



**STATE OF HAWAII
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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
Monday, April 11, 2022
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in consideration of
GM 794
**NOMINATING SUSAN CROW TO THE GREENHOUSE GAS SEQUESTRATION
TASK FORCE.**

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment.

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) supports GM 794.

Dr. Susan Crow is currently an Associate Professor of Soil Ecology and Biogeochemistry at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (UH CTAHR). She also serves as the present UH CTAHR research representative on the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force (GHGSTF).

Dr. Crow earned her PhD in Ecology from Oregon State University and studies the natural carbon cycle, nutrient and water management in natural and managed ecosystems, and human impacts on the soil environment. She has served as Principal Investigator for several research efforts to investigate soil carbon dynamics specifically in Hawaiian soils. Dr. Crow also made significant contributions to two GHGSTF-sponsored projects: as a key collaborator for the UH CTAHR Project to Develop Baselines and Benchmarks for critical indicators of change in greenhouse gas sequestration in Hawai'i's agricultural, forestry, and other land use sector; and to the Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center (HARC) Soil Health Plan Pilot Project by generating soil health reports for HARC using a Hawai'i Soil Health Tool her lab developed.

Dr. Crow remains a valuable member of the GHGSTF whose expertise in soil carbon and soil health is essential for fulfilling the GHGSTF's healthy soils and sequestration mandates under Hawai'i Revised Statutes §225P-4. We believe that Dr. Crow is excellently qualified and fully endorse her nomination to another term on the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
Monday, April 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

By
Nicholas Comerford, Dean
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

GM 794 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force, Gubernatorial Nominee, SUSAN CROW, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of GM 794 which is recommending Dr. Susan Crow to be appointed to the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Dr. Crow is a faculty member in the Natural Resources and Environmental Management Department in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She is an outstanding individual with both instruction and research responsibilities. I would describe one area of her expertise being in Soil Ecology/Soil Health, with a strong interest in carbon sequestration. Her expertise is recognized both within Hawai'i, within the United States and throughout the scientific community.

Dr. Crow would be an excellent member of the Task Force and provide a necessary expertise that will help the group and the state of Hawai'i.

We strongly support this nomination as defined in GM 794.



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April 11, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

TESTIMONY ON GM 794

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force, gubernatorial nominee, SUSAN CROW, for a term to expire 06-30-2024.

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau strongly supports GM 794, seeking the confirmation of Dr. Susan Crow to the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Climate change is impacting all of us, with record temperatures and prolonged droughts with increased severity of storms becoming common place in the islands.

Demand for carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas reductions coupled with exploring opportunities for carbon credits abound. While research papers on the subject abound, actual work in Hawai'i is limited. Models originating in other areas may not be applicable for Hawai'i. Use of models without validation can lead to unintended consequences such as purchase of credits that may not exist or understatement of the number of credits available.

Dr. Crow has experience in the area of conducting methods to actually measure carbon in Hawai'i. She has been an awardee of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, developing methodologies to measure soil carbon under varying conditions and provide data to determine impacts of various practices. One of her priorities is to develop user friendly protocols for farmers as climate friendly technologies are explored for adoption.

Developing metrics and mechanisms for quantification is critical for Hawai'i to effectively address climate change. Dr. Crow is one of the most capable people in Hawai'i at this time and most qualified for a position on the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

HFB respectfully requests your support of Dr. Susan Crow to the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.