

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2600 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS**

REPRESENTATIVE AARON LING JOHANSON, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Hearing Date: 3/31/2022

Room Number: 329/Videoconference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The fiscal implications of this measure are unknown at this time.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (department) supports the action taken in
3 this measure to protect the precious freshwater resources of our pae ‘āina by setting a date after
4 which large capacity underground storage tank systems located mauka of the underground
5 injection control line may no longer operate. We appreciate the changes made in this HD1 and
6 believe the current bill realizes the expressed intent of the legislature. This measure is the
7 department’s preferred vehicle for amendments to chapter 342L, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

8 **Offered Amendments:** None.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com



March 31, 2022

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
and Members
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Johanson and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 2600, SD2, HD1: Relating to Underground Storage Tanks

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports SB 2600, Senate Draft (SD) 2, House Draft (HD) 1. This bill proposes to amend Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 342L to prohibit the issuance of permits for future large capacity underground storage tanks systems mauka of the underground injection control (UIC) line beginning July 1, 2022. It also prohibits operation of, and renewal of permits for, large capacity underground storage tank system permits located mauka of the UIC line beginning January 1, 2023.

For clarification purposes, the term mauka is not defined in the HRS, so the BWS suggests amending the term to "inland" of the UIC line. The BWS proposes an amendment to the definition of the UIC with new language underscored as follows:

"Underground injection control line" means the underground injection control line represented by a dashed line on the department of health underground injection control program maps made effective July 6, 1984, pursuant to §340E-2, HRS . . ."

Specifying the UIC provisions pursuant to §340E-2, HRS is essential to clarify any potential intra-agency conflicts that arises in the event environmental protection and permit approval priorities do not align.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony concerning SB 2600, SD2, HD1.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer



Board Members

President
Jason Okuhama
Managing Partner,
Commercial & Business Lending

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Hawai'i Island Resident

Miwa Tamanaha
O'ahu Resident

Philip Garboden
Assistant Professor,
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HACBED Staff

Brent N. Kakesako
Executive Director

Merri Keli'ikuli
*Office Manager & Program
Support*

Corin Thornberg
Project Associate

Date: March 29, 2022

To: Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair, Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

From: Brent Kakesako, Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED)

Re: Support for SB 2600 SD 2 HD 1

Aloha e Chair Johanson, Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

The Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development (HACBED) supports SB 2600 SD 2 HD 1, which prohibits the issuance of permits for future large capacity underground storage tank systems mauka of the underground injection control line beginning July 1, 2022, and prohibits operation of and renewal of large capacity underground storage tank system permits located mauka of the underground injection control line beginning January 1, 2023.

HACBED was established in 1992 as a nonprofit statewide intermediary to address social, economic, and environmental justice concerns through community-based economic development and asset building strategies. It advances its mission with core competencies in the areas of community and organizational capacity building, community and economic development planning, and asset policy development and advocacy. Water is life and core to livelihoods of families who call this place home and by extension broader place-based economic development.

SB 2600 SD 2 HD 1 would protect what is remaining of our precious water and watersheds for this generation and the many future generations.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify,

Brent N. Kakesako
Executive Director



To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Thursday, March 31, 2022, 2pm

In support of SB2600 SD2 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** this measure which seeks to protect our precious water from fuel contamination, and we respectfully offer a **suggested amendment**.

Hawaii's drinking water supply is already at risk due to the effects of climate change. All the more reason to ensure we take great care in protecting our aquifer from fuel contamination, or any other source of pollution, keeping it safe for current and future generations. With recent tragic events, we have had a glimpse into what it means to lack access to safe, fresh drinking water as we have witnessed the tragic suffering of families who are users of the Navy's Red Hill drinking water well and who are now struggling with a water contamination crisis. Imagine if this had affected our groundwater aquifer for the community at-large? Let this be a lesson we learn and implement safeguards to prevent this from ever happening again. We welcome legislation that will lead to the **permanent defueling and closure of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility** that currently threatens Oahu's primary drinking water supply.

To better ensure that this measure can fulfill its purpose and protect our precious water, we respectfully offer an amendment for your consideration.

Please amend this measure by prohibiting operation of and renewal of large capacity underground storage tank system permits located mauka of the underground injection control line beginning **July 1, 2022**. Every day we delay in protecting our precious drinking water we risk catastrophic consequences.

