

HCR-68

Submitted on: 4/14/2021 12:51:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/15/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Testifying for Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HCR68--REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PLAN WITH GOALS TO INCREASE TREE CANOPIES ON PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDS, DOCUMENT EXISTING INVENTORY AND TALENT, AND IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT AND SUSTAIN THE PLAN.**

Hearing Decision making: Thursday, April 15, 2021, 10:00 a.m., CR211 and by videoconference

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committees on Ways and Means:

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis and encouraging Hawai'i to lead the world towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. **The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HCR68!**

This measure will create a plan to increase tree canopies on school campuses, which will provide students with a cooler, more beautiful, and healthier learning space, while helping to mitigate the climate emergency by reducing energy use and Greenhouse gas emissions and sequestering carbon dioxide.

There are many schools in Hawai'i where heat interferes with keiki's ability to learn well. The heat will get worse with the increasing climate emergency. This measure would enable students to continue to play, learn, and gather outside, even as the temperature rises. Trees on school campuses will also absorb storm water, clean the air, beautify campuses, and help the counties and State reach environmental goals. An abundance of trees on school campuses would help cool each campus and provide a multitude of learning opportunities, including learning the role trees play in the overall health of the ecosystem, cultural uses of indigenous trees, tree propagation and care,

commercial uses of trees, and participation in community programs that promote tree planting.

Please pass this concurrent resolution! Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)