



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, February 21, 2020
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
HB 2486, HD 1
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Office of Planning supports the intent and recommends amendments to HB 2486, HD 1, an omnibus bill, which: 1. Updates and reaffirms the role of the Office of Planning to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability; 2. Establishes a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning; and 3. Requires the state's Sustainability Coordinator in the Office of Planning to conduct a Green New Deal study. HB 2486, HD 1 makes appropriations for the establishment of a sustainability division, positions for the new division, and the study on implementing the Green New Deal in Hawai'i.

1. Regarding the bill's housekeeping language to update Hawai'i Revised Statutes §225M-2 (Section 4: Page 10, Line 3 – Page 19, Line 11):

As a housekeeping measure, the Office of Planning supports and agrees with the Legislature that §225M-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes should be updated to match the sustainability and climate change updates made to the Hawai'i State Planning Act. The Office of Planning thanks the Hawai'i State Legislature's amendments in 2011, codifying §226-108, the Sustainability Priority Guidelines, and in 2012, codifying §226-109, the Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines, which were added to the Hawai'i State Planning Act as priority guidelines to address areas of statewide concern. The Office of Planning is working attentively to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawai'i and assist our state and county partners.

The Office of Planning appreciates this opportunity to assist the Hawai'i State Legislature with policy research and analysis on cost-effective climate change solutions for the State of Hawai'i.

2. Regarding the bill's language to establish a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning (Section 2: Page 3, Line 6 – Page 10, Line 2):

The Office of Planning has been actively working on sustainable development and climate adaptation to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Office of Planning thanks the Legislature for recently establishing the state's Sustainability Coordinator position within the Office of Planning, pursuant to the Supplemental Appropriation Act of 2016.

The Office of Planning recognizes that statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. The Office of Planning requests additional staffing and operating expenses to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, policies, priorities, and planning throughout government; provided that it does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

The Office of Planning prefers the use of the housekeeping language in Section 4 of this bill to update Hawai'i Revised Statutes §225M-2 to remain in this measure. The Office of Planning recommends amendments to delete a portion of Section 2 (beginning on Page 3, Line 6 through Page 7, Line 9), and delete Sections 3, and 5 of this bill as they may be unnecessary due to the housekeeping language found in Section 4.

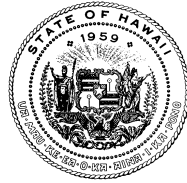
3. Regarding the bill's language tasking the state's Sustainability Coordinator and the Office of Planning to conduct a study on the Green New Deal in Hawai'i (Section 6: Page 20, Line 3 – Page 21, Line 6):

The Office of Planning notes that there are many measures being considered this legislative session relating to and referencing a Hawai'i Green New Deal. Many sustainability initiatives and goals are presently codified within Hawaii's Revised Statutes, and have similar intent to House Resolution 109 of the 116th Congress, *Recognizing the Duty of the Federal Government to Create a Green New Deal*, including but not limited to: §103D-412: Light-Duty Motor Vehicle Requirements; §174C-31(g)(6): Water Reclamation in State & County Facilities; §196-9: the Energy Efficiencies and Environmental Standards for State Facilities, Motor Vehicles, and Transportation Fuel; §225P-5: the Zero Emissions Clean Economy Target; §269-96: the Energy Efficient Portfolio Standard; §302A-1510: the Department of Education's Net-Zero Energy Goal; and §304A-119: the University of Hawaii's Net-Zero Energy Goal.

Similar emission reduction and greenhouse gas sequestration efforts are also being discussed and organized by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission and Hawaii's Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force. Hawaii's Aloha+ Challenge and Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative likewise encourage the achievement of various sustainability goals, which are not codified in Hawaii's Revised Statutes.

The Office of Planning recognizes that there are many concerted efforts are being made by the State of Hawai'i in terms of climate mitigation and adaptation planning for Hawaii's sustainable future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2486 HD1
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING.**

REP. SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINNCE

Hearing Date: February 21, 2020

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports HB2486 HD1 as it strengthens
3 statewide sustainability coordination within the State's Office of Planning.

4 The Office of Planning is working attentively to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable
5 development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawai'i and assist its state and county
6 partners, but additional financial resources and staffing are needed to plan for Hawaii's
7 sustainable and climate resilient future.

8 Updating the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning to be consistent with the
9 responsibilities and priorities established within the Hawaii State Planning Act affirms Hawaii's
10 commitment to sustainability. The addition of a sustainability division to fulfill the demanding
11 work of Statewide sustainability planning and coordination is beyond the capacity of one
12 individual position. HB 2486 HD 1 provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses
13 within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability
14 coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning
15 throughout government.

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

17

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com




February 21, 2020

KIRK CALDWELL, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair
KAPUA SPROAT, Vice Chair
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RAY C. SOON
MAX J. SWORD

ROSS S. SASAMURA, Ex-Officio
JADE T. BUTAY, Ex-Officio

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer 

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
and Members
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 2486, House Draft 1: Relating to Office of Planning

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports House Bill (HB) 2486, House Draft (HD) 1. This bill is to establish a stronger policy framework for Hawaii's sustainability efforts by establishing a statewide sustainability division within the Office of Planning, incorporating planning duties and responsibilities of the statewide sustainability division and to ensure long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability goals and policies.

As the State and county agencies move forward to implement recommendations of the Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report (Report), there needs to be a coordinated effort between both the State and county agencies regarding climate change and sustainability.

BWS is actively working with the City's Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (OCCSR) and the Honolulu Climate Change Commission on the implementation of various components of the Report.

Based on the recommendations of OCCSR and the Honolulu Climate Change Commission, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu executed the Honolulu Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Directive 18-02 on July 16, 2018, which directs all City agencies to incorporate the findings of the Report into their long-range plans and Capital Improvement Programs (CIP).

The BWS recognizes that climate change and sea level rise will impact the sustainability of Oahu's water resources and coastal water infrastructure. As such, vulnerability assessments and adaptation measures needed to be prioritized and implemented. BWS recently completed its vulnerability assessment entitled Impacts of Climate Change on Honolulu Water Supplies & Planning Strategies for Mitigation (2019) and have

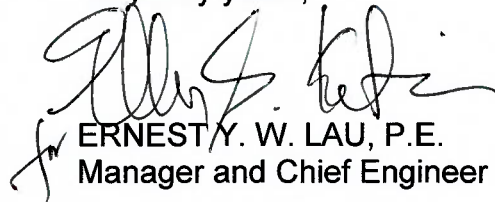
The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
and Members
February 21, 2020
Page 2

incorporated the findings into our long-range CIP. The expansion of the Honouliuli Water Recycling Facility (completed in December 2019) and the proposed Kalaehoa Seawater Desalination Project are among other BWS infrastructure resilience projects. Climate change and sea level rise adaptation is currently being incorporated in our regional watershed management plans for South Oahu (Ewa, Central Oahu, Primary Urban Center and East Honolulu).

<https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/bws/media/files/water-research-foundation-4637-climate-change-impacts-on-honolulu-water-supplies-2019.pdf>

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony in support of HB 2486, HD 1.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS		MAILING ADDRESS	
John Bickel, President	Melodie Aduja	Chuck Huxel	Stephen O'Harrow	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Juliet Begley	Jan Lubin	Lyn Pyle	Honolulu
Marsha Schweitzer, Treasurer	Ken Farm	Jenny Nomura		Hawai'i 96823
Doug Pyle, Secretary	Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Dave Nagaji		

February 20 , 2020

TO: Chair Luke and Finance Committee

RE: HB 2486 HD1 Relating to the Office of Planning

Support for hearing on February 21

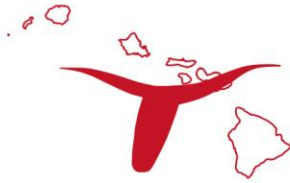
Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support HB 2486 HD1 this omnibus bill, specifically the Section 4 to update the Office of Planning's roles and responsibilities, and the sections to create a statewide sustainability division. It is a key step forward to conduct a Green New Deal study.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,
John Bickel, President





Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

HB2486 HD1

Requires DLNR to transfer to DOA specified non-agricultural park lands by a specified deadline. Requires DLNR and DOA to jointly report on the status of the land transfer. Amends the definition of "agricultural activities" used in chapter 166E, HRS.

