

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, March 15, 2022
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325
in consideration of
SB 2070, SD 1
**RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN
LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAI'I'S FORESTS AND
NATURAL RESOURCES.**

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

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **offers comments and concerns** on SB 2070, SD 1, which authorizes the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawai'i Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC in their mission to proliferate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit sequestering.

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development supports planting trees to sequester carbon, reduce heat stress due to climate change and restore native forests. However, OPSD published the [*Feasibility and Implications of Establishing a Carbon Offset Program in the State of Hawai'i*](#) in December 2019, strongly recommending against State's establishment of a Carbon Offset Program administered by the State Government. The feasibility analysis noted that:

1. It is unlikely that the State of Hawai'i would generate significant revenue through the production of offsets, and
2. Any trading of offset credits produced within Hawai'i would be limited by the State's Zero Emissions Clean Economy target (p.67).

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development understands that the carbon crediting/carbon offsetting conducted by Hawai'i Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC, as proposed by this measure is administered privately by that business.

However, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development has concerns about the State's consideration to provide Special Purpose Revenue Bond loan financing to assist qualifying private capital improvement projects in relation to carbon offsetting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2070, S.D.1

**March 15, 2022
9:00 A.M.
Via Videoconference**

RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The Department of Budget and Finance (the "Department") offers the following comments on Senate Bill No. 2070, S.D. 1, which authorizes the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds (SPRB) to assist the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC, a Hawaii corporation, to generate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit sequestering by planning, designing, constructing, and equipping private and public land owners with tools for endemic forest development, processing and distribution of forest products, including eco-assets such as tree planting, endangered species management, endemic species propagation, value-added agriculture, advanced materials, sustainable timber, carbon credits, Hawaii cultural practice, fine art, and Hawaii made products pursuant to Part IV, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The amount of the authorization is unspecified.

The Department would like to inform the Legislature and prospective SPRB parties that should the legislation be approved, approval of the SPRB issuance and conduit loan will require further review of the financing proposal to ensure compliance with all federal, state and credit underwriting requirements. Additionally, the Department would like to note that House Bill No. 1829, H.D. 2, specifies that the entire allocation of the state bond ceiling cap shall be used for housing related projects for the next six years provided that the allocations authorized, but not issued before July 1, 2022 shall not be affected. An authorization to issue a SPRB does not allocate the state bond ceiling. The allocation of the state bond ceiling is made at the closing of the bonds. Since the bill specifies that the entire state bond ceiling shall be used for housing related projects, all authorized and not issued SPRBs subject to the bond ceiling cap will be prohibited from issuance by the Department for the next six years regardless of the authorization received prior to July 1, 2022. For additional information, please consult our FAQ located at the following link: <http://budget.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/SPRB-FAQ.pdf>.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Chair Aaron Ling Johanson
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Description: Authorizes the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, LLC in its mission to proliferate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit sequestering. Effective 7/12050. (SD1)

Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

During my more than 30 years with HSBC Bank Canada, I held a variety of executive management positions working with the bank's domestic and international sectors in the areas of Risk Management and Governance, Compliance, and Corporate Sustainability. I am an experienced director with extensive audit, risk, and governance expertise. I am currently a director of one of Canada's largest credit unions, Coast Capital Savings Federal Credit Union. As well, I am currently Audit Committee Chair for Infrastructure BC, a provincial crown corporation and procurement advisor for major infrastructure projects in BC.

I look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry, that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of hard work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. My commitment to offer full customer support, training solutions, and collaborative consulting in all phases of our service will contribute to their successful operations.

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i will be increased and new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. I supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,

Susan Dujmovic

Alan E. Wilkinson
Wilkinson Koa Furniture

WILKINSON KOA FURNITURE
96-1276 Waihona Street, Unit 115
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

I am an artisan who specializes in creating one-of-a-kind koa furniture and heirlooms with the utmost care and skill. I look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.


Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of challenging work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. Wilkinson Koa Furniture provides the furniture and heirlooms that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill, with their workforce and the development of their business, would provide for the public to enjoy. My commitment is to offer full support.

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i increased new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. Wilkinson Koa Furniture supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,

Alan E. Wilkinson, Owner

Alan E. Wilkinson
Wilkinson Koa Furniture



March 11, 2022

The Honorable Chair Aaron Ling Johanson
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1

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Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce on behalf of Ponsse Plc, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

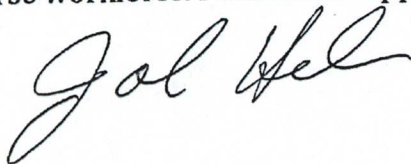
Our mission at Ponsse Plc, one of the world's largest manufacturers of cut-to-length forest machines, is to contribute to our customers' success with our forest machines, products, technology expertise, and services. We look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of hard work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. Ponsse provides the equipment and expertise needed to assist Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill with their workforce and the development of their business. Our commitment to offer full customer support, training solutions, and collaborative consulting in all phases of our service will contribute to their successful operations.

PONSSE

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i will be increased and new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. Ponsse Plc supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,



Ponsse Plc



Ponsse North America, Inc. 4400 International Lane, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone 715 369 4833, Fax 715 369 4838



To: The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 9am

In opposition to SB2070 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.org **opposes SB2070 SD1**

350Hawaii strongly supports efforts by the legislature towards reforestation and carbon sequestration, actions which are important to help mitigate global warming. However, we believe advancing efforts for carbon credit sequestering is ill-advised. The State has already studied the feasibility and implications for establishing a carbon offset program in Hawaii. Findings from this study strongly recommended against such a pursuit.

Furthermore, carbon offset schemes are just that, schemes that claim to compensate for emissions with no cost to the climate – they don't actually do that, they are an accounting trick. Offsetting simply allows companies like airlines to avoid taking meaningful action on their carbon emissions and to continue with their unsustainable behavior while shifting their responsibility for the climate onto the consumer.

According to the UN IPCC report, if we are serious about averting catastrophic planetary changes, we need to reduce emissions by 45 percent by 2030. Trees planted today can't grow fast enough to achieve this goal. A newly planted tree can take as many as 20 years to capture the amount of CO₂ that a carbon offset scheme promises. And during those decades we have to hope that this tree will survive the droughts, wildfires, and tree diseases that are occurring because of the global warming humans continue to cause by our on-going greenhouse gas emissions.

Scientists are warning this must be the decade for action on climate. Hawaii has been a leader in the fight against global warming. Let's not be diverted or connected to helping advance false solutions and PR schemes that only serve to steal our children's future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:01:28 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Hoopai	Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022 - State of Hawaii

Dear Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and other Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I submit the following testimony in support of Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

On behalf of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative (HLRI), we humbly request your support in the passing of SB2070 which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC in the mission to generate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery and carbon credit sequestering with planning, designing, constructing, and equipping facilities for the manufacturing, processing, and distribution of products such as but not limited to the production of value-added agricultural, advanced materials, sustainable, and fine art products.

This initiative is necessary for the state of Hawaii as it provides organizations and the general community a means to plant trees and make an impact towards reforestation and revitalizing the ecosystem. Organizations can engage their employees and customers/visitors in the process to understand the cultural relevance and environmental impact of planting trees and regenerating the forest and taking care of our natural resources. Through the growth of this initiative, HLRI is creating new green jobs and revenue for the State of Hawaii while establishing an economically sustainable agricultural model to support private and public land owners. As HLRI implements reforestation through effective forestry management processes, we are also developing the infrastructure and production capability that will also produce value-added products to be used in

Hawaii and exported outside of Hawaii further generating revenue and jobs and providing educational opportunities of historic cultural practices.

Further, HLRI has proven success over the past 12 years in planting over 500,000 endemic trees and effectively managing a thriving Hawaiian forests on Oahu and the island of Hawai'i. Our innovative forestry management practices have produced healthy forests that have grown quicker and larger than established industry averages. Through these innovative and reliable practices and within our family of companies, our organization has been awarded for the 8th consecutive year with the "B Corp Best of The World" Honoree from B Lab and is the only forestry organization in Hawai'i carbon-credit certified by the Gold Standard out of Switzerland. We are recognized for doing good in our community and for a sustainable system of reforestation. HLRI has the credentials and is looking to expand our proven model in our current locations and to other major islands to provide reforestation projects, green jobs and economic opportunity across all agriculture communities.

We are confident that Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC has the ability to consolidate, present, and expand on Hawai'i products. The need for future industry development and a stronger platform for Hawai'i based industries is critical to our organizations success. Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation are working collectively to chaperone a greater future for Hawaii's agriculture industry.

For the reasons stated above, Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative supports SB2070 and we thank you for your consideration of support. Thank you for the opportunity to share this information and I am available to answer any questions, either by phone or email.

Respectfully,

Jason Ho'opai

Executive Director / Finance Committee

415.218.3348 / jhoopai@legacytrees.org



'A L O H I L A N I
R E S O R T
W A I K I K I B E A C H

March 14, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Description: Authorizes the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, LLC in its mission to proliferate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit sequestering. Effective 7/12050. (SD1)

Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of 'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach is pleased to provide a Letter of Support for SB2070 SD1; Relating to Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative.

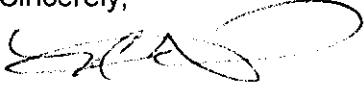
'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach is committed to advancing sustainability in the hospitality industry by being an active part of the solution to environmental concerns. Through our partnership with HLRI, 'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach has pledged to plant 100,000 native trees on 'Oahu and Hawai'i island to help with reforestation efforts. The trees that are planted help carbon sequestration and our guests embrace the concept of sustainable travel and giving back to Hawai'i. We strive to instill the Hawaiian values of aloha (love) and mālama (to care for) with our employees and guests.

Prior to the pandemic, employees of 'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach spent hours weeding and caring for the trees in the 'Alohilani Legacy Forest. This team-building event is also inherent to our Highgate philosophy that supports environmental accountability and giving back to the communities that they are a part of.

'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach's partnership with HLRI includes researching potential carbon offset programs for a carbon neutral hotel and guest experiences. It is a benefit to our state of Hawai'i and our industry to have a resource like HLRI to assist with our environmental and sustainability initiatives.

'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach wholeheartedly supports the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC with SB2070 SD1 to help them expand their growth and success to assist our state with environmental and sustainable issues that, in turn, promote jobs and economic well-being.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Grauso', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Grauso, General Manager, 'Alohilani Resort at Waikiki Beach

Kelly Sanders, Executive V.P. Operations, Highgate Hotels



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

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii
SB 2070 SD1

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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of Embassy Suites Waikiki, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

Embassy Suites Waikiki Beach Walk planted the rare alula plant in honor of Earth Day 2020 and in partnership with the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative (HLRI) along with the Hui Ku Maoli Ola Native Plant Nursery. We believe that Hawaii's endemic plants encourage appreciation and respect for Hawaiian history and culture, which should be part of every guest's lasting impression when they visit our beautiful island. It is truly remarkable what HLRI has done for our island's ecosystem. Through their reforestation of native trees, the biodiversity of the reforested areas have flourished. We are honored to be a part of this organization's mission.

When our visitor industry can participate in 'giving back' while learning about our beautiful Hawaiian culture, guests' experiences are more meaningful. The partnerships and opportunities in the visitor industry that HLRI have created through their reforestation programs contribute to the rich cultural and natural resources that make Hawaii special. Their business model has also encouraged more 'green jobs' that boost our economy.

Embassy Suites Waikiki Beach Walk supports Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative and their achievements. Our visitor industry needs their expertise and businesses to continue their sustainable mission that generates more awareness of our state's environment, culture, and future. Please support S.B. 2070 SD1 that authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC in their mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simeon Miranda', written over a horizontal line.

Simeon Miranda
General Manager



THE KAHALA

HOTEL & RESORT

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of The Kahala Hotel & Resort, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

The Kahala Hotel & Resort has been an industry leader in the State of Hawaii in implementing sustainability practices in all areas of our hotel operations. We were awarded the 2020 Hawaii Green Business Award that recognizes businesses that operate in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

Together, with Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative (HLRI), we formed the Kahala Initiative for Sustainability, Culture, and the Arts (KISCA) to help perpetuate our lands, ocean, and culture for generations to come. To date, The Kahala Resort and its guests have planted 12,758 trees to support the reforestation and environmental preservation of our island state. Consequently, our guests get a better understanding of our Hawaiian culture while making a positive impact.

This initiative is necessary for the state of Hawaii as it provides organizations and the general community a means to plant trees and make an impact towards reforestation and revitalizing the ecosystem. HLRI has made it possible for our hotel to engage their employees and guests in the process to understand the cultural relevance and environmental impact of planting trees, regenerating the forest, and taking care of our natural resources.

The Kahala Hotel & Resort supports and recommends the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC in its ability to expand its mission in Hawai'i through SB2070. The need for awareness of the cultural relevance and environmental sustainability of our state, along with creating new green jobs and revenue, will contribute to a stable and promising future.

Malama Pono,



Joe Ibarra
General Manager
The Kahala Hotel & Resort

SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:37:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Reforestation is essential to our future. I strongly support SB2070

March 13, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

I look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill Forest industry, that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of challenging work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Their workforce and the development of their business, would provide for the public to enjoy. My commitment is to offer full support.

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i increased new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. I supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,



Betsy Maler

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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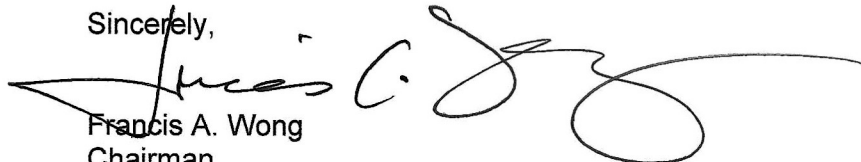
Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I, as the chair of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation LLC respectfully submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

As a retired Hawaii State Senator, I had the honor to serve on the senatorial staffs of U.S. Senators John F. Kennedy and Oren E. Long, Hawaii's first U.S. Senator. During my time as a State Senator, I had the privilege of being the legislative leader in creating University of Hawaii's Medical and Law Schools and its West Oahu campus, the Shoreline Management Act, and the Hawaii State Plan for economic, physical, and social development policies. I look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry, which would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of challenging work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. Their workforce and the development of their business would provide for the public to enjoy. My commitment is to offer full support.

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i increased new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. It is without reservation that I strongly support SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,



Francis A. Wong
Chairman
Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC



1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel (808) 943-3500
kelepa'i fax (808) 943-3599
kahua pa'a web www.hawaiiconvention.com

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
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SB 2070 SD1

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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of Hawaii Convention Center, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

The Hawaii Convention Center is pleased to provide a Letter of Support for SB2070 SD1; Relating to Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative.

The Hawai'i Convention Center's commitment to sustainability is visible from our LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) green building certification system to our multi-faceted approach to environmental conservation. Our Ho'omaluo program celebrates this commitment to be responsible stewards. Through our partnership with the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, we pledged to plant a million trees to support their mission of reforestation. These native Hawaiian trees will bring back the biodiversity of our islands while sequestering carbon.

Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation's presence is critical to our residents and our economy. This company that promotes sustainable practices also develops opportunities for employment and creates new resources. Their efforts will build our agriculture and forestry industries as Hawai'i recognized the need for diverse economic opportunities during the pandemic. They also serve as an educational resource for our state as meeting planners, guests, and our community have the opportunity to sponsor native Hawaiian trees while learning about our rich cultural history. Trees planted help to offset the carbon footprint of a typical vacation for a family of four.

The Hawai'i Convention Center is committed to our continued support of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation. Their mission has been instrumental in the expansion of our visitor industry's engagement in environmental sustainability.

Sincerely,

Teri Orton, General Manager
Hawaii Convention Center



SB 2070 SD 1 TESTIMONY

To: House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Hearing on March 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

From: John Kawamoto

Position: Support

Carbon sequestration complements efforts to reduce carbon emissions to mitigate climate change. We need to do both -- sequester carbon and reduce carbon emissions -- if we are to avoid a global climate catastrophe.

This bill will encourage reforestation, which will sequester carbon, by planting native Hawaiian species. Meanwhile, however, other bills are being considered by the Legislature that would cut down forests to generate electricity. Those bills should be avoided.

By encouraging reforestation, which sequesters carbon and mitigates climate change, this bill will have beneficial impacts for generations to come.

SB1070 SD1 Mills

March 13, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Description: Authorizes the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, LLC in its mission to proliferate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit sequestering. Effective 7/12050. (SD1)

Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I, Jan Mills submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

I retired from Hagadone Printing Company in 2017. One of my clients was Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative and Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods. Hagadone Printing was Hawaii's first certified carbon neutral printing operation. The carbon footprint was offset through their tree planting program on Hawai'i island. That 'Print Green' carbon neutral program made the employees of our company aware of sustainability and taking responsibility for our environment. Our clients were appreciative that their printed materials were being produced to benefit Hawaii. When we toured our Hagadone Legacy Forest, we were impressed with the changes over the years from denuded pasturelands to thriving koa forests. Hagadone Printing Company was one of Hawaiian Legacy's first partners in 2010 through Nature Office, so we were able to witness firsthand the accomplishments of this endeavor.

Hawai'i needs the model of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative to keep our environment and economy thriving and sustainable. I continue to watch their progress and growth and was motivated to write in support of SB2070 SD1 because of their expansion of forestry through their milling. We need more green jobs to keep our young people in Hawai'i. We need to create more self-sufficiency for our island state.

Sincerely,
Jan Mills



1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel (808) 943-3500
kelepa'i fax (808) 943-3599
kahua pa'a web www.hawaiiiconvention.com

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
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Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on behalf of Hawaii Convention Center, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

The Hawaii Convention Center is pleased to provide a Letter of Support for SB2070 SD1; Relating to Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative.

The Hawai'i Convention Center's commitment to sustainability is visible from our LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) green building certification system to our multi-faceted approach to environmental conservation. Our Ho'omaluo program celebrates this commitment to be responsible stewards. Through our partnership with the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, we pledged to plant a million trees to support their mission of reforestation. These native Hawaiian trees will bring back the biodiversity of our islands while sequestering carbon.

Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation's presence is critical to our residents and our economy. This company that promotes sustainable practices also develops opportunities for employment and creates new resources. Their efforts will build our agriculture and forestry industries as Hawai'i recognized the need for diverse economic opportunities during the pandemic. They also serve as an educational resource for our state as meeting planners, guests, and our community have the opportunity to sponsor native Hawaiian trees while learning about our rich cultural history. Trees planted help to offset the carbon footprint of a typical vacation for a family of four.

The Hawai'i Convention Center is committed to our continued support of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation. Their mission has been instrumental in the expansion of our visitor industry's engagement in environmental sustainability.

Sincerely,

Teri Orton, General Manager
Hawaii Convention Center



March 13, 2022

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Lisa Marten, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
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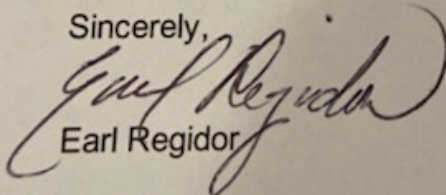
Chair Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair Lisa Marten, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

I look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of challenging work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill, with their workforce and the development of their business, would provide for the public to enjoy. My commitment is to offer full support.

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i increased new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. Wilkinson Koa Furniture supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely,



Earl Regidor

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Chair Aaron Ling Johanson
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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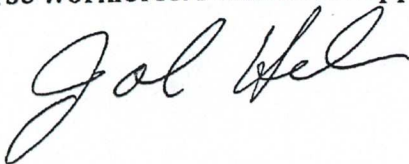
Chair Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce on behalf of Ponsse Plc, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

Our mission at Ponsse Plc, one of the world's largest manufacturers of cut-to-length forest machines, is to contribute to our customers' success with our forest machines, products, technology expertise, and services. We look forward to the success of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill forest industry that would provide diversity and strengthen the economy of Hawai'i.

Hawaiian Legacy Hardwoods committed years of hard work towards growing native Hawaiian trees that sequestered carbon and added to the biodiversity of the area. Thinning the forest improves the growth condition and contributes to sturdier, quality trees. Forest specialists say that thinning also ensures the carbon sequestration for dozens to hundreds of years. Ponsse provides the equipment and expertise needed to assist Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill with their workforce and the development of their business. Our commitment to offer full customer support, training solutions, and collaborative consulting in all phases of our service will contribute to their successful operations.

PONSSE

The importance that Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill will bring to the State of Hawai'i will be increased and new employment opportunities to help generate a more diverse workforce. Ponsse Plc supports SB 2070 SD1.

Sincerely, 

Ponsse Plc



Ponsse North America, Inc. 4400 International Lane, Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone 715 369 4833, Fax 715 369 4838

SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 2:04:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet L Pappas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear EEP committee members,

Bill SB2070 will help restore Hawaii's native forests and preserve our state's natural resources (such as native ecosystems, endemic forests, and Hawaiian cultural practices) by funding a "grassroots" program through Special Purpose bonds.

We live in a special place with many treasured natural flora and fauna. But more than one hundred fifty years of human activity has taken its toll. We have a chance to restore our 'aina with proper stewardship. Let's not miss this opportunity.

Please support Bill SB2070 SD1.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii 96701