



# 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**  
Friday, March 1, 2019  
10:10 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of  
**SB 1380**  
**RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.**

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

The Office of Planning supports SB 1380, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. SB 1380 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.

The 2016 State Legislature later established the State's Sustainability Coordinator position within the Office of Planning through the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2016, this position was filled in June 2017. The Sustainability Coordinator was notified that the decennial update requirement of the 2008 Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan was approaching within the year and assisted the Hawaii State Auditor's Office on behalf of the Office of Planning to provide and publish an unfunded statewide measurement update to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. 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 from agencies statewide over the course of ten years spanning from 2008-2017 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 SB 1380'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 SB 1380 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. SB 1380 establishes a stronger policy framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability, by incorporating long-term sustainability coordination and climate action planning into the duties and responsibilities of the Office of Planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

**S.B. NO. 1380, RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Hearing: Friday, March 1, 2019, 10:10 a.m.

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The Office of the Auditor **supports** S.B. No. 1380, 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 S.B. No. 1380.



## O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

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

DATE: Friday, March 1, 2019

TIME: 10:10 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

RE: SB 1380, RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Melodie Aduja and I serve as Chair of the O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (“DPH”). Mahalo for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 1380. The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (“OCCLP”) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of SB 1380, Relating to Sustainability.**

SB 1380 provides in subsection (b) that the office of planning shall update the sustainability plan to determine future actions guiding the coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability and climate adaptation goals, principles, and policies, and to define and implement state goals, objectives, policies, and priority guidelines using sections 226-3 to 226-27 and 226-103 to 226-109, and chapter 225P, as guiding principles. The office of planning shall submit the sustainability plan updated pursuant to subsection (b) to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2021 and every tenth regular session thereafter. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for updating the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan.

DPH knows 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. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018)*, p. 17, ln. 33-35.

### **COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY, AND SECURE ENVIROMENTAL JUSTICE**

DPH also seeks to achieve **energy sustainability** based on renewable energy sources. We must encourage the use of clean alternative fuel sources to include our public transportation systems. We must increase the use of public transit, telecommuting, car and vanpooling, ridesharing, biking, walking, and other forms of transportation thereby reducing traffic congestion and air pollution. We must also urgently develop the use of a variety of cost-effective energy providing systems, encourage transit-oriented development, and support tax incentives that encourage renewable energy initiatives. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018)*, p. 17, ln. 43-48.

DPH is committed to getting 100 percent of our electricity from clean energy sources within a decade. We will cut energy waste in homes, schools, hospitals, and offices through energy efficient improvements; modernize our electric grid; and make manufacturing the cleanest and most efficient in the world. These efforts will create hundreds of new jobs and save families and businesses money on their monthly energy bills. We will transform Hawai`i's transportation by reducing fossil fuel consumption through cleaner fuels, vehicle electrification, and increasing the fuel efficiency of cars, boilers, ships, and trucks. We will make new investments in public transportation and build bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure across our urban and suburban areas. We believe that the tax code must reflect our commitment to a clean energy future by preserving and extending tax incentives for energy efficiency and clean energy.

Democrats believe that carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases should be priced to reflect their negative externalities, and to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy and help meet our climate goals. Democrats are committed to defending, implementing and extending smart pollution and efficiency standards and fuel economy standards for automobiles and heavy-duty vehicles, building codes and appliance standards. We are also committed to expanding clean energy research and development.

We will work to expand access to cost-saving renewable energy by low-income households, create good-paying jobs in communities that struggled with energy poverty, and oppose efforts by utilities to limit consumer choice or slow clean energy deployment. We will streamline State permitting to accelerate the construction of new transmission lines to get low-cost renewable energy to market, and incentivize wind, solar, and other renewable energy. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018)*, p. 18, ln. 12-34.

### **CONFRONT GLOBAL THREATS AND GLOBAL CLIMATE LEADERSHIP**

Climate change poses an urgent and severe threat to our National Security, and DPH believes it would be a grave mistake for the United States to wait for another nation to take the

lead in combating the global climate emergency. According to the U.S. military, climate change is a threat multiplier that is already contributing to new conflicts over resources, catastrophic natural disasters, and the degradation of vital ecosystems across the globe. DPH recognizes the catastrophic consequences facing our State, our country, our planet, and civilization.

We believe that Hawai'i must lead in forging a robust global solution to the climate crisis. We are committed to a national mobilization, and to leading a global effort to mobilize nations to address this threat. Our generation must lead the fight against climate change and we applaud Hawai'i's leadership in joining the historic Paris Climate Accord. We will not only meet the goals set in Paris, we will seek to exceed them and push other countries to do the same by slashing carbon pollution and rapidly driving down emissions of potent greenhouse gases like hydrofluorocarbons. We will support other States and developing countries in their efforts to mitigate carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases, deploy more clean energy, and invest in climate resilience and adaptation. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 19, In. 1-16.*

Further, based on the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, DPH also joins in support of the following:

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere;
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture;
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,
5. Achieve gender diversity and equality, and empower all women and girls and those that do not adhere to the gender binary;
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
8. Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and living wage for all;
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;
10. Reduce inequality among our people and communities;
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns;
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts;
14. Conserve and wisely use the oceans, seas and marine resources in a sustainable manner;
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and biodiversity loss;
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; and

17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. *Democratic Party of Hawai`i Platform (2018)*, p. 1, ln. 39-52, p. 2, ln. 1-9.

For the foregoing reasons, to wit, to protect the people of Hawai'i and their property from the consequences of climate change by taking immediate action to mitigate and adapt by effectuating adaptation measures including, but not limited to, funding the Office of Planning to update the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, funding 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, OCCLP supports SB 1380, and urges its passage out of the Committee on Ways and Mean

Mahalo nui loa  
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

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**SB-1380**

Submitted on: 2/28/2019 12:41:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2019 10:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brodie Lockard	Testifying for Organizing for Action	Support	No

Comments:





Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS  
Friday, March 1, 2019 — 10:10 a.m. — Room 211

**Ulupono Initiative Supports SB 1380, Relating to Sustainability**

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

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 SB 1380**, 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*

**SB-1380**

Submitted on: 2/27/2019 7:50:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2019 10:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Miyamoto	Testifying for Hawaii Farm Bureau	Support	Yes

Comments: