consulting firm located in Honolulu, HI.

I have been trying to advocate and bring people's attention to discrimination against women architects and engineers in Hawaii. To this end, I support the proposed SCR 59 because it documents the discrimination against women architects and engineers. However, this Bill does nothing to stop discrimination against women architects and engineers in Hawaii. As it is known, discrimination is crime against Federal and State Laws and humanity all together.

The bill, as is, determines the general discrimination against women architects and engineers in the USA; however, as I have documented during the course of this bill, the conditions for architects and engineers are much worse.

As it is known, Federal Governments have set goals for women owned business. Despite this fact, only one Architect and engineering contract was awarded to women owned architectural and engineering (A&E) Firm by NAVFAC Pacific between 2005 and 2015. No award was made by NAVFAC Hawaii and the US Army Corps of engineers, even though these agencies awards hundreds of contracts each year.

The state agencies only awarded 3% of the contracts, corresponding 2.5% of dollar amount, to Women Owned A&E Firms in Hawaii. These numbers are more than sufficient to document discrimination against Women Owned A&E Firms in Hawaii.

I would expect the courageous Hawaii Legislators would take the needed action which is mandating the State Departments and County Agencies to award at least 10% of Architect and Engineering (A&E) contracts to Women Owned A&E Firms.

Sincerely,  
AMEL Technologies, Inc.

Melek Yalcintas, Ph.D., P.E., CxA, CEM, LEED AP  
President



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