



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY  
DIRECTOR

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
And  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Friday, April 12, 2019  
10:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of  
**SCR 119, SD1**

**REQUESTING THE STATE ENERGY OFFICE, IN COLLABORATION WITH  
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A  
STRATEGIC PLAN TO INCREASE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND LOCAL FOOD  
PRODUCTION AND CREATE AN ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT BASED ON  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN.**

Chairs Lowen and Creagan, Vice Chairs Wildberger and DeCoite, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent with **comments** on SCR 119, SD1 which requests the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO), in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DOA), to create and implement a strategic plan to increase renewable energy and local food production and create and economic impact report based on implementation of the strategic plan.

DBEDT appreciates the need for strategic planning to meet Hawaii's energy and food security goals. DBEDT notes that there are competing land use needs that must be taken into consideration, in discussion with the Land Use Commission, the Office of Planning, the County Planning Departments, and other stakeholders.

HSEO and DOA would need an appropriation of \$150,000 for the proposed work. Without this allocation, DBEDT is concerned SCR 119, SD1 would adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on SCR 119, SD1.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor

JOSH GREEN  
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

GLENN K. MURANAKA  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AND AGRICULTURE**

**APRIL 12, 2019  
10:00 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 312**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 119 SD1  
REQUESTING THE STATE ENERGY OFFICE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A STRATEGIC  
PLAN TO INCREASE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION  
AND CREATE AN ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT BASED ON IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE STRATEGIC PLAN.**

Chairpersons Lowen and Creagan and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 119 SD1 that requests the State Energy Office, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, to create and implement a strategic plan to increase renewable energy and local food production and create an economic impact report based on implementation of the strategic plan. The Department offers comments.

By legislative action, Chapter 205 has been amended over the past 10 years to accommodate renewable energy development on agricultural land. In most cases, the legislature had agreed that renewable energy should not adversely impact agricultural resources and agricultural production (see sections 205-4.5(a)(15 wind energy), (16 biofuel processing facilities), and (23 hydroelectric facilities)).

The first instance of integrating renewable energy production with agricultural activity came in 2014 with the passage of legislation (Act 55, 2014) to permit solar energy facility development on "B" and "C" rated agricultural land provided there is a "compatible agricultural activity". To date, four projects totaling 943 acres on "B" and



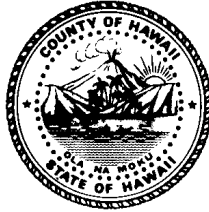
“C” rated agricultural lands have been approved for solar energy facility development on Kauai and Oahu. In each case the primary use of the “B” and “C” agricultural land is solar energy production, and the “compatible agricultural activity” is but a weed control measure using sheep.

With this 10-year history of agricultural land being made available to renewable energy development in progressively greater amounts, we find it paradoxical that this resolution is asking for the development of a strategic plan “that encompasses increasing renewable energy and local food production in a symbiotic relationship” at the same time there was a bill (HB 593 SD1) that sought to allow solar energy facilities on the best agricultural lands in the State and displace active farms.

The Department believes that existing State laws already grant broad flexibility to renewable energy resource development on agricultural land and that a strategic plan “that encompasses increasing renewable energy and local food production in a symbiotic relationship” is not necessary. The Department would be amenable to a policy statement from the Legislature stating that solar energy and other forms of renewable energy development from this point forward not adversely affect agricultural resources, particularly agricultural lands, whether in active production or not.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

County of Hawai'i  
Council District 9 -  
North and South Kohala



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**Chair:** Committee on Agriculture,  
Water, Energy, and Environmental  
Management

**Vice Chair:** Committee on Finance

**HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III**  
**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 9**  
*25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720*

April 11, 2019

**Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

Honorable Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
Honorable Representative Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

**House Committee on Agriculture**

Honorable Representative Richard P. Creagan, Chair  
Honorable Representative Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

**Submission via online testimony**

RE: **Support of SCR 119, SD1**  
Hearing Date/Time: April 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Representatives:

As the Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Environmental Management for the Hawai'i County Council, I thank you for the opportunity to submit **testimony in SUPPORT of SCR 119, SD1**. Creating a strategic plan to increase renewable energy and local food production is congruous with my own initiative of Agriculture, Water, Energy and Food Nexus, which seeks synergies of agriculture, water, and energy which leads us toward self-reliance. Having the State Energy Office work in conjunction with the State Department of Agriculture on creating such a plan will be beneficial toward a thriving future of the State of Hawai'i.

Please feel free to contact me should you need to discuss my position and knowledge of this matter further.

Sincerely,

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III  
Hawai'i County Council, District 9

*Hawai'i County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer*

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 1:26:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Winslow	Hawaii Farmers Union	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 2:23:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Quartero	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Support	Yes

Comments:

I support SCR119 SD1.

regards,

Robert Quartero

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 3:50:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helmut Klauer	A'a Li'i Farm	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 8:42:04 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:



**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 9:24:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 12:55:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keith Ranney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 1:55:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thomas Craig	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

A strategic plan would greatly enable the State of Hawaii to meet it's stated energy and food production (security) goals.

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 2:47:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gwen Morinaga-Kama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 3:24:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Reba O'Day	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

MAHALO FOR YOUR SUPPORT

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 3:34:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 3:50:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SCR119. Our coral reefs are dying due in large part to warming oceans, and valuable coastline is eroding due to sea level rise. Climate change is already occurring. We need to be a leader in renewable energy.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Sincerely,

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 8:05:57 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Remember what General Hara said about food if Hawaii had its ports destroyed by hurricane, tsunami or military attack.



**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 8:41:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Harriet Witt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need this bill because the scarcity of agricultural housing is undermining our efforts to feed ourselves without being so dangerously dependent on the mainland for food.

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 8:44:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Patrick Harley Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 9:40:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Dowd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 6:33:11 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Lawmakers,

i support this Bill with the understandings that renewable energy does not include nuclear energy or geothermal fracking. Solar farms should be placed on the driest and poorest of ag lands only

Mahalo,

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 6:57:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SCR-119-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/12/2019 9:01:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/12/2019 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Democrats Legislative Priorities Committee	Support	No

Comments: