

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



PANKAJ BHANOT
DIRECTOR

CATHY BETTS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

LATE

February 2, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2669 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Hearing: Friday, February 2, 2018 at 1:20 p.m.
Conference Room 414, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the proposed bill, as it aligns with the department's transformation efforts and mission to encourage self-sufficiency and support the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in Hawaii.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to codify sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eight, decent work and economic growth.

DHS has a large stake in promoting decent work and economic growth. DHS provides benefits and services to one in four Hawaii residents, or nearly 360,000 individuals. The state's Medicaid program provides medical insurance coverage for nearly one-half of Hawaii's children. We manage an annual budget of nearly \$3.3 billion to provide benefits and services relating to homeless services, education, employment, health care, child care, and food security.

Employment supports provided by DHS include cash assistance, child care subsidies, and transportation benefits; vocational rehabilitation supports from the Division of

Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR); and higher education and other supports for former foster youth from the Social Services Division (SSD).

In 2016, DHS initiated its 'Ohana Nui effort by adopting a multigenerational approach to transform the way services are provided to individuals and families to improve outcomes and well-being. By providing programs and services that maintain a high level of service integration, quality, and intensity across multiple generations, DHS intends to reduce intergenerational poverty in the State, and the human and financial costs associated with poverty.

One of the key principles of the 'Ohana Nui approach is education and economic stability, as education is the foundation of economic opportunity. According to the American Public Human Services Association, meaningful and sustainable employment is the surest way to economic well-being for ourselves and our families. Having a job, enjoying the many benefits that come from work, providing for one's family, setting examples for our children, and looking forward to a secure retirement are among the top achievements we all aspire to. Moreover, gainful employment is one of our most essential building blocks for strong, healthy, and productive individuals and families, yet while the *minimum* wage in Hawaii is \$10.10, the *living wage* for a family of four (two adults – one working – and two children) in the City and County of Honolulu is estimated to be \$32.97, according to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As part of the DHS mission to transform the way we deliver benefits and services, and as part of the Governor's package, DHS proposed HB2366/SB2793 which requires DHS to use an integrated and multigenerational approach to delivering human services to reduce the incidence of intergenerational poverty and dependence on public benefits.

Additionally, DHS is a member of the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD Council), which is the body responsible for coordinating State agency TOD planning and facilitating collaboration between the State and the counties on smart growth and TOD initiatives. As a member of the TOD Council, DHS advocates for equitable development, and was a key player in the development and inclusion of equitable development principles in the 2017 State of Hawaii Strategic Plan for TOD. Equitable development promotes and supports community well-being. It refers to a range of

approaches for creating healthy, vibrant, and sustainable communities where residents of all incomes, races, and ethnicities have access to the opportunities, employment, housing, and services they need to thrive. According to Living Cities, economic opportunity for low-income people results from the presence of affordable housing, businesses growth, effective public transit, and other important services, such as schools and health facilities.

The proposed SB 2669 furthers the goals of DHS as we transform to an integrated service delivery system with a focus on supporting every recipient's human potential, improving access to gainful employment opportunities, reducing incidences of intergenerational poverty, and improving the community's overall health and well-being.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



LATE

AIRPORT CONCESSIONAIRES COMMITTEE

Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Committee on Economic Development, Tourism,
and Technology
Hawaii State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol

February 2, 2018, 1:20 pm, Room 414

Re: S.B. 2669 – Relating to Sustainable Development Goals

Dear Chair Wakai and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Peter Fithian and I am the Legislative Chair for the Airports Concessionaires Committee whose membership consists of the major concession operators at Hawaii's public airports. Airport concessions presently have historically contributed more than half of the operating revenues for Hawaii's airport system which as you know is special funded.

Our Committee supports this bill.

On behalf of our employees and families and friends, we commend you for your leadership in setting "decent work and economic growth" goals for our State.

While the problems of today are certainly compelling, you recognize the importance of not only the present but planning now for the future well-being of all of us who live in Hawaii by your actions in supporting this legislation.

We must plan now and start to take steps to preserve our future of our family, friends and our Hawaii that is so special to all of us and to so many around the world .

Mahalo for your vision and leadership.

February 1, 2018

LATE

The Oahu Economic Development Board supports SB2661 to adopt the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into state law. This is a significant opportunity to highlight Hawai'i's sustainability leadership, and catalyze new partnerships and resources to support local action. We recommend adopting all 17 SDGs, as reflected in SB2661, and acknowledge discussion on the appropriate placement in the Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

The SDGs provide a global blueprint to balance environmental, social, and economic priorities, which embodies Hawai'i's mālama ethic and systems-based approach to resource management. Senator Kenneth Brown's 1973 speech eloquently conveys a guiding framework to Mālama Hawai'i, calling forth the vision of SDGs. Through SDGs, Hawai'i can partner with other local communities around the world to support place-based action that drives global sustainability outcomes.

The SDGs can support locally and culturally appropriate implementation of sustainability goals through the *Aloha+ Challenge* (SCR 69), Sustainable Hawai'i, 100 Resilient Cities, Promise to Pae 'Āina, and other efforts. This builds on the recent adoption of the Paris Agreement (Act 32) and the inspiring Worldwide Voyage of Hōkūle'a. Progress on Hawai'i's statewide sustainability commitment is being tracked through the online *Aloha+ Challenge* Dashboard, highlighting collaboration and action towards the global agenda.

The Oahu Economic Development Board priorities include moving the state towards energy independence and food independence, attracting new high value businesses to Hawai'i (including the growth of knowledge based companies), and participating with other organizations in workforce development planning to ensure that Hawai'i residents have the skills necessary to compete in a global economy. These priorities align with the SDGs on Zero Hunger (#2), Clean Water and Sanitation (#6), Decent Work and Economic Growth (#8), Climate Action (#13), Life Below Water (#14), Life of Land (#15), and Partnerships (#17). The SDGs intersect with key cross-cutting issues in Hawai'i, and acknowledge that none of these can be achieved without consideration for the others

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Pono Shim
President and CEO
Oahu Economic Development Board

The logo for Enterprise Honolulu is a circular, textured emblem.

ENTERPRISE
HONOLULU

THE BUSINESS CLIMATE OF PARADISE

LATE

SB-2669

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 1:53:10 PM

Testimony for ETT on 2/2/2018 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY

AND

THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR

THE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Friday, February 2, 2018

1:20 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 414

RE: **Testimony in Support** of SB 2669, RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

To the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair; the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology:

To the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair; the Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Labor:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2669, relating to sustainable development goals regarding decent work and economic growth as detailed in United Nation's Global Goal Eight. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2669 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2669, is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal eight, decent work and economic growth.

Specifically, the DPH Platform states, "A diversified and healthy economy in Hawai'i requires a well-educated and healthy citizenry. To encourage existing and new enterprise, we need to develop a combination of tax policies and credits, landing programs, and financial incentives that will attract the business community. The creation of intellectual property and new start-up should be a part of the curriculum of our business schools. Business training should stress ethical company management that is responsive to customer needs.

State and county governments have a key role to play in setting reasonable standards for industry and trade. As market conditions change, government agencies must adopt and revise regulations to promote "green" sustainable industries that are compatible with preserving the natural scenic beauty of Hawai'i. In this regard, we must find ways to stimulate recycling and biodegradable packaging to minimize landfill needs. We must move from carbon-based power to electric power." (Platform of the DPH, P. 1, Lines 38-48 (2016)).

"We believe in efforts to build and retain a qualified workforce in Hawai'i . . . As the party of working men and women in Hawai'i, we work to protect labor rights and social security; to ensure fair labor right and social security; to ensure fair labor practices, a living wage for all workers, equal pay for equal work and fair taxation; we encourage legislation to raise the minimum wage and paid family and sick leave; to protect employees' rights to organize and bargain collectively with their employers; to oppose the outsourcing of Hawaii's jobs; to promote employment opportunities and sustainable growth; to assist the economically disadvantaged and advocate for sound trade and economic policies; and build our workforce for jobs in emerging technologies, in green industries, in renovation and in green construction, so that their jobs are not dependent on ever-expanding real estate development. (Platform of the DPH, P. 3, Lines 119, 122-129 (2016)).

We recognize that the responsible use and development of technology in all its manifestations offers immense potential for our community, government, including institutions of higher education and business sectors. We encourage synergistic research, development, commercialization and educational programs to promote technological proficiency and innovation. We support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives in our public, private and charter schools as

these prepare the next generation to address the needs of our State. We also support programs that facilitate incubator, i.e. start-up, opportunities for new and promising technologies, and encourage the local retention of our intellectual resources. (Platform of the DPH, P. 3, Lines 149-156 (2016)).

We support the growth of Native Hawaiian farming agricultural and healing practices. We value and wish to foster the preservation of our host culture. (Platform of the DPH, P. 4, Lines 213-214 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No. 2669 codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal Eight pertaining to decent work and economic growth, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889