



The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i  
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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting SCR 21 Endorsing and Adopting, and Urging the Several Counties to  
Endorse and Use, the United Nations Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals as  
Components of a Framework for Addressing and Assessing Hawaii's  
Efforts Toward Social Justice and Sustainability  
House Committee on Economic Development & Business  
House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts  
Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 10:30AM, Room 309

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 43,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports including all seventeen United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and indicators into State law.

The Nature Conservancy's local, national and global conservation goals and strategies for protecting lands and waters, water quality, sustainable fisheries, and climate change mitigation and adaptation directly reflect the established, credible commitments from the U.N. SDGs. The SDG commitments empower our conservation work in Hawai'i and beyond to contribute to global efforts that improve the health and function of nature and human well-being.

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**SCR-21**

Submitted on: 4/9/2018 2:54:20 PM

Testimony for EDB on 4/11/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laurie Field	Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-21**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 10:30:29 AM

Testimony for EDB on 4/11/2018 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Good morning. 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 **SCR21** relating to Sustainable Development Goals.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **SCR21** and strongly supports its passage as it codifies the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to (1) End poverty; (2) End hunger; (3) Ensure good health and well-being; (4) Ensure a quality education; (5) Achieve gender equality; (6) Ensure clean water and sanitation; (7) Ensure affordable and clean energy;(8) Promote sustained decent work and economic growth; (9) Build a resilient industry, innovation, and infrastructure; (10) Reduce inequality; (11) Make cities and communities more sustainable; (12) Ensure responsible consumption and production; (13) Take urgent climate action; (14) Conserve, sustainably use, and protect the life below water; (15) Protect, restore, and sustainably use the life on land; (16) Promote peace, justice, and strong institutions; and (17). Strengthen the means of implementation and develop partnerships for the sustainable development goals, all which delineates the essence of the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH").

**SCR21** is in accord with the Democratic Platform as it codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goals and indicators.

The DPH Platform states that "[t]he Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment are essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i.

We believe in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement. We support programs that encourage sustainable clean, efficient, creative and environmentally friendly modes of transportation, recycling, and waste reduction.

The conservation, preservation, and restoration of Hawaii's natural resources are connected to the health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations.

We support the protection of our 'aina against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our freshwater resources. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our freshwater resources.

We support the democratic participation of citizens and residents to protect (i) valuable coastal ecosystems and reefs from misuse and (ii) beaches for public use and recreation. The Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, HRS Chapter 205A, currently provides for public participation in the management of coastal resources.

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 407-433 (2016)).

Given that **SCR21** encourages sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goals and indicators, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to strongly support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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**SCR-21**

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 10:57:42 AM

Testimony for EDB on 4/11/2018 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
caroline motley	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Although the SDG is universal, the United Nations seventeen sustainable development goals, address many of the social and environmental problems happening in Hawai'i. With the widening income gap in the United States and in Hawai'i ending poverty is a issue that needs to be addressed. Adopting and endorsing these goals, while promoting dialogue and campaigning of these goals as a measure is important for the social health of Hawai'i and our country.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

To: COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

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HEARING: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 10:30am, Conference Room 309

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SCR21: ENDORSING AND ADOPTING, AND URGING THE SEVERAL COUNTIES TO ENDORSE AND USE, THE UNITED NATIONS SEVENTEEN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AS COMPONENTS OF A FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING AND ASSESSING HAWAII'S EFFORTS TOWARD SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY.

SCR21 provides a blueprint for advancing the condition of the people of Hawaii. As a social work student, I entered the field with the intention to “enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people,” as described in the Social Work Code of Ethics. Through my employment and practicum placements, I have found this task to be arduous as there fails to exist a comprehensive network of client needs.

For example, my focus thus far has been within substance abuse and incarcerated populations. For these individuals, residential treatment appears to be the simplest portion of their recovery. Upon transition into outpatient services, they are tasked with finding affordable housing to often be supported by minimum wage jobs. Moreover, if wanting to improve their condition via education, they often need to start off at the sixth grade as this is age when they stopped attending the schools that failed to engage them.

In sum, I often feel as though we are placing these individuals in the same situations that contributed to the onset of their substance abuse and criminal justice involvement as the result of a fractured system. SCR21 attempts to ensure all aspects of human welfare are addressed. More importantly, this resolution aims to bring all stakeholders to the table.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Cordero