



**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 AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

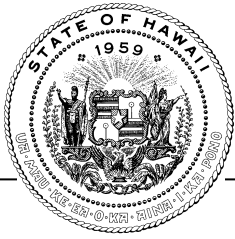
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
9:00 AM
Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SB 1054, SD2
RELATING TO THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports Administration Bill, SB 1054, SD2, which amends Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 201-18 to allow the use of funds in the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (HBCRLF) to be used for cleanup grants and brownfields site assessments. The HBCRLF Program was capitalized with a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and is administered by the Office of Planning (OP).

This measure is needed to authorize use of HBCRLF funds—currently limited to loans—for cleanup grants and site assessments, which are allowed under the EPA closeout agreement with DBEDT for the HBCRLF grant. Broadening the use of funds for cleanup grants and site assessments will result in more effective and timely use of the funds, and facilitate reuse of underutilized, contaminated properties slated for redevelopment for affordable housing and community open space and park enhancements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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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 COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
9:00 AM
Via Videoconference

in consideration of
SB 1054, SD2
RELATING TO THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

The Office of Planning (OP) **strongly supports** Administration Bill, SB 1054, SD2, which would amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 201-18 to allow the use of funds in the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (HBCRLF) to be used for cleanup grants and brownfields site assessments, in addition to cleanup loans. The HBCRLF Program—capitalized by a \$2 million Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)—is administered by OP.

This measure is needed to authorize and take advantage of expanded use of HBCRLF funds, which EPA provided under a closeout agreement for the HBCRLF grant. Broadening the use of funds for cleanup grants and site assessments will result in more effective and timely use of the funds, because the need for funds for cleanup grants and site assessments is high.

As the program administrator of the HBCRLF Program, OP has identified with its EPA and Department of Health partners, several potential projects seeking site assessment and/or cleanup grant funds for the restoration and reuse of underutilized, contaminated properties that are slated for redevelopment for affordable housing and community open space and park enhancements. This measure would enable use of the funds for such projects and make more productive use of HBCRLF funds to advance eligible public and non-profit projects of community benefit.

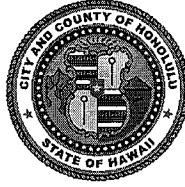
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



DEAN UCHIDA
DIRECTOR

DAWN TAKEUCHI APUNA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EUGENE H. TAKAHASHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 16, 2021

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Energy
and Environmental Protection
Hawaii House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lowen and Committee Members:

**Subject: Senate Bill No. 1054, SD 2
Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund**

The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) **supports** Senate Bill No. 1054, SD 2, which would enable use of the Hawaii Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund for loans and sub-grants to eligible entities for brownfields site assessments, cleanup activities of contaminated sites, and site monitoring activities necessary to determine the effectiveness of a cleanup.

This measure would allow the City and County of Honolulu to receive funding to support cleanup activities for public benefit, such as to create a new shoreline park envisioned on contaminated property along the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail. The DPP manages the City's brownfields assessment grant, which cannot be used for cleanup activities, and has identified a number of potential brownfields sites for cleanup, in close coordination with State agencies. These sites could potentially accommodate park and open space, as well as affordable housing.

Should you have any questions, please contact Harrison Rue, Community Building and Transit-Oriented Development Administrator, at 768-8294.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Uchida".

Dean Uchida
Director