



735 Bishop Street, Suite 424
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
www.hawaiiireengrowth.org

Hawai'i Green Growth is a statewide public-private partnership that catalyzes action across government, private sector and civil society to achieve Hawai'i's sustainability and climate goals, and serve as a model for integrated green growth

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of SB2664 Relating to Sustainable Development Goals
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
13 February 2018, 10:30am, Room 211

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

As a statewide partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) **strongly supports SB2664** to adopt the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into state law. We recognize the critical importance of community health and well-being, as highlighted through SDG3. Even further, HGG recommends adopting the entire global framework with all 17 SDGs, as reflected in **SB2661**. HGG acknowledges discussions underway to determine the appropriate placement in HRS, but supports the overarching vision to holistically address 21st century challenges that cut across environmental, social, and economic priorities.

We appreciate the Senate's leadership on the 2018 Majority Program on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the support for Hawai'i sustainability initiatives over the past several decades. Our partnership believes that the SDGs can help advance local efforts to address key challenges in Hawai'i across housing, climate change, energy, environmental protection, health, education and economic development by acknowledging that none of these can be addressed without consideration for the others. We cannot meet our climate goals without achieving sustainable development outcomes and vice versa. Senator Kenneth Brown's 1973 Mālama Hawai'i speech proposed that every action – economic, social and political - be guided by *mālama*. The 17 SDGs embody Hawai'i's mālama 'āina approach to resource management, and counsels the necessity of maintaining a balance between all aspects of our environment, society, and economy. In many ways Senator Brown foretold the eventual arrival of the SDG framework.

Hawai'i launched the *Aloha+ Challenge: He Nohona 'Ae'ōia* one year prior to the formal adoption of the SDGs by over 190 countries. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is led by the State Legislature (Senate Concurrent Resolution 69), Governor, four County Mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and private sector and civil society partners. Building on Hawai'i's history of systems thinking and many community initiatives, this commitment identifies statewide sustainability goals across energy, food, natural resources, waste, smart sustainable communities and climate, green education and workforce. Hawai'i's *Aloha+ Challenge* is recognized as a place-based model to support locally and culturally appropriate implementation of the SDGs. At the same time, the global SDG framework supports the implementation of local models like the *Aloha+ Challenge*, Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, 100 Resilient Cities, Promise to Pae 'Āina, and other efforts, and can help attract new resources to drive implementation. It also builds on Hawai'i's recent adoption of the Paris Agreement (Act 32) and the inspiring Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. Enacting SDGs into state law is significant for Hawai'i locally, nationally and internationally.

Above all, the partnership recognizes that Hawai'i's long-term security in the face of climate change and other challenges is now linked to the success of this global agenda. Because of the scale of the threat, this is no longer something Hawai'i can do alone. Indeed, for many in the international community, Hawai'i holds the answer to finding the balance based on the wisdom of our host culture and fundamental island values, as embodied in Senator Kenneth Brown's speech delivered 45 years ago. It is our kuleana, both a responsibility and privilege, to partner with communities across the globe to build a more sustainable future for Hawai'i and island earth.

Thank you for your visionary leadership and for the opportunity to submit testimony.

LATE

SB-2664

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 9:35:10 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shawn Uehira	Testifying on behalf of Oahu Economic Development Board	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2664

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 12:27:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/13/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons		Support	No

Comments: