



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND
WATER, LAND, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Thursday, February 6, 2020
9:15 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

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

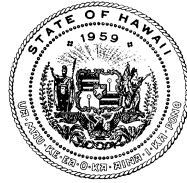
Chairs Lowen and Yamane, Vice Chairs Wildberger and Todd, and Members of the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Office of Planning supports this housekeeping measure which aligns the responsibilities and priorities set forth in Part II and Part III, respectively, of the Hawai'i State Planning Act, Chapter 226, Hawai'i Revised Statutes with the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning, §225M-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

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. Thanks to the Hawai'i State Legislature's amendments in 2011, §226-108, the Sustainability Priority Guidelines, and in 2012, §226-109, the Climate Change Adaptation Priority Guidelines, 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 recognizes that its director, serves as a co-chair of the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, and as chair of Hawai'i's Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force. With these updated housekeeping amendments to §225M-2, the Office of Planning looks forward to coordinate with these entities and collaborate with state and county partners.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2486 to provide a housekeeping update to the roles and responsibilities of the Office of Planning, §225M-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to match those responsibilities and priorities established within the Hawai'i State Planning Act.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2486
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF PLANNING.**

REP. NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

REP. RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: February 6, 2020

Room Number: 325

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

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports HB2486 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.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

12

HB-2486

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 3:44:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB-2486

Submitted on: 2/5/2020 5:55:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| James E. Coon | Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council | Support | Yes |

Comments:

James E. Coon, Viice Chair of the Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Coundil, Testifying in support of HB2486.

This bill is a housekeeping measwure and is important because it updates and further clarifies the role of the office of planning as the coordinating agency for climate change.

LATE

HB-2486

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 3:42:42 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| kristine.sellona | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

My name is Kristine Joy Sellona and I support HB2486. I think it is important to realize that we are not only in a period of climate change, but of a climate crisis. I therefore think we as a state and as an island should emphasize the necessary actions required to address the effects and consequences of this climate change/crisis period (e.g. sea level rise). I most certainly believe the Office of Planning should keep promoting sustainable policies and practices that preserve Hawaii's unique ecosystems and all the biodiversity teeming within them. I think they do their best in ensuring our coasts and our oceans are healthy, and since we are a part of a system that connects us to our waters (we are literally surrounded by water), that we as humans are healthy as well.

HB-2486

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 5:48:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D. | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-2486

Submitted on: 2/4/2020 10:50:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/6/2020 9:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2020

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 6, 2020
TIME: 9:15 AM
PLACE: Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
HEARING HB2486

POSITION: **STRONG SUPPORT HB2486**

This bill is a prudent and necessary measure. It will ensure comprehensive planning and coordination to enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawaii. This is reflected in subsection 2(A). In-depth policy research, analysis is fundamental to sound scientific reasoning and long-term decision making. Furthermore, subsection (1) calls for encouraging a balanced view of, economic, social, community, and environmental priorities.

The understanding of the climate issues within these parameters is vitally important because without a robust economy Hawaii would not have the resources to address the issues and concerns of the changing climate. This sentiment is also reflective in all parts of section (3).

Another area that is addressed in this measure is Encouraging respect for the host culture. Science and host concerns are not mutually exclusive and should not be approached in that manner. The use of empirical data and host concerns can co-exist in the same eco-system through the use of and belief in the efficacy of the scientific method. I support the passage of this measure in this committee. Thank you for reading my testimony.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm