



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Fax: (808) 586-2536
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

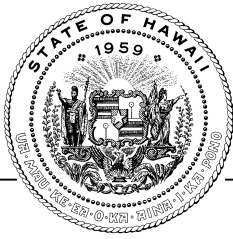
Tuesday, April 6, 2021
10:00 AM
Via Videoconference

In support of
SCR44 SD 1
(Written Testimony Only)

DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SCR44 SD1, which would declare a climate emergency and request statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. HSEO believes the transition from carbon intensive energy sources to less carbon intensive energy sources requires thoughtful, careful analysis and community engagement to ensure equitable and just outcomes to repair our climate.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

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/>

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, April 6, 2020
10:00 AM
State Capitol

in consideration of
SCR 44 SD 1/ SR 30 SD 1
**DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE
COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND
EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the House Committee:

The Office of Planning supports the intent of SCR 44/SR 30, declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

The Office of Planning notes that on January 27, 2021, the President of the United States of America acknowledged that climate change is an “existential threat to the planet,”¹ while signing Executive Order 14008 to combat climate change:

Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis Home and Abroad²

Summary: Identifies the climate crisis at the center of United States Foreign Policy and National Security and establishes a government-wide approach within the federal government to the climate crisis.

The Office of Planning’s also notes that the State’s Sustainability Coordinator recently attended the United Nations General Assembly Climate Action Summit in September 2019 at the invitation of the United Nations to attend the 2nd High-level and Regional Government Forum on the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. It was at this United Nations General Assembly where the Secretary-General of the United Nations announced that collectively, we are amidst a “climate emergency—as a race we are losing but is a race we can win.”

Following this Climate Action Summit, the United Nations published the *Report of the Secretary General on the Climate Action Summit and the Way Forward in 2020*.³ This report recommended 10 Priority Areas for Action in 2020, to:

1. Secure commitments of the main emitters to increase ambition of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) by 2020 with the view of cutting CO₂ emissions by at least 45% by 2030 in line with the global objective of net zero by 2050 and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Reaching net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050.
3. Deepening the ambition of NDCs with sectors that were not fully part of the picture in 2015.
4. Addressing the social dimension of climate change.
5. Curtailing the current coal capacity and ensuring no new coal power plants are built after 2020.
6. Accelerating the transition to 100% renewable energy.
7. Accelerating the shift of the financial flows, keep pushing on carbon pricing and ensure access to sustainable finance.
8. Stepping up support for people affected by climate change and making the shift towards a resilient future.
9. Delivering on commitments made at the UN Climate Summit to Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.
10. Implementing the Climate Action Summit's initiatives aiming at the deep decarbonization of key economic sectors.

Additionally, the Office of Planning notes that the U.N. has declared this 2020-2030 decade as the “Decade of Action” to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in alignment with the goals of the U.N. Paris Agreement.

The Office of Planning is actively working on the sustainable development and climate adaptation of the state to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations of Hawai‘i to meet their own needs. The Office of Planning looks forward to supporting the goals of this resolution and the requirements set forth in Act 45, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2020 to continue to collaborate and coordinate with agencies statewide to achieve these sustainable and climate actions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

¹ Biden, Joseph R. “Remarks by President Biden Before Signing Executive Actions on Tackling Climate Change, Creating Jobs, and Restoring Scientific Integrity.” 27 Jan 2021. Available online: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/01/27/remarks-by-president-biden-before-signing-executive-actions-on-tackling-climate-change-creating-jobs-and-restoring-scientific-integrity/>

² Exec. Order 14008 of Jan 27, 2021. 86 FR 7619. Available online: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/02/01/2021-02177/tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad>

³ United Nations. 2019. Report of the Secretary General on the Climate Action Summit and the Way Forward in 2020. Available online: https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/assets/pdf/cas_report_11_dec.pdf.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Gabe Johnson
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

April 5, 2021

TO: Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM: Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Chair, Climate Action, Resilience, and Environment Committee
Member, Board of Directors, ICLEI-Local Governments for
Sustainability USA

SUBJECT: **STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR44 SD1, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to acknowledge the existential climate emergency threatening humanity and to resolve to take immediate action toward a just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

In 2019, the Maui County Council voted unanimously to adopt [Resolution 19-209 Acknowledging a Climate Emergency and Committing to an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Effort to Restore a Safe Climate](#).

In addition to the reasons our County Council identified recognizing the dire need for an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate, I support this measure in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council for the following reasons:

1. Declaring a climate emergency will make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority among government organizations at a statewide level, and will prioritize the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.
2. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR44 SD1 for the climate

mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address the climate crisis.

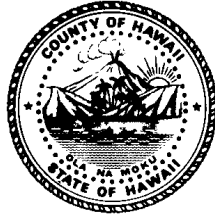
3. We are in the midst of a climate crisis and need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.
4. Hawai`i is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns. SCR44 SD1 moves us in the right direction by identifying the urgency of the issue and the need for a response that matches the speed and scale of climate change.

For the foregoing reasons, I **strongly support** this measure.

HEATHER L. KIMBALL

Council Member

*Chair, Committee on Governmental Operations,
Relations and Economic Development
Council District 1*



Contact Information

(808) 961-8828

(808) 961-8018 (staff)

heather.kimball@hawaiiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*County of Hawai'i
Hawai'i County Building
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720*

April 5, 2021

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SCR44 SD1 - DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

I would like to express my strong support of SCR44 SD1. We must act with urgency and collaboratively on the climate crisis. Our state is arguable one of the most likely to experience the impacts of record heat, wildfires, severe weather, rising seas, and severe disruptions to our marine ecosystem. These issues will only worsen unless we take meaningful action. We must more aggressively drawdown emissions and begin to work on adaptation strategies to mitigate the consequences of climate change.

SCR44 will amplify the commitments made by Hawaii County (Hawaii County Council Resolution 322-19) in 2019 and send a unified signal around the need for timely and effective action to address climate change. SCR44 SD1 also lays out critical steps that we must take and will help Hawaii accelerate its progress towards its climate action goals. In this legislative session, we have seen several bills to address climate change by increasing renewable energy production, electrification of transportation, local food security, and reducing carbon pollution. Passage of these bills along with SCR44 SD1 will allow us to accelerate our economy's transformation into a genuinely sustainable one.

Please support efforts to drawdown carbon emissions and adapt our economy to increase our sustainability and resilience. Our future generations are counting on this generation to act.

Thank you for consideration of this testimony and please support SCR44 SD1.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Kimball".

Heather Kimball
Hawaii County Council, District 1

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 2:10:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert B Huber	Democratic Party Environmental Caucus	Support	No

Comments:

To all the citizens and communities of Hawaii -

From the establishment of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary 1992 with Jacque Loeb and his marine refuge I helped with then Leon Panetta authoring the protection for the Monterey Bay . Today it is much deeper than that , our whole world community is become effected from global climate change primarily the heating of our ocean waters due to depletion of the Ozone layer from gases and toxins permeating our protective layer .

A few years ago I went to Bora Bora and in less then a year after that reef had over heated and killed thousands of fish within the motu (inner reef) and also has bleached so much in the French Polynesia atolls it is undeniable . The planting of coral to reestablish is a mout point since the underlying cause is from the heating of the ocean water due to mostly carbon emmissions traveling around the perimiter of our globe . We must join in a global mobilization to prevent further generations from inhereting this devastation to even a higher degree (no pun intended) . An emergency proclamation in our state is saying we all have cancer and must act now to prevent further people from dying ! They are even seeing correlations in illness and viruses created from the destruction of our ozone . WE MUST ACT NOW !

Regards , Robert Huber

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 2:45:24 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dyson Chee	Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-chair Marten, and members of the EEP Committee,

My name is Dyson Chee, I am 18 years old, and I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition (HYCC) in strong support of SCR44.

HYCC is a youth-led, youth-founded organization dedicated to taking on the climate crisis through just and equitable means. Although our generation is on the front line in taking the brunt of the climate crisis, we are already seeing its impacts pervading our lives today, whether it be our streets falling into the ocean or the decreasing tradewinds. COVID-19 has taught us a harsh lesson of being unprepared for a natural disaster, and we would be wise to learn from it. It will take wide-spread collaboration and mobilization of our resources to equip ourselves against the increasingly inevitable impacts of climate change.

But we must not forget about the communities that are disproportionately impacted by climate change as we move towards a more resilient future. That future needs to be just and equitable as well.

Our generation yearns for a future where we belong in Hawai'i. Unfortunately, with climate change looming on the horizon, a small island state seems like a poor place to live out our future. We must take bold action now. We cannot wait 'till 2045 to put out the fire in our house, for it will have spread uncontrollably by that point. For the sake of Hawai'i's future, we urgently ask that you please pass SCR44.

Sincerely,

Dyson Chee

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 5:47:47 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Harris	The Climate Mobilization	Support	No

Comments:

The Climate Mobilization is thrilled to support SCR44. By advancing this Resolution, Hawaii will join more than 1,910 governments around the world and 138 local governments in the U.S. that have passed Climate Emergency Declarations. We applaud Hawaii's leadership in considering this measure.

Aloha,

I am writing on behalf of the Kauai Climate Action Coalition to strongly support SCR44 SD1, declaring a climate emergency for Hawaii and requiring that we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all part of State government. The climate crisis is NOW; our keiki are already going to experience at least a 1.5C rise in temperature due to our inaction when we could have prevented this. They will experience an even greater rise if we fail to act now.

If your house were on fire, would you wait until 2045 to put it out? Hollow promises for the future won't douse the flames of today. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

We urge you to support SCR44 SD1 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future. Coordinated mobilization efforts are required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization." Scientists have made clear that if are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. If we and everyone else just continues to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

Please support and pass SCR44 SD1—for the sake of our keiki and our aina. Mahalo!

Helen A. Cox, chair

Kauai Climate Action Coalition



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS		MAILING ADDRESS	
John Bickel, President	Melodie Aduja	John Miller	Bill South	P.O. Box 23404
Alan Burdick, Vice President	Juliet Begley	Jenny Nomura	Zahava Zaidoff	Honolulu
Dave Nagajji, Treasurer	Stephanie Fitzpatrick	Stephen O'Harrow		Hawaii 96823
Doug Pyle, Secretary	Jan Lubin	Lyn Pyle		

April 4, 2021

TO: Chair Lowen and members of EEP Committee

RE: SCR 44 SD1 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

Support for hearing on April 6

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 SCR 44 SD1 as we recognize the emergency. Therefore we believe we must act with urgency and with collaboration on the climate crisis. Hawai'i is very likely to experience the impacts of record heat, wildfires, severe weather, rising seas, and severe disruptions to our marine ecosystem. We must more aggressively reduce carbon emissions to prevent further damage, and then we must create uniform processes by which we can more easily adapt to the many changes we cannot prevent.

Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President



Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

421 Lama St.
Hilo, HI 96720

sustainableenergyhawaii.org

April 4, 2021

SUPPORT for SCR44 SD1, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

I am Richard Ha, President of Sustainable Energy Hawai'i, a coalition of concerned citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii residents through affordable renewable energy.

Sustainable Energy Hawai'i is in strong support of SCR44 SD1.

Passage of this resolution will broadcast our State's recognition of the climate crisis and better frame our responses. The declaration will help justify the challenging decisions that we must make to dramatically reduce our emissions, to accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy, and to ensure that our communities adapt to the inevitable consequences of climate change, e.g., sea-level rise, powerful storms, and flooding. This declaration will help our community rally behind and support the actions that we must take.

Hawaii has been at the forefront of climate policy. We have aggressive climate goals, and we have been making decent progress. Renewables are now a significant portion of our energy production, and electric vehicle adoption is increasing.

However, much remains to be done. To illustrate, we continue to burn a significant amount of fossil fuel - around 6M barrels of oil for energy and over 300M gallons of gasoline annually. Electric vehicles are slightly over 1% of the over 1 million passenger cars on our roads.

Importantly, we are blessed with abundant renewable energy resources that offer the opportunity of energy independence from fossil fuels, clean jobs and careers, and a dramatic reduction in our emissions.

Our future generations deserve a livable world, one where the air is clean, the climate is hospitable, food is abundant, and nature thrives. Let's pass SCR44 SD1 and back it up with concrete actions to accelerate our progress.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Richard Ha
President

Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

Big Island Electric Vehicle Association

www.bigislandev.org



April 4, 2021

STRONG SUPPORT for SCR44 SD1 (DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE)

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

On behalf of Big Island Electric Vehicle Association, I testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SCR44 SD1**.

The Big Island Electric Vehicle Association is an advocacy group established in 2011 to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles on Hawaii Island. Our members are EV owners, would-be EV powers, and supporters of sustainable transportation.

SCR44 SD1 represents a significant acknowledgment of the urgent nature of our climate crisis. It will help galvanize our community around the various actions required to reduce Hawaii's global warming emissions. It will help us lead other states and countries to do the same.

We only need to reflect on the past few years' natural disasters to realize that climate change consequences are worsening. News of disappearing glaciers, warming polar regions, melting permafrost, and disruptions to major ocean currents raise extreme concern that we're approaching points of no return, where consequences exacerbate other consequences in a vicious spiral. Notably, atmospheric CO2 emissions continue to climb.

In many ways, Hawaii is leading. Our energy and transportation goals are aggressive and inspiring other governments to follow. We're also making good progress with our clean energy goals. However, we must do more. We still utilize a huge amount of fossil fuel for our energy production and transportation needs. Our transportation consumes over 30,000,000 gallons of gasoline each month and highlights the size of this opportunity¹.

We must do better - we have access to many cost-effective solutions that can help us accelerate our progress. Renewable energy solutions are now cheaper than fossil-fuel-based options. Electric vehicles now come in many forms and price points and offer owners efficient, clean, and cost-effective transportation options.

SCR44 SD1 will encourage us to take the climate crisis seriously and inspire action. Please support this resolution, along with the various bills designed to accelerate our transition away from fossil fuels.

Sincerely,
Noel Morin
President
Big Island Electric Vehicle Association

¹ DBEDT Research & Economic Analysis - <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/energy-trends-2/>

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

hawaiiev.org



April 4, 2021

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SCR44 SD1 (DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE)

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

On behalf of the Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association, we are testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SCR44 SD1**.

A climate emergency declaration is a powerful acknowledgment of the urgency and importance of the climate crisis. It will help our communities get behind necessary actions to reduce our emissions and to prepare for the inevitable consequences of global warming.

We are, sadly, becoming accustomed to the impact of climate change. Here and across the globe, mega-fires, unusual winter storms, rain bombs, powerful hurricanes, droughts, and other calamities have become too common. These signs will, unfortunately, worsen as global temperatures rise and sea levels rise.

Hawaii is doing its part to reduce its emissions and, in some ways, leading in terms of long-term vision. Our 100% RPS and transportation decarbonization goals are translating into action – we see good progress in the renewable energy space and electric vehicle adoption is starting to rise. Recent innovations in renewable energy, energy storage, carbon sequestration, sustainable transportation, along with economies of scale) are making the transformation not only good for our environment and people, but it is also good for our economy.

However, much more is needed if we are to make a timely and meaningful impact. CO2 emissions continue to rise – it is now 416 PPM, higher than it was this time last year. EVs are still just over 1% of the over 1 million cars on our roads, consuming over 30,000,000 gallons of gasoline each month (DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends). We are still very reliant on fossil fuel for our energy production, with over 500,00 barrels consumed each month (DBEDT Monthly Energy Trends). This dependency contributes to significant planet-warming emissions and reliance on energy supplies that are subject to geopolitical risk.

This need not be. We have the opportunity to turn to our abundant renewable sources for our energy needs. Importantly, the cost of renewable energy and storage is now cheaper or on par with fossil fuels. We also have the opportunity to turn to zero-emissions vehicles – battery electric vehicles and fuel cell electric vehicles. These vehicles are becoming more diverse, are increasing in driving range, and are coming down in price. They are cleaner and more cost-effective to operate and offer Hawaii's residents the opportunity to contribute directly to a reduction in carbon emissions and cleaner air.

SCR44 SD1 will encourage focus and prioritization that will allow Hawaii to make a hasty transition from fossil fuel. Please support it.

Sincerely,

Hawaii EV Association Board

Noel Morin – President, Nanette Vinton – Secretary, Sonja Kass – Director, Tam Hunt – Director, Bill Bugbee - Director

Hawaii EV Association is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 6:50:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher Dean	Clean The Pacific	Support	No

Comments:

No more studies. No more talking. This is an emergency. Animal species are going extinct at a faster rate than they did after the meteor hit 65 million years ago. My 3rd grade teacher told us about global warming in 1967. It's been known that this would happen since the mid seventeenth century. The fastest way to transition to solar is to mandate net metering on a Federal level. Once people find out that they can make money selling solar energy to the grid, problem solved. We'll be 100% solar in 5 years. Vermont is already doing it. We were doing it and the solar industry was booming, contractors were coming in from all over the U.S.. Then HELCO shut it down so they could be the sole distributor of energy. After that, solar energy came to a stand still, practically zero growth. We, the people, should be allowed to sell our energy on the open market via the grid. If HECO companies don't want to do it, that's fine, we'll just nationalize the grid like the Germans did. Do you want our children to say, our parents could have saved life on Earth, but it wasn't profitable enough? Our coral reefs are dying. I've seen it with my own eyes in Grenada, totally dead, the entire reef system is gray, barren rubble, completely lifeless and will take millions of years to comeback, if ever. It's dead. Done. Gone forever. It's soul crushing to see it in person, absolutely soul crushing. If we don't get this under control right now, suicide will be rampant, because no one will be able to endure the shame and sorrow of what we've done.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 11:36:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Committee Members,

Mahalo Nui Loa to Representative Lowen and Representative Marten for hearing SCR44 towards declaring a Climate Emergency. On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 7,000 members and supporters statewide, we stand in STRONG SUPPORT of this important resolution.

This resolution is important because Global Warming is increasing much faster than scientists had predicted. Many governments around the world have set a goal to be fossil free by 2045, which we now know is woefully way too late. We are already seeing the effects of Climate Change with sea levels rising, larger and more numerous hurricanes, huge out-of-control wildfires, and extended droughts. Scientists warn that CO2 emissions must be drastically decreased now, or climate destabilization will lead to ever increasing, perpetual, out of control Climate Chaos.

Here are just a few examples of reports of the disasters Climate Change is already causing around the world:

-Just a few weeks ago children in Texas froze to death in their beds as temperatures dropped to subzero amid a massive power outage due to power plants that were ill-equipped for the extreme weather. The cause of the massive failure of the power grid was due to the fact that Texas legislators did not take the threat of Climate Change seriously and failed to adequately prepare for the extreme weather events that are expected as our climate system further destabilize.

-Many of the root causes of Climate Change also increase the risk of pandemics. The scientists who study how diseases emerge in a changing environment knew this moment was coming. COVID-19 is only the first of what will be ever increasing global pandemics.

-Due to sea level rise, the people of Kiribati, who have lived on their islands for thousands of years, are already planning for the permanent evacuation of their island nation. The loss of their traditional land base threatens the extinction of their unique cultural heritage.

-Due to Climate Change we are at the beginning of the 6th great mass extinction with an average of 200 species of plants, insects, birds and mammals going extinct every day. This is dramatically seen in Puerto Rico where 99% of insects species have already disappeared due to Climate Change.

-The refugee crisis on the Southern U.S. border was brought about by a Climate Change drought that stretches across the Central American Northern Triangle. As Global Warming increases there will be ever growing waves of refugees fleeing the effects of Climate Change. As reported by Helen Brunt of the International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies: "In just the last six months (Sept. 2020-Feb. 2021), there have been 12.6 million people internally displaced around the world and over 80% of these forced displacements have been caused by disasters, most of which are triggered by climate and weather extremes."

-In Alaska, Indigenous villages that have been on the coast for thousands of years are disappearing into the sea because of the melting permafrost.

-The civil war in Syria started because of an extended drought from 2006 to 2011 brought on by Climate Change. The Syrian civil war is just the first war caused by Climate Change droughts. As water resources dry up, the fight for limited water supplies will increase. A study by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre has asserted that: "The effects of Climate Change will be combined with an ever-increasing number of people to trigger intense competition for increasingly scarce resources. This can lead to regional instability and social unrest."

These are just a few examples of the beginning of even greater disasters that are on the way.

With the evidence of the Climate Crisis mounting, 13,784 scientists from 156 countries, and 1,864 jurisdictions in 33 countries have already declared a Climate Emergency, urging politicians around the world to act now before it is too late.

Climate Change isn't waiting until we get ready, it is happening now, and it's time for us to act unitedly to protect our island homes and our future.

SCR44 is a wake up call to our elected representatives, government agencies, community groups, and businesses to acknowledge the reality of our situation and to start working together immediately with a common goal to combat the growing Climate Crisis. We can do this, but we must do it now. The longer we wait the amount of work we'll have to do, and the amount of money we will have to spend will get greater and greater with each passing day.

Hawaii went into emergency mode to respond to COVID19, and because we did we prevented the loss of thousands of lives and millions of dollars. Climate Change is an even greater disaster than COVID19, so it is essential that we begin to act like it. Now is the time to do that.

Please pass SCR44, the Climate Emergency Resolution, for the sake of our health and safety, for the sake of our homes, for the sake of our economy, and most importantly of all, for the sake of our children's future.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your consideration.

In Solidarity, Malama Pono,

Dave Mulinix

Cofounder & Hawaii Statewide Community Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

April 6, 2021

To: House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Re: SCR 44, SD 1 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND
REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN
IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION
EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

Meeting: Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 10:00 a.m., Room 325 via videoconference

Position: **STRONG SUPPORT**

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

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and its Natural Resources Committee are in **strong support** of SCR 44, SD 1 as this Resolution declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i (Party) has adopted at its 2018 State Convention, clear safeguards to promote and protect our clean and healthy environment. At page 17 of the Party Platform, it specifically provides, to wit:

ENVIRONMENT

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that the preservation and restoration of our natural environment is essential. We support a sustainable society that utilizes the earth in such a way that future generations will benefit from the practices of our generation. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of our native ecosystems on each island. We believe in integrated approaches, practices, and support public policies that create and maintain a sustainable way of life in Hawai'i.

We believe in supporting best management practices in sustaining our environment and in increased citizen involvement. We support programs that encourage sustainable clean, efficient, creative and environmentally friendly modes of transportation, recycling and waste reduction.



April 6, 2021

Page 2

The conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawai'i's natural resources are connected to health and welfare of our people; therefore, we support the conservation and protection of our natural environment, which includes reducing our carbon footprint for the benefit of current and future generations.

We support the protection of our *'āina* against destruction by corporate, government, or military usage and expect full restoration and reparation of environmental damage. To handle current and future demands for water, we must assess the current condition of our aquifers and take appropriate actions to secure our fresh water resources.

We support democratic participation of citizens and residents to protect (i) valuable coastal ecosystems and reefs from misuse and (ii) beaches for public use and recreation. The Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, HRS Chapter 205A, currently provides for public participation in management of coastal resources.

We believe in the vigorous enforcement of our environmental laws and increased public-private stewardships and citizen involvement in protecting our resources.

We know that climate change is a real threat to our islands and the world. We strongly urge our candidates and elected officials to take immediate action to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. This includes funding adaptation measures including coastal retreat, effective participation of indigenous peoples in climate change governance, and recognition that indigenous, local, and traditional ecological knowledge is key in climate change adaptation solutions.

We strongly urge you to pass SCR 44, SD 1 as this resolution declares a climate emergency and requests statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate which is consistent with the Democratic Party Platform.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this key issue.

Respectfully yours,

Alan B. Burdick

Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus

Co-Chair, Natural Resources Committee

Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Email: burdick808@gmail.com

Melodie R. Aduja

Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus

Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com



To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 10am

In STRONG SUPPORT of SCR44 SD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii's 6,000 members **strongly support SCR44 SD1**. We cannot solve a crisis without treating it as a crisis. This resolution takes the critical and necessary step to declare a climate emergency and call for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

Let's be clear. Climate change is not an abstract problem for the future. Climate change is happening now, we are causing it, and the longer we wait to act, the more we lose. Scientists have made evident that we are part of the last generation that can stop or at least mitigate the devastating impacts of climate change. **Children living today will live to see a 1.5°C warmer world because of the failure of adults to take real action when there still was time to do so.** All decisions from here on out are the differences between 1.5°C and up to 4°C of warming, and the escalated suffering that comes with it. If we are to limit warming to 1.5° we must act now.

SCR44 SD1 would do more than just declare the obvious state of the climate crisis we know we are in. This resolution establishes a framework for the type of bold actions needed to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a livable future for our children. Moreover, it will make climate action a priority across all parts of State government, which is crucial for us to truly and effectively address this crisis.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it is even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR44 SD1 lays out a roadmap to move us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments in or subsidies for projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling investments and subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. These efforts are a win-win as they will not only help protect the stability of our climate system, they will help ensure a just transition for communities and workers, including those currently employed in the fossil fuel industry, by helping to create quality, clean energy jobs, and as a result, a healthier local economy.

We ask that you not be swayed by those with short-sighted self-interests that may argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be

hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, “if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won’t make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization.”

We ask that you not be swayed by Climate Delayers, who have unlimited excuses for why we can’t take meaningful action now to combat global warming, and have thwarted efforts for making meaningful progress. But just like we thought it was impossible to provide remote testimony for hearings, another emergency, the COVID pandemic, taught us that things we didn’t think could be done just took some focused ingenuity. As they say, necessity is the mother of invention.

At today’s emission levels, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report written by the world’s leading climate scientists states **we only have a few years left at our current rate of emissions before we exhaust our carbon budget to stay below 1.5°C warming**. Their findings show that, in fact, there is no safe level of global warming, and that we are heading toward a profoundly inhospitable planet unless we take bold action now. The overwhelming tragedy in all of this is that **we have all the tools we need, all we lack is the political will**.

Scientists have made clear that if we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require **all of us** working together. Hawaii can and should be a leader in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children.

But combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a coordinated statewide action plan as in SCR44 SD1 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown. Too often the ‘left hand’ doesn’t know what the ‘right hand’ is doing, and we waste money and precious time that could have been used to move us forward. With every second that we delay in reducing our carbon footprint, we impose costs on ourselves and on countless future generations. If we want to avoid climate catastrophe, we need to act boldly and effectively now.

In closing, I wish to share the words of a young climate activist who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, Greta Thunberg.

“Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope, but I don’t want your hope. **I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic.** I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is.”

It’s time to declare a climate emergency. Because it is.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this very important resolution.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

April 6, 2021
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
In SUPPORT SCR44 SD1: Climate Emergency; Statewide Collaboration; Greenhouse Gases

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Energy & Environmental Protection Committee members,

We, the 16 undersigned organizations, are in **STRONG SUPPORT** of passage of SCR44 SD1 “Declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.”

We are a coalition of concerned organizations that support and endorse a climate emergency declaration and society-wide mobilization of resources. Scientists say we have reached a tipping point on climate action and have less than a decade left to avoid the most severe consequences of global warming. It’s time to act at emergency speed to reach zero emissions to protect all people, species, and eco-systems. We must act now to implement 100% zero-emission energy; electric vehicles; energy efficiency; and local, sustainable food production.

This is necessary because global warming is happening faster than scientists predicted and we are already seeing the dramatic impacts on the environment: larger and stronger hurricanes, increased drought and flooding, shifting rain patterns, more and larger wildfires, a hotter and more acidic ocean, and damaged ecosystems across the planet.

Due to this growing climate crisis 13,784 scientists from 156 countries, and 1,864 jurisdictions in 33 countries have already declared a climate emergency as of January 26, 2021.

Based upon the scientific information and expertise available, Hawaii is in danger of disaster occurrences as a result of the effects of global warming, thereby endangering the health, safety, and welfare of the people, warranting preemptive and protective action.

It is the duty of our legislature to fulfill the mandate of the Hawaii State Constitution that adopts the public trust doctrine for the benefit of the people and the right of each person to a clean and healthful environment. Therefore, we call upon the legislature to declare a climate emergency and initiate a statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

We urge you to pass SCR44 SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this critical matter.



Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii
hi.ccl.lobby@gmail.com



April 5, 2021

STRONG SUPPORT for **SCR44 SD1**, DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

On behalf of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) Hawaii, we testify in strong support of SCR44 SD1.

CCL Hawaii is comprised of over 800 members in four local chapters - Hawaii Island, Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui. We advocate for effective, efficient, and fair climate legislation.

A climate emergency declaration will signal the urgency and importance of our climate crisis and the need for timely and effective action. A climate emergency would put Hawaii in good company – over 1900 governments in 34 countries have declared climate emergencies¹. This level of support highlights the global acknowledgment of the crisis. A Hawaii State declaration will further cement our state's commitment to action and complements those made by our counties over the past few years.² Importantly, SCR44 SD1 lays out critical steps that we must take; it goes beyond a mere acknowledgment of the crisis.

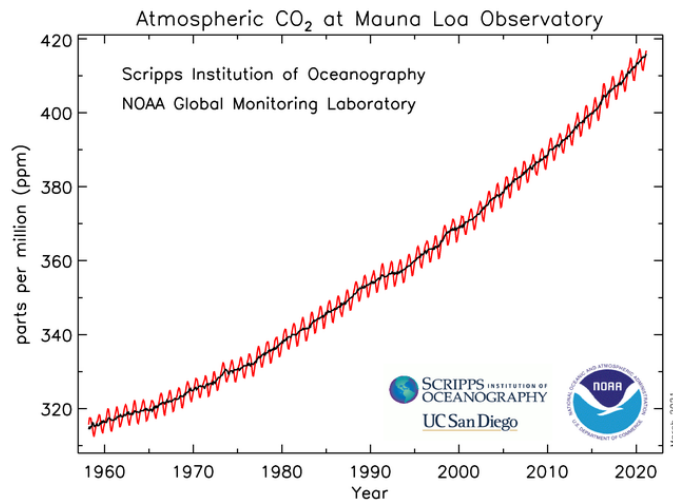
The effects of the crisis are upon us – we see record heat across the state, stronger storms, rain bombs, flooding, vectors spreading and killing native species, degradation of our marine ecosystem, and the erosive impact of rising sea levels. We cannot afford to hesitate or to delegate to future debate the actions that we must take to reduce our emissions and ensure that we will adapt to the inevitable environmental consequences.

Hawaii is making good progress on climate-related goals in the electric sector with its ambitious goal of the 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045, but emissions from the transportation sector remain stubbornly high. We've seen annual attempts to introduce policies geared towards turning the tide on carbon emissions. In this legislative session, we've seen countless bills geared to increasing renewable energy production, ramping the electrification of transportation, improving food security, pricing carbon pollution, and enabling resilience.

While our actions and intentions are promising, we must act with more urgency. We need to back our promises with meaningful action. Global-warming emissions continue to rise – the monthly average CO2 concentration measured on Mauna Loa was at 416 PPM, 2 points higher than in February 2020, continuing its awful upward trend.

¹ As of 9MAR2021. [ICEF Governments Emergency Declaration Spreadsheet](#)

² Hawaii County Council Resolution 322-19, October 2019 and Maui County Council Resolution 19-209, December 2019.



Source: NOAA Global Monitoring Laboratory

As a result, our planet continues to warm, and we see the consequences, e.g., the acceleration of glacial melt, sea-level rise, wild weather, and climate disasters that have become too common. We must act with urgency and lead efforts to fight the causes of the crisis. We must accelerate the positive things that we are already doing, take on others to reduce our emissions, and inspire other governments to do the same.

CCL supports national climate legislation, particularly carbon pricing and the return of revenue to our households (i.e., carbon fee & dividend (CFD)). We believe it is one of the best policies to bring about a just transition and restore a safe climate. This policy is represented in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (energyinnovationact.org), recently reintroduced as bill [H.R. 2307](https://www.congress.gov/bills/116/2307). This policy is equitable (progressive and protects lower-income households), efficient (endorsed by over 3,500 economists, including 28 Nobel laureates), and effective (estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% in the first five years of implementation).

We are thankful that carbon pricing bills were introduced in the Hawaii Legislature this session and hope we will pass such a bill by the next session.

A climate emergency resolution and a commitment to an effective and coordinated effort will result in an even more urgent and laser-focused approach to addressing our existential threat. We owe it to our future generations – our keiki and their keiki deserve a liveable world. They are counting on us to make it so.

Please support SCR44 SD1.

Respectfully,

Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii State Coordinator - Molly Whiteley
Honolulu Chapter Leaders - Sara Bower, Paul Bernstein, Charles Cox, Susan Gorman-Chang, Jaymen Laupola, Michael Lewis, and Virginia Tincher
Kauai Chapter Leaders - Helen Cox and John Latkiewicz
Maui Chapter Leaders - Carol Cam, Doug Hagan, Jeff Stark, and Barry Solomon
Hawaii Island Chapter Leaders - Zoe Whitney, Keith Neal, Joanna Norton, Richard Ha, Emily Garland, Nick Rosenberg, Noel Morin, and Ron Reilly

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change solutions. CCL Hawaii's 800+ members are part of a 180,000+ global organization. For more information, visit citizensclimatelobby.org.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

SCR 44

**Declaring a Climate Emergency and Requesting Statewide Collaboration Toward
an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Effort to Restore a
Safe Climate**

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
10:00 am, Agenda Item #2
Via Videoconference

Colton Ching
Senior Vice President, Planning & Technology

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Colton Ching and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company **offering comments to SCR 44**, Declaring a Climate Emergency and Requesting Statewide Collaboration Toward an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Effort to Restore a Safe Climate. We do have concerns about the resolutions as currently drafted.

Hawaiian Electric is committed to reducing climate impacting greenhouse gases and adapting to the effects all of us will experience in our island state. We applaud these resolutions' recognition that effective climate change mitigation and adaptation goes beyond an RPS mandate for the electricity sector and instead requires a statewide effort and a coordinate effort involving all parts of the state's economy. We also appreciate the resolutions' connection that effective climate change response requires education as a foundational effort to raise awareness and create alignment of efforts to respond to changes in our climate.

However, in considering its passage, please ensure proper alignment between SCR 44 and the State's 100% RPS Mandate. For example, SCR 44 as currently written would prohibit biomass energy projects, which is a qualifying renewable technology in the state's RPS law and is an effective renewable energy technology in reducing the state's dependence on fossil fuels.

In addition, although Hawaiian Electric is committed to our state's 100% RPS goal, exhibited by our achievement of a 35% RPS this past year, a prohibition on oil and gas projects would jeopardize our ability to provide reliable electricity during our transition to a 100% RPS mandate and our ability to provide emergency power following major storms and disasters. The provision of reliable electric power is crucial to our state's economic health and our recovery from our current economic condition and we must continue to provide reliable, cost-effective electric service as we transition away from fossil fuels to 100% renewables.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 8:21:49 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

To: The Honorable Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

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

Re: **SCR44 SD1 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.**

Hearing: Tuesday April 6, 2021, 10:00 a.m. by videoconference

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

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS SCR44 SD1! The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on mitigating the climate crisis and urging Hawai'i to lead the world on climate issues. Hawai'i needs to lead because, as an island state, we will be among the first places that will experience severe harm from the climate crisis, with more intense storms, food insecurity, rising sea levels, and destruction to our coral reefs and shorelines. We must do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and become at least carbon neutral as soon as possible.

The planet faces an existential climate crisis and we must act now! Scientists have made clear that we are part of the last generation that can stop or at least mitigate the devastating impacts of climate change. If we are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. Hawai'i can and should be a leader in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children.

Intense rainfalls windward on all islands recently, with flooding, and on Kauai and Hawai'i Island in the past couple of years, and the more intense hurricanes (that have fortunately missed us so far), may be precursors of the weather problems we will face with the climate crisis.

UH SOEST Coastal Geology Group and its leader, climate expert Dr. Chip Fletcher, predict that, with sea level rise and resulting groundwater rise, **much of Honolulu makai of King Street may be under water by the end of the century, maybe earlier with recent data on climate feedback loops!**

As teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg has said: "I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day, and then I want you to act. **I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if our house is on fire. Because it is.**"

The first step toward dealing with the climate crisis is to recognize the scope and severity of the problem we face. Passing SCR44 SD1 would be such a first step, acknowledging that an existential climate emergency threatens humanity and the natural world, declaring a climate emergency, and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition toward a decarbonized economy and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

Please pass this resolution! Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

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



April 6, 2021

RICK BLANGIARDI, MAYOR

BRYAN P. ANDAYA, Chair
KAPUA SPROAT, Vice Chair
RAY C. SOON
MAX J. SWORN
NA'ALEHU ANTHONY

JADE T. BUTAY, Ex-Officio
ROGER BABCOCK, Jr., Ex-Officio

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

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

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

Dear Chair Lowen and Members:

Subject: Senate Concurrent Resolution 44, Senate Draft 1: Declaring a Climate Emergency and Requesting Statewide Collaboration Toward an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Efforts to Restore a Safe Climate.

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 44, Senate Draft (SD) 1 declaring a climate emergency and requesting statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. With our support, the BWS expresses our commitment to do our part in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing water use through water conservation strategies that result in a reduction of power use in water pumping stations. Renewable energy photovoltaic systems have been installed at several of our facilities through an energy savings performance contract. BWS is transitioning its vehicular fleet to hybrids, plug-in hybrids and electric vehicles where practical.

The BWS is helping to lead the Oahu County effort to advance climate adaptation through long range planning, funding academic research on sea level rise and One Water Collaboration for Climate Resilience to address unavoidable current and future climate impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of our support of SCR 44, SD1.

Very truly yours,

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

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**TESTIMONY ON SCR44, SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Before the House Committee on
ENERGY and ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

By

Luke P. Meyers
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA)

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee:

SCR44, HD1 DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COLLABORATION TOWARD AN IMMEDIATE JUST TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **offers comments** on SCR 44, HD1

The HI-EMA acknowledges the threat of climate change as it relates to preparing for, mitigating against, responding to and recovering from all hazards. This resolution will provide connection to the risk assessment, preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery activities that are ongoing in HI-EMA. As the climate changes, baselines of many of our natural hazards will be shifted putting additional focus on the coordination, collaboration, and communication activities that the HI-EMA is involved with on a day to day basis.

Thank you.

Luke P. Meyers: Luke.P.Meyers@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300



Think B.I.G.

www.thinkbighawaii.org

April 5, 2021

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SCR44 SD1 - DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Committee of Energy and Environmental Protection:

Think B.I.G. (Big Island Green) is in strong support of SCR44 SD1. Think B.I.G. is a non-profit coalition working to improve the Big Island's resiliency, equity, and sustainability. We focus on Renewable Energy, Waste Management, Parks and Trails, Local Agriculture, and Education.

We must act with urgency on the climate crisis. Over the past few years, we've seen record heat, wildfires, severe weather, rising seas, and severe disruptions to our marine ecosystem. These issues will only worsen unless we take meaningful action. We must more aggressively reduce our emissions and begin to work on adaptation strategies to mitigate the consequences of the CO2 we've already dumped into the atmosphere.

SCR44 SD1 will help signal the crisis's importance and urgency and the need for timely and effective action. It will help our people support the measures required to transform our economy into a more sustainable one. A statewide declaration will amplify the commitments made by Maui County (Maui County Council Resolution 19-209) and Hawaii County (Hawaii County Council Resolution 322-19) in 2019. It will also allow Hawaii to join close to the 1900+ governments worldwide who have already declared climate emergencies.

Thankfully, SCR44 also lays out critical steps that we must take to make good the promise. These and more will help Hawaii accelerate its progress towards its climate action goals.

In this legislative session, we've seen countless bills geared to increasing renewable energy production, ramping the electrification of transportation, improving food security, pricing carbon pollution, and enabling resilience. We look forward to the passage of these bills. They will allow us to accelerate our economy's transformation into a genuinely sustainable one.

Please support efforts to accelerate the decarbonization of our economy and all actions designed to increase our sustainability and resilience. Our future generations are counting on this generation to act on this crisis. Let's not disappoint them.

Please support SCR44 SD1.

Respectfully,

On behalf of the Think BIG Board - Bill Bugbee, Heather Kimball, Jeannette Gurung, Noel Morin, Olivia Grodzka, Scott Laaback, and Tam Hunt

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 8:35:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
phyllis fong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The scientists are calling this period in our history a climate emergency. We must do the same right now--there is no later.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 10:52:49 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kawamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is John Kawamoto, and I support SCR 44 SD 1, which declares a climate emergency and urges urgent action to make climate action a priority for Hawaii.

Climate change is accelerating, and human-induced global warming has already led global temperatures to rise an average of one degree Centigrade over preindustrial levels. Further temperature increases would lead to widespread drought, crop failures, floods, wildfires, energy blackouts, infrastructure breakdowns, supply chain breakdowns, and infectious disease outbreaks that would be devastating and irreversible. Hawaii must do much more to reduce its consumption of fossil fuels in order to do its share to control climate change.

Climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination must be a top priority, with an appropriate level of financial and other resources dedicated to it, along with appropriate regulatory controls.

We need to create a livable environment for ourselves, our children, their children, and all future generations. Hawaii has an abundance of renewable energy resources, so we should be leading the world by example.

Notably, the resolution calls for the following: (1) The organization and tracking of a time-phased implementation plan that assigns state government agencies' responsibilities and timetables; (2) The establishment of task dependencies between departments with a priority to plan and coordinate, at a statewide level, all climate and resilience responses; and (3) A robust climate emergency public education and stakeholder outreach process.

For the foregoing reasons, I support SCR 44 SD 1.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 11:19:16 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT!

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 2:33:30 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pam Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SCR44. It not only highlights the state of the climate crisis we we are in; it lays out an action plan for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. We need to take action now. Please vote in favor of SCR44.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 2:33:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

I urge you to support SCR44 SD1 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR44 SD1 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

I want to have a livable future. We need bold actions to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a safe and stable climate.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part and keep within our carbon budget.

We need to declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly

As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, “if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won’t make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization.”

Everyone must do something if we are going to prevent climate catastrophe, and Hawaii can and should be the leader in showing the world the way forward to a better future. We are ground zero for climate change and the sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children. But if we and everyone else just continues to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it’s even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR44 SD1 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR44 SD1.

Scientists have made clear that if are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future.

Mahalo.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 2:52:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taurie Kinoshita	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown. We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Taurie Kinoshita, Makiki Lifetime resident

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 3:40:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marisa Plemer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this legislation because our children, grandchildren and all humanity depends on you and me to to save our planet Earth for them to be able to live safe and happy lives when we are no longer alive. We are in a dire, unprecedented state of climate emergency and global warming. It is absolutely incumbent on each and every one of us to step up to the plate and hit this legislation out of the park. For this, Hawaii can and should be a standard bearer and guiding light. Marisa Mia Plemer, 59-008 Huelo St., Sunset Beach, HI 96712

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 5:20:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tawn Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Counties of Maui and Hawaii have declared a Climate Emergency. Thousands of Municipalities across the US have declared Climate Emergency. A number of States have joined this movement. The scientists have been telling us for decades that there is a climate emergency but the Policymakers seemed to listen to the something else. What is that? Sure, the economy and the business folks. But if we don't wake up we are talking about near term civilizational change if not collapse. How can we be talking business and economy when this existential threat is immediately in front of us. The scientists are describing major challenges to our society, our civilization and for many, their existence by 2050. But the policymakers seem not to be listening. If they were listening, this Climate Emergency would have been declared long ago.

Tawn Keeney MD

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 5:29:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TOM DIGRAZIA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support for SCR44 on behalf of myself and grandchildren. This Resolution is the clarion call for all collaborative hands on deck to face together the existential threat posed by climate change. The time to act is NOW and not some esoteric time in 2045. Our children and grandchildren deserve nothing less than immediate action from all of us.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 6:20:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
william metzger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

YES ...the climate crisis is an EMERGENCY. Please pass this resolution.

mahalo.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 6:22:14 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Gray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SCR 44 SD1. We need this resolution to help us fight climate change. Our road is going under and we need to address all of the problems we have right now. Not at some time in the future, Right now. Please help us. Flooding, overflowing septic, brown water ocean, coral bleaching, pandemic, fires on Maui, all due to fossil fuels. We must act now. Look at what just happened on the North Shore. That is going to be a common thing here, as well as many other disasters that cost a lot of money to fix. Please pass this now. Mahalo, Laura Gray R.N.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 7:29:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I strongly support SCR44 including the prohibition of biomass. Many on the Big Island are concerned about the true health and carbon costs of Hu Honua which has never been required to have environmental and greenhouse gas review.

The resolution has broad support from all islands, some county councils, many groups and government agencies.

Mahalo for your support,

Diane Ware, Volcano

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 8:00:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon Levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill because we are in a transition in the world and can choose how deeply we want to change our relationship with the natural world. Lets take a big step to making climate and environmental sustainability a priority and even a necessity.

Mahalo,

Sharon

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2021 9:56:54 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Grandinetti	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Climate change must be addressed on all levels. This Climate Emergency bill needs to pass.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 6:20:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noreen Dougherty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Legislators,

I strongly support SCR44 SDI. Time is running out. Now is the time to support this bill. Not only is it necessary and extremely important to our environment, planet, and inhabitants, it will offer jobs and income to the State of Hawaii. Hawaii is unique in its size, location, isolation, resources, and potential. We can make a difference and lead the way forward, but we must start TODAY!

Mahalo,

Noreen Dougherty

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 11:02:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dale Jensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen and Members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee:

Anyone listening to the world's scientists is deeply concerned with the climate emergency facing us. Climate scientists have been speaking with one voice on this topic for many years. Somehow the urgency expressed by the scientific community has not translated into meaningful action by the majority of decision-makers, lawmakers, big businessmen and the general population in the our country. We continue to be one of the world leaders in green house gas emissions.

If we continue on the current course, talk about change, but do little, we are heading toward very hard times. Let us be clear that we are conducting a grand experiment with our biosphere. NO ONE can accurately predict exactly when the worst effects of climate change will occur, but we know that Hawaii is heading toward a greater likelihood of strong hurricanes, more unprecedented rain and flooding events, extreme long duration heat events and droughts and inevitable sea level rise. All of Hawaii's people will suffer, but young people will have to bear the brunt of such disasters as climate change effects will continue to evolve and worsen into the future.

The current measure under consideration is not radical or over-reaching. It is merely an acknowledgement that we are already in living through a climate emergency and requests collaboration toward measures to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and make a transition to a more climate friendly lifestyle. I ask you to pass this measure through your committee with little debate: There is no time for inaction. Our past is upon us and unless we act swiftly and boldly, I fear for our collective future. Let Hawaii be a leader in moving into a low carbon future and in preparing our islands for those climate change effects that are already inevitable.

Sincerely,

Dale Jensen, Professional Engineer

Kailua, Oahu

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 11:22:42 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Gring-Fee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Senators,

I strongly support SCR44 SD1! I'm concerned about the future of our planet, as I have seen significant negative changes in the environment in my lifetime.

I have three children and want them to have a decent future in this world. Whatever steps we can take now to reverse the damage we've done to the earth need to be taken immediately. We needed to take action 50 years ago, so I hope we aren't too late.

We are in deep trouble. Please help!

Sincerely,

Pamela Gring-Fee

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 11:39:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear EEP Chair, Vice Chair and committee members,

Our children and greandchildren etc will exist (barely) because we did so little so late! If your house were on fire, would you wait until 2045 to put it out? We need action now!

I support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

I urge you to support SCR44 SD1 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

I am very concerned about the climate crisis. Combating global warming requires collective action on many fronts. We need a statewide action plan as in SCR44 SD1 for the climate mitigation and adaptation efforts it will take to meaningfully address climate breakdown.

We are in the midst of a climate crisis. It's time we act like it. We need a declaration of climate emergency so that the necessary statewide resources can be focused and mobilized.

I want to have a livable future. We need bold actions to meaningfully address climate breakdown and work towards a safe and stable climate.

Hawaii can and should be leaders in the fight against climate breakdown. We have made some steps, but not nearly what needs to be done to do our part and keep within our carbon budget.

We need to declare a climate emergency, not just because of the obvious, but because it will provide for the necessary statewide, coordinated mobilization efforts required to truly address this crisis, and at the necessary scale and speed that are needed.

Don't be swayed by those short-sighted individuals that argue that Hawaii's contribution to global warming is too small to make a difference. As an island community, Hawaii will be hit harder than any other state by the effects of climate breakdown. We need to lead by example and take responsibility to clean up our share of the problem. And as the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency has aptly stated, "if everyone uses the excuse that their contribution won't make a difference, no action will occur, ensuring the demise of human civilization."

Everyone must do something if we are going to prevent climate catastrophe, and Hawaii can and should be the leader in showing the world the way forward to a better future. We are ground zero for climate change and the sooner we inspire others to take action and lead by example, the better off the future will be for our children. But if we and everyone else just continues to wait for someone else to act, then we are condemning the next generation to a planet that will be uninhabitable. It is our responsibility to do everything we can to prevent that.

Hawaii is ground zero for change in climate, from sea level rise to shifting weather patterns, which is why it's even more important we do our part to fight it. SCR44 SD1 moves us in the right direction, and at the scale and speed that is needed. This includes a prohibition on any further public investments or subsidies in projects that will make the climate emergency worse, and redirecting and channeling subsidies toward low climate impact energy projects and workforce retraining. Please support and pass SCR44 SD1.

Scientists have made clear that if are to solve the climate crisis, it will require all of us working together. Hawaii can and should be leaders in showing the world the way forward towards a safe and sustainable climate and future.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tlaloc Tokuda

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 12:09:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection,

Please support SCR44 SD1.

I support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop climate breakdown.

Hawaii will be severely impacted by the climate crisis and sea level rise. Waikiki will loose shoreline and the urban and housing developments near the shore may flood. Hawaii needs to take a stand and recognize the risks at hand.

Thank you for taking the time to review this issue. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 44 SD1.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 1:20:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dana bekeart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support SCR 44. My key reason is that this is a pressing global crisis that is coming upon us here in Hawaii and throughout the world. Please pass this bill. Mahalo.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 3:25:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to acknowledge the existential climate emergency threatening humanity. Emergency mobilization must be taken towards a just transition to restore a livable climate.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 4:54:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Bushnell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in favor of SCR44.

Senate Committee members: You and I have been lucky enough to have lived through the richest and healthiest decades in the history of the world. We live longer, we have more (and more healthful) food, healthcare and sanitation systems that make our lives much more comfortable than any lives lived in the past. The goods and services available to us were unthinkable to previous generations. Many of these benefits have come to us thanks to the Industrial Revolution--a revolution that has come with costs--costs that we have not paid. It is time that we recognize these costs which we can see in climate change and environmental degradation. We need to make changes that will leave a better world for our children and grandchildren. If we don't begin to make these changes now, it will be too late--probably not for us--but certainly for our grand children and their children. We need to DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY, NOW, so we can begin to act to protect those who come after us. Aloha, Andy Bushnell (retired historian and grandfather)

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2021 9:14:58 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Every year the climate crisis becomes more apparent. On Kaua'i we are seeing landslides and sinkholes; roads are being washed out, businesses are being destroyed. It is time to recognize that we must take action. I strongly support this bill. We must declare a climate emergency and begin seriously to address climate change. There is much that we can do, but only if we admit that the reality of the crisis.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 10:22:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SCR44 and SD1 for the following reasons.

- Climate change mitigation and adaption needs to be made a priority across government agencies in order provide leadership and support polices that address existing and long-term effects of climate change.
- Cost-effective, renewable energy technologies already available and widely used throughout the world.
- Prohibition of new public subsidies or investments in industries that contribute to climate change will allow for public funds to be directed to industries that mitigate or adapt the effects of climate change.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Afable, Hilo

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 4:25:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
donn viviani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm Donn Viviani. We live in Kailua and have family in the Punchbowl Aina Hiana neighborhoods. I'm writing in support SCR44 SD1 .Before I retired, I was the director of the Climate Policy Division at EPA headquarters in DC.I also served as Chairman of the Great Lakes Water Quality Board's Toxic Substances Committee. I am Board President of the Climate Protection and Restoration Initiative. I have a PhD in Chemistry. I am familiar with the threat climate change poses to Hawaii, and particularly the threat to the water surrounding our islands. We are much more vulnerable to the catastrophic ocean impacts, that are underway now than the mainland states.

These catastrophic effects, include: dissolution of shelled marine species; eventual collapse of the marine food web; destruction of reefs, extreme weather and flooding of coastal cities. This is not a prediction or guess. These effects are a certainty without quick action to address CO2 and other Greenhouse Gases. These effects are already underway and boost each other to grow larger.

I want to describe that risk for the Committees in layman terms and explain how serious the risk is.However, in any case, climate science is not fancy and not at all controversial. I focus here on the ocean threat. we're a group of isolated islands at the mercy of the ocean. Three things are happening that threaten a collapse of the entire marine food web, and could cause an inundation and submersion of parts of our islands. Unless we take action VERY SOON these things will become unstoppable.

Here's the science: First.the sun's light heats the air in the same way a microwave oven heats food. The more CO2 from fossil fuel burning, the more heat.Most of that heat ends up in the ocean.Hot water expands and so the oceans rise.This heat is conducted to lower depths and that water expands as well and oceans rise more, i.e., the sea level rises.Hurricanes and cyclones start with evaporation, the warmer the water, the more evaporation, and the more storms and damage to our islands.On Oahu, a six foot rise, projected as early as mid century, would inundate Honolulu up to a few blocks from H1. Storm events will drive the water further inland.

Second, the elevated CO2 in the air from fossil fuel burning, enters the ocean and makes it more acidic. Acidic, corrosive water impairs the growth and survival of animals that build shells. Because ocean acidification reduces the availability of carbonate ions

that marine animals need to calcify their shells and skeletons, CO₂ reduces the ability of these animals to build their protective structures. They must use up energy that they need for reproduction and they will get outcompeted by other species. This destroys the balance that evolved over eons. Acidified waters also can dissolve shells. It's estimated that by 2050 in almost all the oceans shell would rather dissolve than form. Kaneohe bay has already transitioned from net building to net dissolving of shells. Third, warmer water holds less dissolved oxygen than colder water. This means less oxygen available for marine organisms to grow. In many instances oxygen is the limiting factor in growth. Together these three stressors: acidification, warming and deoxygenation are a perfect storm and can act together to destroy the marine food web, by wiping out entire trophic levels. Warm water speeds up marine organism's metabolism. Higher metabolic rates require more nutrients and oxygen. But hotter surface water forms a layer that impedes the transfer of needed nutrients, and that same hotter water drives off oxygen. This with the added stress for acidification has been shown in mesocosm studies to destroy trophic levels and kill all the higher levels dependent on them, i.e. to paraphrase Augustus de Morgan. "Great fish have little fish upon their backs to bite 'em, and little fish have lesser fish, and so ad infinitum" If we start removing layers of fish it all collapses! If we don't act soon we'll have an ocean full of only jellyfish. Therefore I support SCR 44's transition to a decarbonized economy, prohibition of fossil fuel projects, increased investment in beneficial projects, public education of the climate exigency and all the other proposals. While we all will feel some terrible consequences, your decision today won't affect me or you as much as what awaits our children and grandchildren. I can say without hyperbole, this is an existential risk to our species! Please support this resolution.

Mahalo Donn Viviani, Kailua

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 6:45:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Gannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, this is Joan Gannon from South Kona strongly supporting SCR44, our Climate Emergency Declaration Resolution. This is more than a resolution. It is a plan of action. This bill calls for a state wide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. We are in a climate crisis. We need bold action now. Please pass SCR44.

Thank you for your important work

Joan Gannon

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 7:46:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald Yasuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear EEP Committee,

I support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government. We are part of the last generation who can stop devastating climate change. We must act *now* and boldly to stop the climate crisis. Climate change is happening on a global scale but many times in insidious ways. Rising sea levels, rising temperatures, different weather patterns and wind currents, forest fires, extinction of animals, birds, and plant species are a few examples of the results of climate change. One may say “That doesn’t happen in Hawaii, it won’t affect us”, but we live on one planet and we are all interconnected. To me climate change is like cancer. You may feel well, but one day it may reveal itself as stage 4 or 5 level. By then, it may be too late to reverse its effects. Early action is a way of preventing the irreversible, devastating effects of both cancer and climate change. You have heard the saying, “Penny wise, pound foolish.” If we continue to deny climate change and do not start making monumental efforts to reverse our current destructive behavior, future generations will pay a huge price for our lack of action.

Thank you for letting me testify on this important resolution.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 8:56:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vivien Lee and Charlie Reppun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a farmer and environmental activist, I have long been aware of the climate crisis, and the failure of our government to adequately address it. I have read all the testimony submitted thus far, and all of it is strongly in favor of this measure. The only doubtful voice is Hawaiian Electric, whose main concerns are a power outage during a climate emergency, and burning trees for power. Declaring a climate emergency does not mean that these concerns will be ignored. Hawaiian Electric is a private company regulated by the PUC. Both of them should issue statements declaring a Climate Emergency, and come up with proposals/plans for faster change. There should be public and organization input on how to do this from the beginning. This bill could be the start of that.

~Charlie Reppun

Our world is already suffering from the effects of global warming caused by human beings. I am 68 years old. As a privileged American, I may not personally experience the worst of the effects in my lifetime, although many of my fellow citizens have already been killed or devastated by the storms and wildfires exacerbated by global warming. But I do expect to witness worldwide horrific results of the current climate crisis. My children and their children, however, will undoubtedly be personally affected by rising sea levels, food and clean water shortages, pandemics, severe storms, migration, civil breakdown. What excuses are there for ignoring this crisis, knowing that future generations will suffer? Why wait for someone else to do something? Why listen to corporate voices that say they are committed to change, but only at their pace, which does not reflect the urgency required? We are in an emergency situation. No excuses. Be bold in your actions. Be a leader, as you were elected to be. NOW.

I support SCR44 SD1 to declare a climate emergency for Hawaii, requiring we take urgent action, and make climate action a priority across all parts of State government.

~Vivien Lee

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 9:58:56 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha EEP Chair Lowen, EEP Vice Chair Marten and EEP Councilmembers,

Every kama'aina and everyone who loves Hawai'i should be concerned about Hawai'i's response to the worldwide climate emergency we are now experiencing. Slowly, but incessantly, we are watching our climate and our natural world transform before our eyes: more rain bombs and flooding; insidious sea level rise and beach erosion; threats of more and stronger tropical storms; erosion runoff and coral bleaching; higher summer temperatures threatening native flora and fauna as well as declining agricultural production. It's not a world we want to leave to our keiki.

Immediate, bold action—similar to what President Biden is invoking for the COVID-19 pandemic—is needed by the state of Hawai'i and all its departments working together for a successful outcome to this climate emergency. Resolution SCR44 SD1 clearly lays out the scope and scale of the emergency (backed up by science) and the short time frame remaining for action if we expect to resolve it (less than ten years).

This is a war—that's how we should treat it. Every decision the state of Hawai'i makes going forward must consider the climate consequences for our State and for the world.

We all wish there were no climate emergency, but that is not the case. Whether we like it or not, it is our responsibility to do our utmost to restore a safe climate. We need to reflect on our thoughts, our attitudes and our actions and ensure they align with the healthy ecosystems humans require to survive and thrive.

Please pass SCR44 which sets out the guiding principles for climate action by the state of Hawai'i. Only by meeting this great existential challenge head-on can we claim to have made our paramount attempt to leave a livable planet for all the generations of humanity to come.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas - Aiea, Hawaii

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 10:03:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support SCR44 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. Human beings and our non human relatives have a responsibility to acknowledge the truth of what is happening on our planet and take thoughtful and responsible actions to change course. This is one of them. Please do this for both our ancestors and those yet to be born.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:19:22 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Ho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

re: SCR44 SD1

Dear Members of the **House** representing Hawai'i State: Chair Lowen, Marten, and members Hashem, Matayoshi, Todd, Person, Tokioka, and Matsumoto:

My name is Cheryl Ogawa Ho. I live in Nu'uano. I have written you recently, and am appealing to you again.

There are crises in countless areas of life, in countless countries of the world. But this crisis facing the ecology of the entire earth involves each one of us. It is insidious, but it is only too real! Let us not be taken by surprise, un-aware!!

There is a western nursery rhyme that I remember from 70+ years ago, that went:

Ladybug, Ladybug,

Fly away home!

YOUR HOUSE IS ON FIRE,

YOUR CHILDREN ALL ALONE!

Members of the EEC, it is your kÅ«leana to alert all who live in this house, and especially those who have the power to protect them:

"OUR HOUSE IS ON FIRE!!" While there is yet time to avert total disaster, please **Declare a Climate Emergency!**

This declaration, **SCR44**, will speed progress on a comprehensive Action Plan to mitigate the effects of carbon emissions and other harmful societal practices on the environment.

Mahalo for your action!

Cheryl Ho, retired social worker

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:52:20 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phaethon Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha respected legislators,

I applaud this resolution, it's purpose and the ambition it lays out. Please support SCR44.

Nine years. That's what we now have to achieve net Zero emissions in our global energy and transport sectors by 2030 to achieve the easiest pathway laid out for us in the 2018 UN Special Report hoping to achieve to 1.5C by year 2100. This includes the more difficult requirement of 100% carbon neutral in all sectors (construction, agriculture, etc.) by 2050, and factors in overshoot and negative emissions technologies to bring us back down to "acceptable levels." To illustrate, 1.5C would render portions of the global equatorial region uninhabitable due to wet bulb heat stress, and see the end of 70-90% of the world's coral reefs, including ours here in Hawaii.

Everything we have learned since then has only painted a much more dire threat.

In 2019 we saw the UN United in Science Report, which, among many other concerning developments, broached the science of complex system cascades and global tipping points towards an uninhabitable Hothouse Earth state possibly triggered around 2C. These tipping points are not included in the linear trajectories we see in the 2014 IPCC AR5 End-of-Century projections.

In 2020 we were given detailed analysis in the UN Emissions Gap Report of the woeful shortcomings of most of the worlds signatories to the Paris Climate Accord to meet even their 2C commitments, with 3C more likely even if their commitments are met. 2C has been called unconscionable, with 99% of coral reefs gone, a large band of uninhabitable area around the equator, and has been pointed to as a threshold beyond which global governments as we have known them will likely not be able exist. IPCC projections also show on our current trajectory we will hit 1.5C around 2030 and 2C around 2045, and while these are long term projected impacts these are things to consider if you just had a baby, are thinking about college loans, or if you're planning for retirement, thus the very justifiable Youth Climate Strikes.

Meanwhile, in terms of the data, global greenhouse emissions have tracked the UNEP Business-as-Usual (no policy) trajectory, the redline track of RCP 8.5 worst case

scenario emissions for the last decade, heading towards the AR5 End-of-Century range of 3.3 to 5.3C, with a likely mean of 4.6C (described as “hell on earth”).

Also in 2020, low end Climate Sensitivity (or best case scenario of emissions warming potential) was ruled out (dashing any lingering hopes of minimal impact/low range warming given in the potential ranges above). The final results of the CMIP6 Climate models are due at the end of 2021 for the updated IPCC AR6 report. Data so far indicates we will be revising the the AR5 linear projections to even higher levels in the AR6, many preliminaries showing within the range of 3.8 to 7.4C (with a possible mean of 5.0C).

Then so far in 2021 we've heard that the terrestrial biosphere as a whole has already begun to exceed its thermal maximum for photosynthesis vs. respiration and that we should expect a halving of its capacity to draw down carbon by 2040, going from 30% of the global carbon sink to 15%. This underscores our failure to include potential complex system tipping points in these IPCC projections.

Yet. In 2021 the world is emerging from a year of Corona virus economic slowdown which has given us the needed emissions reductions to bend the curve. We have also come together as a global community in awareness of our systems fragility and sacrifices needed to protect each other. Despite much of our world leaders delay, including ours here in Hawaii, the alarm was called on the Corona virus, the public conversation was had, and ultimately action was taken to slow the virus spread to safeguard our social institutions.

And here we are, coming out of all that, looking around, waiting for the alarm on Climate change, social justice, biodiversity, water scarcity etc, because these are all issues that are deeply intertwined, we are waiting for the public conversation to be had and for it to be acknowledged at the level it needs to be addressed. We're looking to our leaders, for honesty and lifestyle changes, raising the alarm, and clarity about what is needed.

Because that is the only thing that will help fight the internal denialism we all feel, the cynicism, the fear, the despair. The psychology of what is going on right now is really distressing, across broad sectors of society, and the only way to address it is acknowledgement and discussion of real, adequate solutions from our leaders.

That's why the call for a WW2 scale level of just mobilization, because that is the only thing that has any potential to work, that is what the science is pointing to as our pathway out. A radical transition to Zero carbon in our energy & transport by 2030, because those are the easiest areas to tackle in the short time frame, but actually 50% in all areas, so we can distribute our resources and ambition, but we need to start talking about **everything**, now. And a LOT of what is needed is simply, LESS, especially from those who have and use the most. We need less unwarranted political influence, less excess, less waste, less meat and dairy, less travel, less imports and for everyone in general we need MORE local. More just, more decentralized, more regenerative, more sustainable, more community, more family friendly. Hawaiians had

this figured out years ago on how to live within their means celebrating the gifts that made every community unique. These islands are still incredible, why don't we see if we can do it in today's world?

Yes, that's big changes.

But it's worth doing, a habitable planet is worth saving. This WW2 scale mobilization, what does that look like? Well, what was it like for the people in WW2? They made sacrifices, to be sure, from rationing and victory gardens to factory overhauls, and yes, sadly, lives were lost (as we will surely see with more climate impacts) but for them there was a focus on the greater good. Often times the people who lived thru WW2 talk about it as the most incredible time in their lives; because no longer was the individual gratification the priority for everyone, it was the experience of common goals and good of man and womankind. A powerful experience worth doing. And it's **so** inspiring, this sort of thinking is **contagious**. We have the potential to do so much together as the human species, when we do take these leaps, together the human experience can be profound.

We're at that point right now, if we choose to go in that direction. Because it's an internal battle, whether or not we look it in the eye and face our greatest enemy, which is us. Because we are scared of acknowledging it, the risks of change are big, but the immediate costs will pale to compared to what's coming if we don't. Right now we are looking to our leaders to take that on, to change the conversation, to acknowledge the issue and the scale of what is needed.

Here in Hawaii we have the concept of Kuleana, its a responsibility **and** a privilege, and if we step into that new (old) set of values, where our responsibility to each other is priority, to become better stewards, that is such a powerful experience that we have the opportunity to live right now. That's the self realization we need. These things that we need to do to create a just transition to tackle climate are the same things that would go hand and hand with the UN sustainability goals to create a more just and equitable society for all.

It's simply a decent and dignified way to live no matter what happens down the road.

So right now, in 2021, as the discussion in Hawaii heats up with Covid economic relief packages (and tourism) we need to pull our heads out of the hot sand, find our slippers, and get to shade as quickly as possible.

P.S. Don't burn the trees, lol, anyone gunning for that is a quack (check the science) and probably needed more hugs as a kid.

Mahalo for your time and your support of this resolution to declare a Climate Emergency.
Phaethon Keeney

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 12:33:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Committee Members,

Please support SCR44 SD1 and dleclare a climate emergency for Hawaii.

Thank you,

Melissa Barker, 6230C Hauiki Road, Kapaa, HI 96746

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 12:55:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Mcknight	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We need to declare a climate emergency and have government agencies make climate mitigation and resilience planning and coordination a top priority at a statewide level, and have the appropriate financial and regulatory assistance needed.

My future is on the line if we can't meet the 1.5 degree cap on warming. We are already in an emergency. We need to start acting like it!

I urge you to support SCR44 for a statewide collaboration toward an immediate, just transition, and an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate. These resolutions provide a framework for the actions that are needed to help work toward a safe climate for our children's future.

SCR-44-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 12:55:36 PM

Testimony for EEP on 4/6/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I come from Papakāleia, O'ahu and am living in my ancestral homelands. I'm writing in strong support of SCR44.

me ke aloha 'Āina,

Nanea Lo