Friday, February 21, 2020, 1:30 pm
Conference Room 308, State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **supports HB2486 HD1**. The cattle industry relies on a resilient future to continue long-term plans for cattle production, which provide ecosystem services such as invasive species removal, wildfire fuel load reduction, and healthy soils. HB2486 provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses for the Office of Planning to coordinate Hawaii's goals.

Nicole Galase
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Managing Director





183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • info@350Hawaii.org

To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Brodie Lockard, Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Friday, February 21, 2020, 1:30 pm

In strong support of HB 1850 HD1

Dear Chair Luke, and members:

350Hawaii.org's 6,000 members strongly support HB 1850 HD1.

If created carefully, a public-private partnership (PPP) can both benefit Hawaii's economy, and help bring technologies to market that will move Hawaii closer to being zero-emissions.

The barrel tax was created both to promote clean energy and local food programs, and to discourage oil consumption. But much of its revenues have been diverted to the general fund.

Tripling the deposit from the barrel tax into the energy security special fund would help the PPPs succeed commercially.

The energy security special fund is specifically for various programs that fight the Climate Crisis, like stronger energy conservation state building codes, improved clean vehicle charging infrastructure, the building energy efficiency revolving loan fund, and the greenhouse gas sequestration task force.

Move barrel tax revenues where they belong: into programs that promote zero emissions.

Brodie Lockard
Founder, 350Hawaii.org



1050 Bishop St. PMB 235 | Honolulu, HI 96813
P: 808-533-1292 | e: info@hawaiiifood.com

Executive Officers

Joe Carter, Coca-Cola Bottling of Hawaii, *Chair*
Charlie Gustafson, Tamura Super Market, *Vice Chair*
Eddie Asato, The Pint Size Corp., *Secretary/Treas.*
Lauren Zirbel, HFIA, *Executive Director*
John Schlif, Rainbow Sales and Marketing, *Advisor*
Stan Brown, Acosta Sales & Marketing, *Advisor*
Paul Kosasa, ABC Stores, *Advisor*
Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*
Beau Oshiro, C&S Wholesale Grocers, *Advisor*
Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

TO:
Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: February 21, 2020
TIME: 1:30pm
PLACE: Conference Room 308

RE: HB2486 HD1 Relating to the Office of Planning

Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA is in support of this measure to establish a statewide sustainability division within the office of planning. Having coordinated, consistent, statewide leadership and guidance on sustainability issues is an important step in improving sustainability in Hawaii.

We know that the Office of Planning is actively working to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawaii and we encourage the legislature to support them with the resources they need to plan for Hawaii's sustainable and climate resilient future.

Collaboration is an extremely important component of achieving long-term sustainability in our state and this measure provides an important legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's sustainability plans.

We urge you to pass this measure and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 3:59:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Henry Curtis	Life of the Land	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please pass this important piece of legislation. Hawai`i must become more sustainable, with plans for dealing with the climate crisis in an equitable, just, and holistic way.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis

Executive Director

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 11:06:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
"Phil" Augustus Acosta	Aloha Harvest	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice Chair Cullen

On behalf of Aloha Harvest, I am submitting this testimony in support of HB2486.

At Aloha Harvest, we strive to create a less wasteful and more equitable food system. By collecting and redistributing food that would otherwise be discarded, we are able to feed more than 56,000 of Hawaii's hungry individuals and families annually (including the homeless), while reducing the effects of food waste to the environment and our economy. This year, as we celebrate our 20th year anniversary, we are proud to say that we have rescued over 23 million pounds of food from going into the waste stream. We not only feed the hungry, but we also have a significant impact to Hawaii's environment by utilizing our precious & limited resources, limiting the amount of food waste going into our landfill, and in the process, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Office of Planning is actively working to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawai'i and assist its state and county partners, but additional financial resources and staffing provided by HB 2486, HD 1 are needed to plan for Hawaii's sustainable and climate resilient future. Statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. This bill provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

We urge this committee to pass Bill HD2486.

Respectfully,
"Phil" Augustus Acosta
Executive Director - Aloha Harvest
phil@alohaharvest.org
(808) 208-4307

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 2:46:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Gottlieb	Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:



1003 Bishop St. Suite 1975
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 942-7474

To: Honorable Sylvia Luke Chair; and Ty J.K. Cullen Vice Chair
From: Lorraine Minatoishi Ph.D., AIA
Hearing: Senate Committee on Finance 2/21/2020 1:30pm in Room 308.
Subject: **Support** HB2486 HB1, Relating to Office Planning

Dear Chair Luke and Vice Chair Cullen,

I strongly **support** Bill HB2486, HB1.

I am an architect and a member on the AIA committee for Climate Change. This past year we have been in discussions on how best to work with the State and counties to regulate building with climate change. This is why I was so happy to read this Bill HB2486.

As an architect who deals with climate change on a daily basis, I am very much aware of the need for regulations to encourage clients and developers to build for resiliency. In the case of developers who may not have a true incentive to build for longevity, requiring buildings to be built and planned in such a way that would require built-in resiliencies to counter-act climate change is critical. Further, homeowners and business owners who may be not aware of the impact on rise sea levels and greater flooding also would benefit from regulations that require them to protect their homes and businesses from future climate change impacts.

This bill allows architect and planners the government regulations we need to encourage clients to design with long-term climate issues in mind. Thank you so much for creating laws that address this much needed requirement!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lorraine', written in a cursive style.

Lorraine Minatoishi, Ph.D., AIA

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 11:04:23 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Segura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. HB 2486, HD 1 provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

M. Segura

House Committee on Finance

Friday, February 21, 2020 1:30 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 308

H.B. 2486 HD1, RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting testimony in **strong support** of HB 2486 HD1.

The Office of Planning is actively working to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawaii and assist its state and county partners, but additional financial resources and staffing are needed to carry out these goals. This bill will accomplish the following:

- Update the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning to be consistent with the responsibilities and priorities established within the Hawaii State Planning Act.
- Provide a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability.
- Provide the necessary staffing and operating expenses within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

I respectfully urge the committee to pass this bill to provide the necessary resources for the continuing work that is needed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo,
Will Kane

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 12:32:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2486-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2020 1:15:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/21/2020 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Tierney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Kristine Joy Sellona and I support HB2486, HD1. The points that I really want to testify for are additional financial resources and staffing for sustainable development in the Office of Planning. I think it is a hard job to be tasked with helping to save the planet while not given the adequate authority to do so. I also believe that in order for our planet, our nation, and most especially our beautiful island of Hawaii, to be habitable, we need to be moving more towards a paradigm of sustainability that seeks not only neutrality with regards to pollution, but is also regenerative in seeking to repair nature. With these daunting tasks, I think it would be overwhelming for just one person to do it alone. If we really care about our future, I think we need to invest more time and effort into putting people in the positions and the situations to do so.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, February 21, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

LATE

RE: HB 2486 HD1, RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING

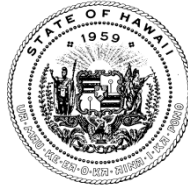
Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2486 HD1, which updates and reaffirms the role of the Office of Planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability and establishes a statewide sustainability division within OP. Additionally, this bill would require the state sustainability coordinator in OP to conduct a Green New Deal Study and makes appropriations for the establishment of the sustainability division, positions for the new division, and the study on implementing a Green New Deal in Hawaii.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber recognizes the threat that climate change poses to our state. In the coming years, Hawaii's economy faces the threat of economic loss due to the effects of climate change. We believe in the benefits of a sustainable future and recognize the important role the business community plays to ensure that future policies and goals are met, and by working with stakeholders to help create practical, reasonable and rational solutions to address these important issues. HB 2486 HD1, will help to provide additional financial and staffing for the Office of Planning in order to better plan for a sustainable future here in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2486 HD1.



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 21, 2020
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 308

H.B. 2486, H.D. 1
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING
House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports the intent** of H.B. 2486, H.D. 1, which updates and reaffirms the role of the office of planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability and establishes a statewide sustainability division within OP.

The DOT recognizes the importance of climate change adaptation and sustainability. Current initiatives at the DOT include resiliency efforts to address sea-level rise and other extreme weather events. The DOT is undertaking efforts to evaluate the vulnerabilities of our transportation system to sea level rise, coastal erosion, and other impacts of climate change and extreme weather. These efforts will guide our investments as we work to address existing issues and increase the resiliency of our transportation system. Our efforts include resource agencies, government stakeholders, infrastructure owners, environmental groups, and state and county land use leaders for input and direction.

However, the DOT also recognizes that to be effective, the development of a long-term strategic plan to address existing issues and increase the resiliency of our transportation system cannot be an HDOT-centric plan, but will require collaboration with all stakeholders and resource agencies statewide to evaluate priorities on a statewide basis. The statewide interagency collaboration could be facilitated by the sustainability division within OP proposed by H.B. 2486 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

LATE

February 21, 2020

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2486, HD1
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING

Room 308
1:30 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

Hawaii Farm Bureau supports HB 2486, HD1, which updates the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning to align with the responsibilities and priorities established within the Hawaii State Planning Act. This measure would also provide a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability.

The Office of Planning is actively planning, preparing, and coordinating for sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawaii and assist its state and county partners, but additional financial resources and staff are necessary to plan for Hawaii's sustainable and resilient climate future. Statewide sustainability planning and coordination are demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. This measure would provide the necessary staffing and operating funds to support a comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, and priorities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.



183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • info@350Hawaii.org

To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Friday, February 21, 2020, 1:30pm

In strong support of HB2486 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee:

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org strongly supports **HB2486 HD1**.

This bill would establish a statewide sustainability division to ensure coordinated efforts towards climate change adaption and sustainability. Global warming is the greatest existential threat of our time. To tackle the crisis we are faced with and accomplish what scientists say is needed to avert climate breakdown, it will take dedicated, coordinated, bold efforts at an unprecedented scale and speed if we are to ensure a livable planet for our children.

HB2486 moves us in the right direction to face this crisis head-on. It provides a framework for a statewide commitment to transition towards a decarbonized economy and a mobilization effort to reverse the climate crisis.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important bill.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



USGBC
2101 L STREET, NW
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON DC 20037
202 828-7422
USGBC.ORG

FOUNDERS

David Gottfried
Michael Italiano
S. Richard Fedrizzi

LATE

February 20, 2020

House Finance Committee

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 308 – transmitted via web
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB2486 HD1, for the Office of Planning; Statewide Planning; Climate Change; Sustainability; Statewide Sustainability Division; Green New Deal Study; Appropriation

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members,

On behalf of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), our nearly 12,000+ member companies nationwide, and our strong community in Hawaii,¹ we appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support for HB2486 HD1, regarding the role of the Office of Planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability.

USGBC and LEED in Hawai'i

USGBC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous world. Best known for the successful Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) green building certification system, we leverage our education, credentials, events, communications, and policy advocacy activities to support the public and private sectors in advancing high-performance, cost-effective, buildings that save energy, water and money. Reducing the contribution of buildings to climate change has long been a core area of our work along with a focus on supporting community resilience.

HB2486, HD1 will Benefit Hawai'i Sustainability and Resilience

We support this bill as it provides a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability. Statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. HB 2486, HD 1 provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

¹ See <https://www.usgbc.org/usgbc-hawaii>



Thank you for your consideration of our remarks. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance or have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Islam".

Melanie Islam, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, LFA
MLAB Board Chair
USGBC Hawaii

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Beardsley".

Elizabeth Beardsley, P.E.
Senior Policy Council
U.S. Green Building Council

cc: Alysson Blackwelder, USGBC
Melanie Colburn, USGBC

LATE



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

Friday, February 20, 2020

House Bill 2486, HD 1
Testifying in Strong Support

Aloha Chair Luke; Vice Chair Cullen; and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii stands in strong support of HB 2486, HD 1, which updates and reaffirms the role of the office of planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability; establishes a statewide sustainability division within OP; requires the state sustainability coordinator in OP to conduct a Green New Deal Study; and makes appropriations to establish the sustainability division, positions for the new division, and the study on implanting a Green New Deal in Hawaii.

The Green New Deal Study will: (1) identify federal and international initiatives and policies for a green new deal; (2) comprehensively review the State’s economic resilience, efforts in environmental protection and growth, and protections for Hawaii’s social and cultural equity; (3) determine and make findings as to how the State can move forward to cost effectively take advantage of identified opportunities; and (4) identify any legal and regulatory changes necessary to implement such findings.

