

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony in SUPPORT of HCR 86

REQUESTS THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE
A TASK FORCE TO IDENTIFY BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS
TO EXPANDED WATER REUSE IN THE STATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
REPRESENTATIVE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR

Hearing Date: March 23, 2018
Time: 10:30 AM

Room Number: 325

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (Department) would need resources to support the
- 2 task force that is covered under this measure and defers to the Governor's Supplemental Budget
- 3 Request for appropriation priorities.

- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Department has always been an advocate for water reuse provided
- 5 that public health and water resources are not compromised. Water reuse has become more
- 6 significant due to the state's growing population, limited potable water resources, and wastewater
- 7 disposal issues. As water energy demands and environmental needs grow, water reuse will play a
- 8 greater role in our overall water supply. By working together to overcome obstacles, water reuse,
- 9 along with water conservation and efficiency, can help us to sustainably manage our vital water
- 10 resources. Therefore, the Department supports this measure that involves the development of a task
- 11 force that will identify barriers and solutions to expand water reuse in the State.

- 12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
Wednesday, March 23, 2018 — 10:30 a.m. — Room 325

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HCR 86, Requests the Department of Health to Convene a Task Force to Identify Barriers and Solutions to Expanded Water Reuse in the State

Dear Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee:

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 HCR 86, which requests the Department of Health to convene a task force to identify barriers and solutions to expanded water reuse in Hawai'i.

Water is the most important natural resource and critical to the survival of the people of Hawai'i. Therefore, water must be protected and managed in a diligent manner. Water reuse is often the most environmentally prudent method of using water.

Ulupono supports this resolution to convene a task force of experts to identify barriers and solutions for increased water reuse. Water stakeholders, including regulators, often work in silos and having these entities interact together will lead to better outcomes.

Hawai'i's agricultural industry relies on a constant supply of water as farmers and ranchers often struggle to keep their businesses alive. In recent years, the state has suffered through severe drought conditions including a two to three decade downward trend in rainfall, which heavily impacts our local agricultural communities. As droughts are increasing, it becomes more important for the Legislature to protect our island's most valuable natural resource.

As Hawai'i's water issues become more complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that protect our water resources.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

HCR-86

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 8:13:54 PM

Testimony for WAL on 3/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

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:



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Amplify the Power of Giving

**Testimony of the Hawaii Community Foundation on H.C.R. 86
Relating to Expanding Water Reuse
House Committee on Water and Land
Friday, March 23rd, 2018
10:30am
Conference Room 325**

Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Todd, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF) strongly supports **H.C.R. 86**, which requests the Department of Health to convene a task force to identify barriers and solutions to expanded water reuse in the state.

Studies have shown that Hawaii has seen an 18% reduction in rainfall from 1978 to 2007. Reduced precipitation, rising populations, and increased development of our land is making Hawaii's water security more vulnerable than ever. Hawaii Community Foundation has been a continued supporter and convener of Hawaii's Fresh Water Initiative, which is dedicated to increasing water security throughout the islands through initiatives and policies in water reuse, conservation, and recharge.

The Fresh Water Initiative has recognized that diverting wastewater to other freshwater applications is a valuable technique for both reusing and preserving water resources. Hawaii Community Foundation is in support of **H.C.R. 86** since its passage will help identify both the barriers and solutions to increasing water reuse on our islands. Collaboration, research, policies, and demonstrations will be invaluable to reaching Hawaii's goal of doubling the amount of wastewater currently being reused.

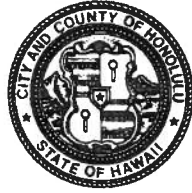
HCF strongly supports **H.C.R. 86** and we stand ready to collaborate and assist in moving Hawaii towards increased water reuse and strengthened water security.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



LORI M.K. KAHIKINA, P.E.
DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY A. HOUGHTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:
WAS 18-129

March 22, 2018

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Water and Land
House of Representatives
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Yamane and Members:

SUBJECT: HCR 86: Requests the Department of Health to Convene a Task Force to Identify Barriers and Solutions to Expanded Water Reuse in the State

The Department of Environmental Services, City and County of Honolulu, supports appropriate water reuse in the State. However, we had concerns with the Hawai'i Fresh Water Initiative and the development of expanded water reuse targets without involving the wastewater community in the discussion. As the wastewater agency with the largest potential flow for reuse in the State it is essential that the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services, be part of any proposed task force on this issue.

The Department of Environmental Services respectfully requests that HCR86 be amended to specifically include a representative from the Department of Environmental Services on the proposed task force. This will help ensure consideration of all impacts related to removing water from wastewater flows and impacts on those who pay for wastewater collection and treatment services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori M.K. Kahikina", is written over a printed name and title.

Lori M.K. Kahikina, P.E.
Director

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
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March 23, 2018

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ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio
JADE T. BUTAY, Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer 

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
Committee on Water & Land
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

LATE

Dear Chair Yamane and Members:

Subject: House Concurrent Resolution 86, Requests the Department of Health to Convene a Task Force to Identify Barriers and Solutions to Expanded Water Reuse in the State

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 86, which requests the Department of Health to convene a task force to identify barriers and solutions to expanded water reuse in the State.

The State Department of Health (DOH) has been working diligently in regulating expanded water reuse. In our experience with recycled water on Oahu, there are areas in the DOH Reuse Guidelines where best management practices could be improved to reduce the regulatory and reporting requirements such as allowing irrigation of R-1 recycled water during the day so that irrigation systems can be adjusted and maintained. We note that R-1 recycled water is disinfected and poses no impact to public health relative to other types of nonpotable irrigation water supplies.

Because recycled water extraction may impact wastewater treatment and collection systems, we have no objections if a wastewater agency is represented on the proposed task force.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony on HCR 86.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer