



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY  
DIRECTOR

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**  
And  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**  
Friday, March 22, 2019  
1:15 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of  
**SCR 119/ SR 89**

**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 Wakai and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Ruderman, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent with **comments** on SCR 119/ SR 89, which requests the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO), in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, 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 and the County Planning Departments.

HSEO and DOA would need an appropriation of \$150,000 for the proposed work. Without this allocation, DBEDT is concerned SCR 119/ SR 89 would adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on SCR 119/ SR 89.

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
AND TOURISM, AND AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**MARCH 22, 2019  
1:15 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 119  
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 Wakai and Gabbard and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 119 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 these two resolutions are 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 is a bill moving forward (HB 593, SD1) that seeks to allow solar energy facilities on the best agricultural lands in the State and displaces 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 these resolutions.

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 11:01:10 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 11:06:11 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:



March 18, 2019

To: Chair Glen Wakai  
Vice Chair Brian T. Taniguchi  
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Chair Mike Gabbard  
Vice Chair Russell E. Ruderman  
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Re: **Testimony in Support of SCR 119/SR 89**

Hrg: March 22, 2019 at 1:15pm, Conference Room 224, State Capitol

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) **supports SCR 119/SR 89**, which requests the State Energy Office collaborate 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 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. Climate change represents a growing threat to the sustained health of Hawai'i's residents. Serious health impacts included: 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. This can result in forced migration from islands across the Pacific.

It is imperative that Hawai'i create climate change mitigation plans. But equally as important, we must continue to strive to increase our use of renewable energy and local food production which will decrease our carbon footprint.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH  
Legislative Committee Chair

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 12:23:40 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rene Siracusa	Testifying for Malama O Puna	Support	No

Comments:

The goals identified will help wean Hawaii off fossil fuels and create a safer food supply, so in order to do that a strategic plan is needed. This is a no-brainer. Let's do it.

mahalo.

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:51:37 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thomas Craig	Testifying for WAIWA production	Support	No

Comments:

A **strategic plan** is necessary to meet our renewable energy and food production goals and an **economic impact report** is necessary to document the trend toward success in meeting those goals.



**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 11:11:46 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Testifying for HFUU	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 4:20:27 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suellen Barton	Testifying for Maui Farmers Union United	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 9:08:56 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 12:42:23 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly King	Testifying for Pacific Biodiesel Technologies	Support	No

Comments:

I support this legislation as we need a plan for sustainable food and energy that includes climate change mitigations. You can start by not taxing Hawaii's current supplies of locally produced renewable energy and kill HB 1467!

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 10:17:15 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 10:52:12 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Hastings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 12:03:17 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ken Stover	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 12:33:01 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maureen Datta	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:03:19 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jo Kimm	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:06:51 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joy Nelson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:13:07 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. Jana Bogs	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 1:54:29 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<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**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:14:04 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Giblin Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support this bill, us small farmers need all the help we can get.

Thanks

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:46:37 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauren Gibson	Testifying for Lapa'au Farm	Support	No

Comments:

On behalf of our small farm business, I am in strong support of SCR119/SR89 relating to sustainable energy and local food!

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:56:14 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Rodwell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 4:22:28 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John NAYLOR	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/19/2019 8:20:57 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Derek Lindes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 8:31:58 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/20/2019 12:49:55 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Lesh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 2:51:05 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tama Brandeburg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a small independent, organic farmer I am in support of SCR119.

Mahalo!

**SCR-119**

Submitted on: 3/21/2019 2:52:10 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2019 1:15:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
DONNIE BECKER	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

GROW MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD ITS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE....!

WERE A SPECK IN THE MIDDLE OF KNOWHERE...

AND WE CANNOT GET OFF THIS ROCK OR SWIM TO ANOTHER ROCK...

PLEASE MAKE THIS FINALLY HAPPEN