

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
10:00 AM

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 61, SENATE DRAFT 1
REAFFIRMING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE
AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

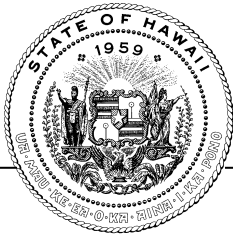
Senate Concurrent Resolution 61, Senate Draft 1 affirms the State's commitment to combat climate change and highlights the important role the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) plays in this effort. **The Department supports this measure.**

This resolution recognizes the importance of Hawaii's unique natural and cultural resources to sustaining life in the islands, and that funding for the management of these resources has not kept pace with the scale of effort required to address the challenges we face, most recently with climate change.

The Department appreciates the resolution's recognition of the scope and importance of the Department's mission and its critical role in Hawaii's response to climate change. Protection and management of Hawaii's natural environment is vital to maintaining the health and well-being of our residents, and to provide ecological resilience. The Department recognizes the important role of communities and nonprofit partners in supporting ecosystem restoration and is dedicated to continuing to collaborate with partners to address climate change.

The Department supports this measure as it highlights the importance of natural resources in addressing climate change and the role of the Department in managing these resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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STATE OF HAWAII**

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, April 06, 2021
10:00 AM
State Capitol
in consideration of
SCR 61, SD 1/SR 43, SD 1
**REAFFIRMING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE
AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION.**

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

The Office of Planning (OP) **supports** the intent of SCR 61, SD 1/SR 43, SD 1 and supports the reaffirmation of the state's commitment to combat climate change.

The Office of Planning appreciates the amendments made in the SD 1 of this resolution, acknowledging the work of the Office of Planning in sustainable development, climate change adaptation, and sea level rise adaptation.

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 appreciates the resolutions' recognition of the scope and importance of the Office's critical roles and responsibilities in Hawaii's planning, coordination, and adaptation to climate change. Proper statewide climate change adaptation planning, sea level rise adaptation planning, and sustainable development is vital to maintaining the health and well-being of our residents, and to provide statewide resilience.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SCR 61, SD 1/SR 43, SD 1.



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 61, SD 1 REAFFIRMING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO COMBAT
CLIMATE CHANGE AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

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 61, SD 1, as it proposes to reaffirm the State's commitment to combat climate change and prioritize climate change legislation, all of which are consistent with the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH") Party Platform.

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i has adopted at its 2018 State Convention, clear safeguards to protect and promote our clean and healthy environment. At page 17 of the DPH 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

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The conservation, preservation and restoration of Hawai'i's natural resources are connected to the 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.

Further, the DPH Platform provides on page 18 as follows:

CONFRONT GLOBAL THREATS AND GLOBAL CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

Climate change poses an urgent and severe threat to our National Security, and DPH believes it would be a grave mistake for the United States to wait for another nation to take the lead in combating the global climate emergency. According to the U.S. military, climate change is a threat multiplier that is already contributing to new conflicts over resources, catastrophic natural disasters, and the degradation of vital ecosystems across the globe. DPH recognizes the catastrophic consequences facing our State, our country, our planet, and civilization.



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We believe that Hawai'i must lead in forging a robust global solution to the climate crisis. We are committed to a national mobilization, and to leading a global effort to mobilize nations to address this threat. Our generation must lead the fight against climate change and we applaud Hawai'i's leadership in joining the historic Paris Climate Accord. We will not only meet the goals set in Paris, we will seek to exceed them and push other countries to do the same by slashing carbon pollution and rapidly driving down emissions of potent greenhouse gases like hydrofluorocarbons. We will support other States and developing countries in their efforts to mitigate carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases, deploy more clean energy, and invest in climate resilience and adaptation.

Specifically, SCR 61, SD 1 calls for the State to commit to focusing on climate change legislation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions as provided within the framework of the 2016 Paris Climate Accord; to setting ambitious goals for carbon sequestration, decrease of greenhouse gas emissions, and decrease of the State's dependence on imported fuels; to its mission to reach carbon neutrality and use renewable sources to obtain one hundred percent of the State's electricity by 2040 and will prioritize the green energy industry; and to raising awareness about the climate crisis and advocating for climate literacy and will promote youth climate literacy and increased public awareness.

We strongly urge the passage of SCR 61, SD 1 as it proposes to reaffirm the State's commitment to combat climate change and prioritize climate change legislation which is consistent with the DPH Platform.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on these important issues.

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
Co-Chair, Human Environmental Impacts Committee
Democratic Party of Hawai'i
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com

SCR-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 4:49:30 AM

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:

Thank you for working so hard to represent the people of Hawaii and indeed the world by moving these important bills forward. We're all in this together. No one will survive this if we don't all pitch in and do everything in our power to stop burning fossil fuels. As I stated in SCR 44, the fastest way to achieve zero emissions is net metering. If you're unsure of how to proceed or what that will entail, I urge lawmakers to contact the State of Vermont's Government and ask them how they proceeded and what mistakes they made and how we could maybe do it even better and more quickly. I'm sure they will be happy to answer your questions and give us advice on any problems we may encounter on our reemployment of net metering.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**TESTIMONY ON SCR111,
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:

SCR61, HD1 Reaffirming the state's commitment to combat climate change and prioritize climate change legislation.

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) **offers comments** on SCR61, 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

SCR-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 9:59:30 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT!

SCR-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 6:48:46 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT FOR SCR 61 - REAFFIRMING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION.

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-chair Martin, and members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

I'm am testifying in SUPPORT of SCR61 SD1 and offering additional emphasis on carbon pricing.

This resolution lays out the myriad reasons for us to take serious action on the climate crisis and the various steps that we must take to eliminate our contribution to global warming, create resilience, achieve energy independence, and transform our economy into one that is sustainable - one that is good for our environment, economy, and people.

I want to call out that support for a price on carbon pollution needs to be emphasized. To complement what's stated in the resolution:

- A carbon pricing policy coupled with a dividend to residents represents one of the most effective and equitable means to drawdown emissions.
- There is growing national support for carbon pricing - entities like the [Business Roundtable](#), [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#), [Electric Power Supply Association](#), [National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine](#), and others back carbon pricing.
- UHERO's recently released [carbon pricing study](#) found carbon pricing (paired with a dividend) to be progressive.

Passing SCR61 SD1 will help keep the spotlight on the existential crisis that we face. It will create the tension to act with urgency to deliver effective actions. Please support it.

Sincerely,
Noel Morin

Co-Leader - Hawaii Island Chapter Citizens' Climate Lobby

SCR-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 1:05:45 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-chair Martin, and members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

I'm am testifying in SUPPORT of SCR61 SD1 and offering additional emphasis on carbon pricing with a return of the fee as a dividend. Pricing carbon and returning the collected fees is the fastest way to reduce emissions, protect lower income individuals and stimulate the economy. I urge you to include returning the fee as cash back to your resolution.

Thanks you,

Virginia Tincher

SCR-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2021 5:56:59 PM

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-61-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2021 8:09:35 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Bernstein	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SUPPORT FOR SCR 61 - REAFFIRMING THE STATE'S COMMITMENT TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-chair Martin, and members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

I'm am testifying in SUPPORT of SCR61 SD1 and offering additional emphasis on carbon pricing because it is good for our environment, economy, and people.

A carbon pricing policy coupled with a dividend to residents represents one of the most effective and equitable means to drawdown emissions.

- There is growing national support for carbon pricing - entities like the [Business Roundtable](#), [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#), [Electric Power Supply Association](#), National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, and others back carbon pricing.
- As a co-author of UHERO's recently released [carbon pricing study](#), we found carbon pricing (paired with a dividend distributed in equal shares) to be progressive and leave the lowest income households better off.
- Over 3,500 economists signed a statement saying among other things: "A carbon tax offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary." <https://clcouncil.org/economists-statement/>

Passing SCR61 SD1 will help keep the spotlight on the existential crisis that we face. It will create the tension to act with urgency to deliver effective actions. Please support it.

Kind regards,

Paul Bernstein, Ph.D.