



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND
WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, February 14, 2018
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 2545
RELATING TO GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE.

Chairs Lee and Yamane, Vice Chairs Lowen and Todd, and Members of the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection, and Water and Land.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports House Bill 2545, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. HB 2545 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 on HB 2545.

HB-2545

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 10:45:08 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND WATER &
LAND

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 — 11:00 a.m. — Room 325

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 2545, Relating to Green Infrastructure

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, 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, 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

Submitted on: 2/10/2018 10:22:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Cuddle Party	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2545

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:46:38 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Kokua Hawaii Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2545

Submitted on: 2/14/2018 11:17:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/14/2018 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rafael Bergstom	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: