



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION  
DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PLANNING

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846  
Fax: (808) 587-2824  
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND AND AGRICULTURE AND  
ENVIRONMENT**

Wednesday, March 14, 2018  
2:55 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of  
**HB 2545, HD 1**  
**RELATING TO GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Chairs Rhoads and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Riviere, and Members of the Senate Committees on Water and Land and Agriculture and Environment.

The Office of Planning supports House Bill 2545, HD 1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. HB 2545, HD 1 appropriates funds for the state's sustainability coordinator to complete a comprehensive green infrastructure study and plan.

The Office of Planning notes some counties within the state have already begun planning for green infrastructure projects. The Office of Planning appreciates the opportunity to holistically and comprehensively identify green infrastructure opportunities, and green infrastructure planning and development best practices statewide.

The Office of Planning supports the creation of green infrastructure plans at the state level to generate strategies to enhance and preserve parks, agriculture, forest lands, and coastal areas. State green infrastructure plans, like this proposal, can also identify where the State can save on water management costs, decrease pollution, lower flooding risks, and address climate change.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support for HB 2545, HD 1.



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER & LAND AND AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 — 2:55 p.m. — Room 224

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 2545 HD 1, Relating to Green Infrastructure**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Riviere, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better management of waste and fresh water. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports HB 2545 HD 1**, which appropriates funds for the State Sustainability Coordinator to complete a green infrastructure study and plan, because it aligns with our goals.

The creation of a green infrastructure plan at the state level can help to coordinate critical green infrastructure needs and projects. The comprehensive plan will encourage departments across agencies to work more closely together. In addition, a plan will help stakeholders and legislators to focus on the most critical and impactful environmental projects. The plan should also identify the network benefits of the different infrastructure projects.

As sustainability issues become ever more complex and important, having a dedicated office with adequate staffing and funding is extremely critical to making Hawai'i a better place to live.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta  
General Partner

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 11:28:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randy Cabral	Testifying for Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 2:52:37 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2018 3:18:58 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I support HB2545 HD1. The creation of a green infrastructure plan at the state level can help to coordinate critical green infrastructure needs and projects. The comprehensive plan will encourage departments across agencies to work more closely together. In addition, a plan will help stakeholders and legislators to focus on the most critical and impactful environmental projects. Pass HB2545 HD1.

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 1:23:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2018 4:38:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2545-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 9:14:18 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/14/2018 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: