



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of  
**LEO R. ASUNCION**  
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019  
10:20 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of  
**HB 842, HD1, SD1**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE PLANNING ACT.**

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

The Office of Planning (OP) supports HB 842 HD1, SD1 to review and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the Hawaii State Planning Act, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. OP agrees that this bill would help to update the Hawaii State Planning Act refocus the goals, objectives, and policies of the State to reflect current cultural, economic, and societal goals,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**HB-842-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:13:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2019 10:20:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of Ways and Means,

The Oahu Democrats write in support of this measure, as it allows for fuller and more comprehensive planning in the State of Hawaii, for the purposes of land utilization and environmental management. Having the language of the Hawaii State Planning Act updated for the 2019 economy and population is inherently reasonable, and appropriate, within a planning context.

Thank you for your consideration.

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



**LATE**

LAND USE RESEARCH  
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April 3, 2019

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

**Comments in Strong Support and Amendment of HB 842, HD1, SD1 Relating to Hawaii State Planning Act. (Establishes a Hawaii State Planning Act Review Commission to review and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the Hawaii State Planning Act. Removes reference to achieving the viability of Hawaii's sugar and pineapple industries from the Hawaii State Planning Act's agricultural objectives. Appropriates funds.)**

**WAM Hearing: Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 10:20 a.m., in Conf. Rm. 211**

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, resort operators and utility companies. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in strong support and **amendment of HB 842, HD1, SD1 to**

- (1) increase the membership of the proposed Hawaii State Planning Act Review Commission to fifteen members; and**
- (2) expand the Commission to include members with expertise in agriculture, housing, energy, human services, infrastructure, education and planning or architecture.**

**HB 842, HD1, SD1.** This bill establishes a Hawaii State Planning Act Review Commission to review and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the Hawaii State Planning Act; removes reference to achieving the viability of Hawaii's sugar and pineapple industries from the Hawaii State Planning Act's agricultural objectives; and appropriates funds. This measure provides that the Commission members appointed by the Governor shall include persons with expertise in (the limited areas of) economics, small and large business administration, Hawaiian culture, environmental protection, tourism and military affairs.

**LURF's Position.** The current composition of the Commission lacks expertise in some of the most crucial issues that will impact the future of the State of Hawaii. LURF respectfully requests that this Committee add Commissioners with the following areas of expertise:

- **Agriculture**
- **Housing**
- **Energy**
- **Human services**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Education**
- **Planning or architecture**

While LURF supports the intent of HB 842, HD1, SD1, it **respectfully urges your favorable consideration of the amendments proposed above.**

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