



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 102/SENATE
RESOLUTION 46, ENDORSING AND ADOPTING, AND URGING THE SEVERAL
COUNTIES TO ENDORSE AND USE, THE UNITED NATIONS SEVENTEEN
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AS COMPONENTS OF A FRAMEWORK
FOR ADDRESSING AND ASSESSING HAWAII'S EFFORTS TOWARD SOCIAL
JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Hon. Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair

Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Hon. Karl Rhoads, Chair

Hon. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

Honorable Chair Nishihara, Chair Rhoads, and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in strong support of SCR 102/SR 46, endorsing and adopting, and urging the several counties to endorse and use, the United Nations seventeen sustainable development goals as components of a framework for addressing and assessing Hawai'i's efforts toward social justice and sustainability.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), officially known as Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is a set of 17 "Global Goals" with 169 targets between them. Authored by the UN in consultation with numerous international organizations and government agencies, the goals were adopted in 2015 as part of a broader intergovernmental agreement that acts as the Post-2015 Development Agenda (the successor to the Millennium Development Goals), building on the principles established under Resolution A/RES/66/288, popularly known as "The Future We Want." As former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon frequently asserted prior to the SDGs enactment, "we don't have plan B because there is no planet B."

Thus, for UN member states, sustainability and social justice go hand-in-hand. Yet, the current United States executive administration embraces neither. Both President Donald Trump and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt reject the overwhelming scientific consensus that manmade climate change is real and largely caused by burning coal, oil, and natural gas. They vehemently denounced the Paris Agreement, which aims to advance the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change by:

“(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;

(b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production;

(c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.”

The agreement has been described as an incentive for and driver of fossil fuel divestment, with the global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions an ultimate goal of ratifying nations.

Finally, Pruitt has endorsed and declared that President Trump will sign an executive order Tuesday—the date that this resolution is being heard—to roll back the Obama Clean Power Plant initiative, which aims to curb greenhouse gas emissions from coal-fired power plants. While Pruitt believes the order will bring back lost coal and manufacturing jobs and result in lower electricity rates for Americans, the 2015 Clean Power Plan rule was designed to strengthen clean energy generation by setting standards for power plants—particularly coal-burning power plants—and goals for states to cut carbon dioxide pollution. In attempting to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from electrical power generation by 32 percent within twenty-five years relative to 2005 levels, the Clean Power Plan rule would create thousands of clean energy jobs nationwide.

Hawai’i is the nation’s leader in clean energy, having set a goal of becoming 100 percent renewable reliant by 2045. We must take a stand to ensure that our public policy continues to protect our planet from the industrial processes and corporate gluttons that threaten its survival. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this resolution.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:13 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: laurie.field@ppvnh.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR46 on Mar 28, 2017 13:15PM*

SR46

Submitted on: 3/27/2017

Testimony for PSM/WTL on Mar 28, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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It is absolutely vital for the counties to endorse and adopt the United Nations 2030 Development Agenda. Reflecting back on the millennium development goals that was agreed upon in 2000, we see how effective those goals were and how we should continue our progress toward a sustainable world. Time and time again, global initiatives directed toward taking action against societal and environmental threats have provided exponentially positive results. It is everyone's responsibility to care for our world and Hawai'i is no exception. The state and the individual counties need to prove to the people that they care about the well-being of the residents and the 'aina they are responsible for.

Hawai'i faces issues that all 17 goals address, why would there be any reason to not pass this bill? Hawai'i is no stranger to poverty; the state has the 9th highest poverty rate in the nation. The Hawaii Food Bank serves around 287,000 residents, 1 in 5 residents. Hawai'i ranked 36 on the national Best High Schools rankings and only 5 schools received silver medals that reflected their success of preparing students for college. The vast amount of pollution is not only effecting local wildlife, but residents as well; just this past month, there were reports of staph infections at Pokai Bay Beach Park. Governor Ige just signed HB 623 in 2015, which promotes a 100% renewable energy goal for the state, only after becoming the most oil dependent state in the nation.

By not endorsing and adopting the United Nations Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, the state is not supporting the people. How can we be the Aloha state when our government does not show aloha toward all? Not only is adopting the 17 goals important to the state, it is important to the world. The United Nations created these goals to transform the world, encouraging everyone to make an effort to "build a better world with no one left behind." The goals directly address the prevention of poverty, inequality, and further environmental changes; the goals are directed toward building a stronger future. It is impossible to build a better tomorrow without the help of everyone, that includes our state. There is absolutely no reason as to why this bill should not be passed, this is the only earth that we have and we need to do our part in saving it and the people on it.

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:48 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: rpeel@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR46 on Mar 28, 2017 13:15PM

SR46

Submitted on: 3/28/2017

Testimony for PSM/WTL on Mar 28, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R. Don Peel	United Nations Association	Support	No

Comments: This Resolution strengthens the backing of the State's "Aloha Challenge" which is a State tailored measure of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ratified by the USA.

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