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

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 JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2070, S.D.1

March 21, 2022
2:00 P.M.
Room 325 and 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.



To: The House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Monday, March 21, 2022, 2pm

In opposition to SB2070 SD1

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the JHA Committee,

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: 3/21/2022 7:23:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Hoopai	Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and other members of the on House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, on behalf of Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative (HLRI), I submit the following testimony in support of SB2070 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

SB2070 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.

LATE



March 19, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
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 Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

I, Steve Shropshire, am a third-generation farmer and the owner of Aloha Green LLC on the east side of Hawai'i island. We advocate balanced communities based on principles of sustainability and planned development. For example, in Hamakua, we honored the long range plan of the Hamakua Community Development Plan by supporting the economic growth of the community while adhering to their historic and cultural needs.

Our philosophy of "Smart Growth" is based on principles that require cooperation amongst governmental agencies, community planners, and developers. Our growth management strategies strive to conserve the environment, historic sites, cultural traditions, and natural resources while achieving our goals and business objectives.

Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative and their sustainable business models for reforestation, carbon sequestration, and economic development of forest-related industries is what Hawai'i needs to help make our state of Hawai'i more self-reliant, sustainable, and community resilient. They exemplify our own motto of 'environmental principles in practice' as they respect the environment, are good stewards, and improve our ecosystems, while developing their businesses. Their Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mills will support the revitalization of our economic growth of Hawai'i and local communities.

We need the support of government agencies and leaders, community planners, developers to all take responsibility to encourage sustainable economic growth strategies. That is why it is imperative that SB2070 SD1 has everyone's support! The work that Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative and their subsidiaries have accomplished and their future endeavors will benefit Hawai'i and must continue. I urge you to support SB2070 SD1 to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative in its mission.

Mahalo nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Shropshire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Shropshire

P.O. Box 1146 Hilo Hawaii 96721
808-895-0372
steve@alohagreen.com



LATE

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

RE: Senate Bill 2070; Relating to Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to Assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, LLC

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the Committee,

It is my pleasure to submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill 2070 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

Senate Bill 2070 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 home/building materials, and fine art products.

In my role as President and CEO of HPM Building Supply, I lead our company's 16 locations and facilities on all major Hawaiian Islands. HPM is a diversified building material retailer, distributor and manufacturer that fully supports Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative and their presence in our island state. HPM is anticipating the growth of HLRI's business model of reforestation of native forests that include an infrastructure of sustainable products and innovative programs. They have brought back biodiversity in many areas of our state while creating green jobs that encourage economic growth and make us more self-sufficient while addressing climate change issues that affect every single person in the state.

Self-sufficiency and resilience is what Hawaii needs more of which is the reason why I support the efforts of HLRI. I look forward to their sustainable timber resources. We see many businesses fail over the years because it can be a challenge to do business in Hawaii with our high cost of living, labor costs, and our geographical isolation. HPM has always been innovative and progressive through all our challenges and that's how we are able to be in business for over 100 years. HLRI is another innovative and progressive company that develops new business ideas to strengthen our economy. Hawaii needs to encourage businesses like theirs to help our communities and economy. The costs and demand for higher value hardwoods is increasing worldwide. Right now, the majority of Hawaii's lumber supply is shipped from the Pacific Northwest and Canada. That's a huge carbon footprint. Imagine, sustainable locally-sourced quality timber for local projects!





BUILD BETTER. LIVE BETTER.

Please recognize the importance to Hawaii and our island people of supporting S.B. 2070 that authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC in their mission. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of S.B. 2070.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto,
President & CEO



PHONE 808.966.5466 • FAX 808.966.7564
16-166 MELEKAHIWA STREET • KEA'AU, HI 96749

HPMHAWAII.COM



SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 4:59:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support any measure which will help us to restore more of our native forest ecosystem and endemic plant life. Native forests have been reduced to a tiny fraction of their original size. Bringing back these forests will have multiple benefits.

March 20, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB2070 SD1

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

Chair Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

On behalf of myself, Robert Cundiff, I would like to present you with written testimony in strong support of SB2070 SD1, relating to special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative to restore Hawaii's forests and natural resources.

SB2070 SD1 authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC (HLRI) 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 landowners. As HLRI implements reforestation through effective forestry management processes, HLRI is 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 thriving Hawaiian forests on Oahu and the island of Hawai'i. The 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 the family of companies, the 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. HLRI is recognized for doing good in the community and for a sustainable system of reforestation. HLRI has the credentials and is looking to expand a proven model in current locations and to other major islands to provide reforestation projects, green jobs and economic opportunity across all agriculture communities.

I am confident that Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC has the ability to consolidate, present, and expand on Hawaii products. The need for future industry development and a stronger platform for Hawaii based industries is critical to the success of the organization and a diversified Hawaii economy. Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation is working collectively to chaperone a greater future for Hawaii’s agriculture industry.

I have personally witnessed the intense cultural and emotional significance as HLRI partner organizations have planted their trees and engaged with programs of reforestation. The power of this initiative is not only a solid economic sustainable project, but also culturally necessary to connect current generations to cultural practices and the value of taking care of the land through reforestation and ecosystem revitalization. I have learned that HLRI personnel are passionate in their mission and the most experienced and qualified to successfully execute a sustainable model of reforestation and land management that will benefit Hawaii tremendously.

For the reasons stated above, I am in strong support of SB2070 SD1 and urge you to pass this bill and provide HLRI with the resources needed to grow and expand on the extraordinary work they are doing on behalf of the people of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and for your support of SB2070 SD1.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Cundiff", written in a cursive style.

Robert Cundiff

March 20, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
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.

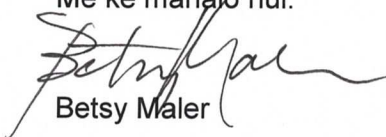
Description: Authorizes the Department of Budget and Finance to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative, LLC in its mission to proliferate a sustainable model of endemic reforestation, ecosystem revitalization, endangered species recovery, and carbon credit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

Chair Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

This nurturing from HLRI's project has brought new life to our lands, supported our watersheds, and embraced our communities. It is exciting to see what the next chapter will bring with the growth of Hawaiian Legacy Lumber and Hamakua Mill. This is for our next generation — our 'āina, our keiki, our people. Clean air, thriving forests, job opportunities, and a better Hawai'i for all!

Please support this important bill SB2070 SD1 for all Hawai'i and our future.

Me ke mahalo nui.


Betsy Maler

SB1070 SD1 Mills

March 19, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
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 Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, I 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

SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 12:22:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Dear JHA committee members,

Bill SB2070 SD1 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 on Hawaii's natural ecosystems. 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

March 20, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
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 Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, I submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

anoai welina aloha

We, aha kukaniloko koa mana mea ola kanaka maui apaakuma hoalii iku pau Hawaiian Lineal Descendants, submit written testimony affirming the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative will perpetuate the continued principles and practices for watershed management and love for our 'āina with the reforestation of iliahi, koa, milo and other native Hawaiian plant within the state of Hawai'i. It is their good intentions to perpetuate our Hawaiian culture through their mission of reforestation that will help our keiki and Kānaka Maoli for generations to come. It is not only our forested ecosystem and watersheds, but the stories that are told from the 'ahu 'ula, feathered capes, and the historic paintings. Their future—more jobs, clean air, clean water, and our continued legacies!

As a Native Hawaiian, I support SB2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Thomas Joseph Lenchanko

e kukaawe i na kapu o kukaniloko no ka mea aloha no hoi kakou ia lakou i na kau a kau
Thomas Joseph Lenchanko kahuakaiola ko laila waha olelo aha kukaniloko koa mana mea ola
kanaka maui apaakuma hoalii iku pau

March 19, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
The Honorable, Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
31st Hawaii State Legislature, Regular Session 2022
State of Hawaii

SB 2070 SD1 - RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST THE HAWAIIAN LEGACY REFORESTATION INITIATIVE TO RESTORE HAWAII'S FORESTS AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Chair Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair Scot Z. Matayoshi, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

I am pleased to submit the following testimony in support of Senate Bill SB 2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative LLC.

My name is Muriel Anderson and my professional career spanned over 47 years in Hawaii's visitor industry. I retired from the Hawaii Tourism Authority in 2011 where I served as HTA's Vice President-Tourism Product Development with responsibilities for the HTA programs that support those strategic initiatives which impacted the visitor experience while protecting the quality of life for Hawaii's residents, including initiating the very first Hawaiian Culture and Natural Resources Advisory Committees to HTA.

However, my introduction to the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative (HLHI) was through my long-time volunteer work with the Miss Hawaii Organization and its sister scholarship program - Miss Hawaii's Outstanding Teen. For the last nine years, we have been part of the Miss Hawaii 'ohana that has planted trees for each candidate competing at Miss America and Miss America's Outstanding Teen. The "omiyage" that is presented each year provides extensive exposure of Hawaii's efforts in environmental sustainability and wildlife protection to the contestants from the other 49 states and Washington, D.C. It is calculated to make the trip for each candidate and three members of each family carbon neutral.

This tree planting project with HHLI, developed as a social cause for the Miss Hawaii Organization, provides the candidates opportunities to learn about reforestation and its impact on environmental sustainability, Hawaii's fragile environment, Hawaiian culture and, importantly, embraces those cultural values such as mālama, kuleana, and laulima. In addition, proceeds from this project provide much-needed scholarships for the young women participating in our program.

I urge you to support SB2070 SD1 and do what is "pono" as the mission of the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative provides significant benefits to the environmental, economic, and social well-being of our State.

Me ka ha'aha'a. Mahalo for this opportunity to provide written testimony on this legislation.

LATE

SB-2070-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2022 9:37:32 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Winona Agüero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, as a Hawaiian Lineal Descendants, submit written testimony affirming the Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative will perpetuate the continued principles and practices for watershed management and love for our 'āina with the reforestation of iliahi, koa, milo and other native Hawaiian plan within the state of Hawai'i. It is their good intentions to perpetuate our Hawaiian culture through their mission of reforestation that will help our keiki and Kānaka Maoli for generations to come. It is not only our forested ecosystem and watersheds, but the stories that are told from the 'ahu 'ula, feathered capes, and the historic paintings. Their future—more jobs, clean air, clean water, and our continued legacies! As a Native Hawaiian, I support SB2070 SD1 regarding Hawaiian Legacy Reforestation Initiative.

Mahalo

Winona Agüero