



To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee  
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org  
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022, 2pm

**In support of HB2423 HD1**

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitigawa, and Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **supports HB2423 HD1** that requires all state building construction projects and state highway projects to use building and construction materials that seek to reduce their carbon footprint, where feasible and cost effective.

This measure will help reduce greenhouse gases, which is critically needed in our fight against the climate crisis. We encourage that when making decisions for State building designs for new buildings that consideration is made for the potential of plant-based products such as industrial hempcrete and structural bamboo to replace carbon-intensive materials used today such as concrete and steel. Cement, a basic material for all types of construction, is responsible for up to 8% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions. The simple act of switching to a low-carbon concrete can make a huge difference in our efforts to lower carbon emissions. We need to target all emission sources, especially cost-effective low hanging fruit like this.

Scientists have declared that the decade we are in right now is one of the most consequential decades for our climate future. **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.** We must consider **these costs** in our decision-making process and take action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors in our efforts to confront the climate crisis. HB2423 HD1 is a step forward in these efforts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this very important legislation.

Sherry Pollack  
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

**HB-2423-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 12:30:41 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

To: The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair, the Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair, and members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee

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

Re: Hearing **HB2423 HD1 RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION.**

Thursday February 17, 2022, 1:00 p.m., by videoconference

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee:

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis and encouraging Hawai'i to lead the world towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. **Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB2423 HD1!**

The purpose of this Act is to require all state building construction projects and state highway projects to use building and construction materials that seek to **reduce their carbon footprint**, where feasible and cost effective.

Reducing a building or highway's carbon footprint is increasingly important in building design. State building designs for **new building and highway projects can avoid copious amounts of greenhouse gas emissions and save taxpayers money if agencies consider how to reduce their carbon footprint.** All agencies should consider the potential for **plant-based products such as industrial hempcrete and structural bamboo to replace massively carbon-intensive materials used today such as concrete and steel.**

Requiring the State to reduce its carbon footprint by using lower carbon technologies in its buildings, highways, and other public works projects, where feasible and cost effective, will also provide an opportunity for the State to achieve its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2045.

**The State should lead by example!**

**Please pass this excellent bill!**

**Mahalo!**

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

**HB-2423-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/15/2022 2:46:11 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Stop lying to the People there is NO Climet Change this is all Bull Shit so you People can put a lot Money in your Pockets From KikBacks!!!

**HB-2423-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 7:15:31 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Paul Bernstein	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the CPC committee:

I'm writing in support of HB2423. More and more materials with lower life cycle emissions are becoming available. In an effort to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, this bill makes imminent sense as it would require new building and roadways to consider these materials. I encourage you to pass this bill to help Hawaii meet its greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Respectfully,

Paul Bernstein

**HB-2423-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 10:07:19 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Dylan Ramos, I grew up in East Honolulu and currently reside in Kaimuki. I strongly support HB2423. My only question is whether it's necessary to include the words "seek to" in the phrase, "materials that seek to reduce the carbon footprint ..." If that's just a matter of legalese and authority I understand, but if those two words can be removed, I think the bill would be that much stronger, especially since it already says "where feasible and cost effective."

Mahalo,  
Dylan Ramos

## HB 2423 HD 1 TESTIMONY

To: House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Hearing on Feb. 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

From: John Kawamoto

Position: Support

“Once [carbon dioxide is] added to the atmosphere, it hangs around, for a long time: between 300 to 1,000 years,” according to [NASA](#). Carbon dioxide that has been emitted into the atmosphere since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution is still warming the Earth. Carbon dioxide that is being emitted today will warm the Earth for hundreds of years. What we do now -- and what we don't do -- will impact the climate for many generations.

We must adopt a multi-faceted strategy to mitigate climate change. One element of that strategy is to reduce the carbon footprints of buildings and highways. For example, concrete is responsible for large amounts of carbon dioxide emissions. New methods have been developed that reduce these emissions. This bill makes the State a leader is shifting toward more environmentally sustainable buildings and highways.

**HB-2423-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 1:43:02 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Strongly support HB2423**

**Hawaii state construction designs for new buildings, highways, and public infrastructure must consider greenhouse gas emissions. All agencies should consider the potential for plant-based products such as industrial hempcrete and structural bamboo to replace very carbon-intensive materials such as concrete and steel.**

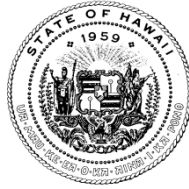
**Additionally, Fly-ash, previously considered as a waste product when added to concrete has been shown to both strengthen the product, and reduce it's carbon footprint.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**-Keith Neal**



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 17, 2022  
2:00 P.M.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**LATE**

**H.B. 2423, H.D. 1  
RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION**

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

H.B. 2423, H.D.1 requires all state building construction projects and state highway projects to use building and construction materials that seek to reduce their carbon footprint, where feasible and cost effective. The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2423, H.D.1

The DOT is always actively looking for technologies to reduce carbon emission in construction.

The DOT Highways Division has been using carbon reduction technology to reduce the embodied carbon footprint of concrete highway infrastructure and requires that all structural concrete placed in highways projects on Oahu use such technology. Our first choice is to utilize carbon dioxide mineralization, a technology that we have successfully and cost effectively employed on a number of projects. However, other options are available within our specifications to ensure we have options, should the cost of carbonization increase or, if the locally sourced carbon dioxide is in short supply.

For asphalt roads, the DOT Highways Division has transitioned to use more durable pavements that will extend the anticipated service life of pavement. The use of polymer modified asphalt and stone matrix asphalt mixes are anticipated to increase the life of pavements approximately 10 years. By utilizing longer lasting pavements, DOT can extend the time when major reconstruction is needed and reduce construction emissions by reducing construction activities need to maintain our roads.

The DOT is also looking into new innovations for sustainability in asphalt roads. The DOT will be piloting a recycled plastic asphalt pavement project on Oahu. The pilot project will replace a certain percentage of the asphalt binder with recycled plastic. The carbon impact would be reduced since it would result in less asphalt binder (petroleum product) used in the pavement. The pilot project would also utilize plastic waste that will

be redirected from a landfill or incineration. The pilot project will evaluate and monitor if road performance is impacted, as well as check if any microplastics may leach off the roadway.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

## Energy & Climate Action Committee

Thursday, February 17, 2022, 2:00 pm

**LATE**

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

SENATE BILL 2423 – RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Position: Support

Me ke Aloha, Chair Kitagawa, Vice-Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce:

The Energy and Climate Change Committee of the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party is firmly behind the intent of this bill. We also recognize difficulties in achieving optimum performance on its details in the short term, given supply chain issues. The latter are in the process of being addressed, as markets respond to consumer signals, as this bill supports. In addition, of course, Congress is in the process of adopting policies and a budget that will be investing in stateside extraction, manufacturing, and a shift from fossil fuels to battery electric power sources.

This bill sets the stage for Hawaii's full participation in a reindustrialized country to take on climate change. The short term will possibly need to accept inflationary pressure from the shift to more sustainable materials, but the longer term has been studied and promises a deflationary movement to follow.

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this matter.

/s/ Charley Ice & Ted Bohlen, Co-Chairs, Energy and Climate Action Committee  
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party