



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS AND HOUSING
Friday, April 5, 2019
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
HB 1558, HD 1, SD 1
RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.

Chairs Dela Cruz and Chang, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Kanuha, and Members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means, and Housing:

The Office of Planning **supports** HB 1558, HD 1, SD 1. The proposed measure requires the Office of Planning to update the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and submit the updated plan to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2021, and every tenth session thereafter, using the goals and priority guidelines of the Hawaii State Plan and the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Initiative as guiding principles.

The 2005 State Legislature established the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force through Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, which worked with the State Auditor to publish the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan in 2008. Act 8, Special Session Laws of 2005, as amended by Act 210 Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, required the State Auditor, with the assistance of the Office of Planning to perform an unfunded decennial update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan in perpetuity.

Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 226-108, the Sustainability Priority Guidelines and Principles of the Hawaii State Planning Act, and the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2016, the Office of Planning filled a new Sustainability Coordinator position in June 2017 to provide statewide sustainability planning, coordination and collaboration for the implementation of Hawaii's many sustainability goals and policies.

This sole Sustainability Coordinator position recently assisted the Hawaii State Auditor's Office on behalf of the Office of Planning to provide and publish a statewide measurement update to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, pursuant to an unfunded decennial update requirement established through Act 8 Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, as amended by Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006. Published in March 2018, the ten year measurement update of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan, the first of its kind over the past decade, reviewed the data collected

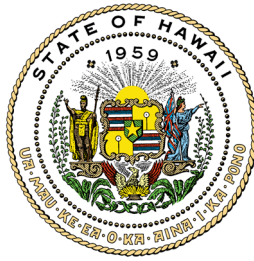
over the course of ten years and evaluated the metrics and indicators measuring Hawaii's progress toward sustainability according to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan's original 5 goals, 9 "2020 benchmarks," 22 strategic actions, and 55 indicators.

The Office of Planning appreciates HB 1558, HD1, SD 1's proposal to codify the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and update requirements within Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 226, the Hawaii State Planning Act, for conformity and comprehensive sustainability and climate action planning purposes. The Office of Planning finds that HB 1558, HD 1, SD 1 is complimentary and consistent with the purpose of the Office of Planning found in HRS §225M-1, as well as the responsibilities of the Office of Planning set forth in HRS §225M-2.

The Office of Planning also requests the staffing and an operating budget through the establishment of a Sustainability Division within the Office of Planning as reflected in Senate Bill 908/ House Bill 449. This statutory language, staffing request, and budgetary support will establish a governmental sustainability coordinating entity within the State's Office of Planning and provide the necessary staffing and operating expenses to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination with recognized responsibilities and authorities to develop, coordinate, and support the implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

The Office of Planning notes the recent update of the 2018 State of Hawaii's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan recommended to: *"develop a sustainability program at the state-level, headed by the Sustainability Coordinator. Currently, the Sustainability Coordinator is funded, but has no operating budget. Task coordinator with developing the program, establishing a clearing house for sustainability information and initiatives, coordinate with departments and agencies, and track implementation of projects and programs."*

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
The Honorable Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair

H.B. NO. 1558, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

Hearing: Friday, April 5, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

The Office of the Auditor **supports** H.B. No. 1558, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 which requires the Office of Planning, rather than our office, to update the Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan and submit the updated plan to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2021 and every tenth session thereafter. We have been in discussion with the Office of Planning and appreciate its recommendation that responsibility for the report be transferred to their office.

Act 8 of the 2005 Special Session of the Hawai'i State Legislature established the Hawai'i 2050 Task Force to review the Hawai'i State Plan and the State's comprehensive planning system, to develop a statewide sustainability plan for the 21st century. It also required the Office of the Auditor, with the assistance of the office of planning "[to] update the [sustainability] plan every ten years and report to the legislature." However, the Legislature did not appropriate any funding beyond fiscal year 2007 for purposes of the Act.

Because our office lacks the requisite expertise and financial resources to facilitate a full, formal update, we issued an informal update of the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability plan prepared by the Office of Planning.

The Office of Planning is the more appropriate office to be tasked with updating the plan given their substantive knowledge of state policies, strategies, and priorities with respect to sustainability and the impacts of climate change.

Thank you for considering our testimony related to H.B. No. 1558, H.D. 1, S.D. 1.



April 4, 2019

To: Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: **Testimony in Support of HB 1558, HD1, SD1**

Hrg: April 5, 2019 at 10:30am, Conference Room 211, State Capitol

The Hawaii Public Health Association is a group of over 600 community members, public health professionals and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public health professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) **supports HD 1558, HD1, SD1** which requires the Office of Planning to update the Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan and submit the updated plan to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2021 and every tenth session thereafter. Climate change presents a public health problem, with serious health impacts including; increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and premature deaths related to extreme weather events and changes in food distribution and infectious diseases. Key weather and climate drivers of health impacts include increasingly frequent extreme precipitation, intense storms, and changes in precipitation patterns that lead to ecosystem changes and rising sea levels that intensify coastal flooding and storm surge.

It is imperative that the Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan be updated regularly using the goals and priority guidelines of the state plan and the Hawai'i climate change mitigation and adaptation initiative as guiding principles. This will help to ensure a collective and coherent response to the multifaceted problem presented by climate change.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on important health issues affecting people in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, enclosed in a rounded rectangular box. The signature appears to be 'Claire Townsend Ing'.

Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH
Legislative Committee Chair



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HOUSING AND WAYS & MEANS
Friday, April 5, 2019 — 10:30 a.m. — Room 211

Ulupono Initiative Supports HB 1558 HD 1 SD 1, Relating to Sustainability

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing 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 manage waste and fresh water resources. 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 supports HB 1558 HD 1 SD 1, which requires the Office of Planning to update the Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan in 2021 and every tenth session thereafter.

The Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan, completed in January 2008, was a forward-looking document that tried to align interests around these issues. While much has changed in the past 11 years, our ability to collaborate toward solutions is still a vital component for success. Without a common framework and plan, it is often difficult to align interests amongst the various stakeholders to get things done. Sustainability and resiliency issues have become even more top of mind, and the consequences of inaction have become more apparent. It is time to update the 2050 plan to reflect the progress we have made since 2008 and to update new challenges standing in the way of a more resilient future.

As Hawai'i's issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate these committees' efforts to look at policies that improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

HB-1558-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2019 12:29:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Testifying for Oahu County Democrats	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

The Oahu County Democrats are in support of House Bill 1558, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1.

Updating the 2050 sustainability plan is a necessary, routine action for a long-range statewide plan. This measure reprioritizes goals based on already state-developed climate change mitigation criteria. Given the enormity of the dilemma that is climate change, this is the most realistic planning implementation that a small collection of islands in a warming Pacific Ocean can take. For the good of our people, we Democrats support visionary and holistic planning.

Please vote 'aye' in support of HB1558, HD1 SD1.

Dylan P. Armstrong, Vice Chair
Oahu County Committee, Oahu County Democrats



LATE

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FOUNDERS

David Gottfried
Michael Italiano
S. Richard Fedrizzi

April 5, 2019

Committee on Housing
Senator Stanley Chang, Chair
Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 226
Honolulu, HI 96813

Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 206
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 588, on Green Infrastructure and HB 1558, Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan Update

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, Chair Dela Cruz, and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

On behalf of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), our nearly 9,000 member companies nationwide, and our strong community in Hawai'i, we appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Senate Bill 588 (SB 588), on green infrastructure and Senate Bill 1558 (SB 1558), the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan Update.

USGBC and LEED in Hawai'i

USGBC is a nonprofit organization committed to transforming the way all buildings and communities are designed, built, and operated to support a more sustainable, resilient, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life for all.

Our flagship green building rating system, LEED, continues to grow in the Hawai'i market, with over 200 certified projects amounting to more than 19 million square feet in total.¹ Our education and professional credential programs support green building in Hawai'i as well, with more than 1,300 Hawai'ians holding a LEED Accredited Professional (AP) or a LEED Green Associate credential.

LEED and Climate Resilience

USGBC is committed to building and design practices that are sustainable, efficient, and economically sound. Resilience is a clear extension of this work, and LEED works to encourage and support resilience outcomes in the built environment. For projects to earn LEED certification, they must meet high standards for sustainability and efficiency, thus positioning them to maximize their overall resilience as well. In order to moderate the intensifying effects of climate change on our communities and infrastructure, LEED is a critical tool that has been proven effective with industry stakeholders, including building owners and occupants.

¹ [State Market Briefs](#), U.S. Green Building Council.



USGBC works to ensure project teams are supported in their resilience efforts, including providing guidance to facilitate identification of opportunities to improve the durability and sustainability of projects pursuing LEED.² Also, LEED helps guide project teams in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprints associated with their building projects. According to a recent study, buildings certified under LEED Operations and Maintenance (LEED O+M) were associated with lower levels of greenhouse gases (GHGs). Specifically, LEED buildings were associated with 50 percent fewer GHGs from water use, 48 percent fewer GHGs from solid waste input, and five percent fewer GHGs from transportation.³ LEED gives project teams the tools they need to effectively mitigate the effects of climate change, as well as save resources, and protect the well-being of occupants and surrounding communities.

Like LEED, SITES is designed to help communities mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, though specifically developed to support sustainable land development. With input from landscape architects, designers, planners, ecologists, and engineers, resilience is one of the key goals of the SITES system. Credits include focus on green infrastructure, sustainable construction and maintenance, low carbon output, and more. SITES is more than just a system for individual landscape projects – SITES guides projects to enhance their resilience, thus ensuring readiness for a rapidly changing climate.⁴

USGBC Supports HB 588 and HB 1558

USGBC offers our strong support of both HB 588 and HB 1558, legislation that is before the committees today. HB 588 would mandate a comprehensive state-wide study on opportunities for green infrastructure in Hawai'i, and HB 1558 would require an update to the Hawai'i 2050 sustainability plan, and ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation priorities are incorporated in any updates. Each of these proposals will support Hawai'i in its continued progress in enhancing resilience of its built environment and mitigating the effects of climate change.

USGBC commends the state of Hawai'i for its leadership on these critical issues, and we thank the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Ways and Means for bringing these bills up for consideration today. Each of these bills have already been favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism and by the Senate Committee on Water and Land. USGBC urges the members of the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Ways and Means to support HB 588 and HB 1558, and move towards their swift passage.

² ["Profiles of Resilience: LEED in Practice,"](#) USGBC Resources.

³ ["Quantifying the Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Co-Benefits of Green Buildings,"](#) Center for the Built Environment, University of California-Berkeley (2014).

⁴ ["Greenspace for Good: Using the SITES System to Advance Resilience,"](#) USGBC Resources.



Thank you for your consideration of our remarks. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance or have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Elizabeth Beardsley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elizabeth Beardsley, P.E.
Senior Policy Counsel
U.S. Green Building Council

LATE

HB-1558-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2019 2:35:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Tierney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Chang, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Kahuna, and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

I am testifying in support of House Bill 1558 HD 1. This is an important bill that addresses planning and coordinating for the future of Hawaii. I support this bill because it: Establishes a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability to serve as a foundation for the State of Hawaii's sustainability policies; and Supports comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination with recognized responsibilities and authorities to update, coordinate, and support the implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

In addition to being a resident of Honolulu, I volunteer on the board of the US Green Building Council Hawaii Chapter, which is dedicated to best practices in the built environment. On behalf of our 100+ local members, I support this bill. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Ian Tierney

Honolulu, HI 96816

LATE

HB-1558-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2019 3:16:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith T Matsumoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB1558, HD1, SD1 dealing with updating the State's Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. While the ongoing updating of the plan is essential to our state, the coordination, research, development, completion, and follow-up for such work require staffing and funding. I am writing to support a budgetary request complementary to HB1558, HD1, SD1 to include the necessary staffing and operating expenses to support a Sustainability Division in the State of Hawaii's Office of Planning.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB1558, HD1, SD1