

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE  
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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LAND  
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, March 18, 2019  
2:50 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 115/SENATE RESOLUTION 85  
REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO PRIORITIZE THE PLANTING OF FOUR  
MILLION TREES ALONG STREETS AND ROADWAYS WITHIN THE NEXT FOUR  
YEARS TO HELP ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND MAKE COMPLETE  
STREETS STATEWIDE**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 115/Senate Resolution 85 requests that the Governor prioritize the planting of four million trees along streets and roadways within the next four years to help address climate change and make complete streets statewide. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports these measures.**

The Department and partners have documented a five percent loss in urban tree canopy in a five year period on O'ahu, our most populous island. This equates to a removal of over 76,000 trees. The Department strongly supports actions, such as this one, to reverse this trend statewide. Trees in urban and rural areas encourage safer streets (by slowing traffic), reduce urban heat island effect, improve stormwater runoff and erosion, improve air quality, and sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

**SCR-115**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 4:13:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:50:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-115**

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 11:32:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/18/2019 2:50:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Vote NO. We don't want the United Nations failed concept of "Complete Streets" -- which really should be termed "Congested Streets" - since that seems to be the purpose of each and everyone one of its initiatives (taking lanes for buses and bike, putting in "calming structures (impediments to back-up traffic, etc.). They all involve in implementing "solutions" that take make mobility more difficult. Although trees near streets are nice when they are small, they are an excessive expense once they get large. Their roots tear up the streets and sidewalks, and their limbs fall down during storms -- endangering lives. Plant the trees in the conservation zones and the mountain areas -- not near the roadways. Complete streets is a failed idea. Do not implement this concept in Hawaii. Do not pass SCR 115.