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HCR-59

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Mathew S. LoPresti, Chair; the Honorable Beth Fukumoto, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs & Culture and the Arts:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on **HCR59** relating to Taiwan; International Organizations; Observer; Twenty-fifth Anniversary; and the Sister-State.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HCR59** and support its passage.

HCR59 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it endorses the participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, and International Criminal Police Organization; encourages the United States Trade Representative to commence negotiations to enter into a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and celebrates the State of Hawaii's twenty-fifth anniversary of sister-state relations with Taiwan.

The DPH Platform states that "We support a foreign policy that respects Constitutional process and rights, honors human dignity, promotes adherence to international agreements, and integrates diplomatic, economic, military, educational and cultural policies." (Platform of the DPH, P. 10, Lines 521-523 (2016)).

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources.

We know that climate change is a real threat to our islands and the world. We strongly urge our candidates and elected officials to take immediate action to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. This includes funding adaptation measures including coastal retreat, effective participation of indigenous peoples in climate change governance, and recognition that indigenous, local, and traditional ecological knowledge is key in climate change adaptation solutions. (Platform of the DPH, P. 8, Lines 432-439 (2016)).

Given that **HCR59** endorses the participation of Taiwan as an observer in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, and International Criminal Police Organization; encourages the United States Trade Representative to commence negotiations to enter into a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and celebrates the State of Hawaii's twenty-fifth anniversary of sister-state relations with Taiwan, it is the position of the OCC on Legislative Priorities to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja
Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC on Legislative Priorities
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