Although President Trump has called climate change a hoax and worked to reverse the Obama administrations climate initiatives, senior U.S. military officers have long been aware of warming’s detrimental effects.

“Climate change is an urgent and growing threat to our national security, contributing to increased natural disasters, refugee flows, and conflicts over basic resources,” the Defense Department told Congress in a 2015 report. “These impacts are already occurring, and the scope, scale, and intensity of these impacts are projected to increase over time.”

As such, the Defense Department is investing in renewable energy, including solar power and biofuels. By the end of 2020, the armed forces expect to generate 18% of on-base electricity from renewables, up from 9.6% in 2010. The play to increase that share substantially in the years to come.”

Military planning for climate change does not dwell on threats to habitats and species. It emphasizes the social strife, state collapse and armed violence that are likely to occur in countries

already suffering from scarce resources and ethnic friction, all of which are anticipated risks in Hawai'i as the effects of climate change cause sea level rise, stronger and more frequent natural disasters, and loss of our natural resources and habitats.

Climate change continues to have an effect on Hawaii's fishing industry where Honolulu is the top port in the United States, with landings of fish valued at roughly \$104 million in 2017. However, man-made emissions of carbon dioxide that cause climate change are making the ocean warmer and more acidic and starving it of oxygen. Last year, the ocean was the hottest it has ever been, wreaking havoc for fish stocks and marine wildlife, including Hawaii's iconic humpback whales.

At the same time, the hot acidic waters are bleaching and killing the coral reefs around Hawaii that provide commercial, recreational and subsistence fishing, create world-famous surfing and diving locations, and are home to many of our fish and wildlife.

Recently, scientists have also concluded that climate change will lead to fewer and smaller bigeye tuna in the ocean. Those and other fish stocks that are available could shift their traditional migrations, forcing fishermen to travel farther to catch them, all of which will seriously affect our strong fishing industry, native Hawaiian culture, and way of life.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote favorably on this bill that updates and reaffirms the role of the office of planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability; establishes a statewide sustainability division within OP; requires the state sustainability coordinator in OP to conduct a Green New Deal Study; and makes appropriations to establish the sustainability division, positions for the new division, and the study on implanting a Green New Deal in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Chair, Human Environmental Impacts Committee
At-Large Rep., Environmental Caucus

https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/02/a-military-perspective-on-climate-change/?utm_source=Civil%20Beat%20Master%20List&utm_campaign=1c4fd235ff-

https://www.civilbeat.org/2020/02/keeping-sustainable-seafood-on-hawaiis-tables/?utm_source=Civil%20Beat%20Master%20List&utm_campaign=1c4fd235ff-



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

KA'ĀINA S. HULL
DIRECTOR

JODI A. HIGUCHI SAYEGUSA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of Ka'āina Hull
Planning Director, County of Kaua'i

Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 21, 2020; 1:30 pm
House Conference Room 308

LATE

In consideration of
House Bill 2486 HD1
Relating to the Office of Planning

Honorable Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i, Department of Planning provides testimony **in support** of HB2486 HD1 which updates and reaffirms the role of the Office of Planning (OP) to coordinate among state agencies regarding climate change adaptation and sustainability; establishes a statewide sustainability division within OP; requires the state sustainability coordinator in OP to conduct a Green New Deal Study; and makes appropriations for establishment of the sustainability division, positions for the new division, and the study on implementing a Green New Deal in Hawaii.

The Office of Planning is actively working to plan, prepare for, and coordinate sustainable development and climate adaptation for the State of Hawai'i and assist its state and county partners, but additional financial resources and staffing provided by HB 2486, HD 1 are needed to plan for Hawaii's sustainable and climate resilient future. HB 2486, HD 1 updates the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning to be consistent with the responsibilities and priorities established within the Hawaii State Planning Act. HB 2486, HD 1 provides a stronger legal framework to focus on the planning, coordination, and collaborative implementation of Hawaii's long-term sustainability.

Finally, statewide sustainability planning and coordination is demanding work beyond the capacity of one individual position. HB 2486, HD 1 provides the necessary staffing and operating expenses within the State's Office of Planning to support comprehensive statewide sustainability coordination and implementation of Hawaii's sustainability laws, goals, priorities, and planning throughout government.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