Please **PASS** SB2600 SD2 HD1 with the above amendment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important bill.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Thursday, March 31st, 2022, 2:00 p.m. Conference Room 329

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action Supports: SB2600 SD2 HD1

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) I am submitting testimony in **support of SB2600 SD2 HD1.**

Mahalo for hearing SB2600 SD2 HD1, which prohibits issuance of future underground storage tanks mauka of the underground injection control line as defined by the Department of Health beginning July 1, 2022. The measure also prohibits operation of and renewal of underground storage tank permits located mauka of the underground injection control line as defined by the Department of Health beginning January 1, 2023 (SD2).

SB2600 SD2 HD1 seeks to protect our islands' most precious resource from fuel contamination. The presence of leaky fuel tanks at Red Hill and the Navy's mismanagement of this crisis directly impacts the health and quality of life of Oahu's residents, and will continue to for generations to come. Some of our staff and many of our supporters are directly affected by this crisis. Our water is precious and we all have a duty to protect our islands' source of life for present and future generations.

The legislature must do all that it can to remove the threat of something far worse happening to our water supply, both now and for future generations to come. O'ahu's residents are facing a serious crisis which will continue for years. Board of Water Supply's Ernie Lau said that the Hālawā shaft – which was shut down as a precaution following the Navy's Red Hill well contamination – could be shut down for years, even permanently.

We cannot allow 80-year-old underground storage tanks that store up to 187 million gallons of fuel per day and that pose such an immense threat of leaking and contaminating our environment and water supply to operate 100 feet above O'ahu's sole-source drinking water aquifer.

Navy officials cannot be trusted to protect our water. They have lied time and time again. The following reasons explain why the legislature must act since the Navy has failed to:

- The Navy lied about an active leak at Pearl Harbor for months, discovering the leak in January 2021 but not informing Health Department officials until May. This was revealed in whistleblower emails and documents in October.
- A whistleblower also told the Department of Health in September that Navy officials provided false testimony and withheld information about the full extent of the Facility's infrastructure, including connected pipelines, as well as "historical records of corrosion issues, including holes in tanks" at its Red Hill fuel facility during legal proceedings.

- The Navy suspended use of its Red Hill water shaft on November 28, but the public only found out on December 1. The Navy continues to confuse and gaslight community members.
- Hundreds of community members reported chemical smells in their water on November 28 and then health issues on November 29, which the Navy refused to acknowledge as a potential health concern until the state Department of Health advised residents to not drink the clearly contaminated water.
- A day after the Navy said it had detected diesel in its 'Aiea Hālawā well at levels more than double the DOH safety limit, the military backtracked, saying the contaminated sample "did not come directly" from the well and the Navy does not believe the result proves the well is contaminated.
- They continue to not be transparent despite agreeing to the Administrative Order of Consent, which requires them to be more forthcoming about operations at the Red Hill facility.
- The BWS Hālawā shaft will be shut down until fuel is removed from the tanks and may not reopen for years to come. This shaft was a source of water for South O'ahu from Hālawā to Maunāluā. The BWS has advised that mandatory water conservation measures will now need to be in place in the summer of 2022.
- The Navy "flushed" Red Hill contaminants for days in violation of Department of Health requirements despite repeated warnings. This risked long-lasting effects on birds, plants, fish, and other aquatic life from petroleum contamination

The Department of Health has agreed that the situation is inherently dangerous. DOH said that a water sample taken from the Red Hill drinking water shaft on December 5 confirmed the water is contaminated with "high levels" of petroleum and gasoline. The sample detected total petroleum hydrocarbons diesel range organics levels 350 times above the DOH Environmental Action Level (EAL) for drinking water, and gasoline range organics more than 66 times the DOH EAL.

The Red Hill facility – the fragile, antiquated fuel tanks and supporting systems – has a long history of leaking fuel into the surrounding environment and has already contaminated O'ahu's primary drinking water aquifer. Shutting down Red Hill immediately and entirely is the only way to guarantee the safety of our water and our people.

The Facility's tanks, each with a 12.5 million-gallon capacity, had a quarter-inch thick steel liner when first constructed nearly 80 years ago. They are encased in aging concrete and the steel liners have been corroding to the point where many through-wall holes have been found and in some areas they are one-third of their original thickness.

These tanks have leaked 180,000 gallons of fuel since they were constructed and the Navy's own risk assessment from 2018 concluded that the probability of an acute leak of between 1,000 and 30,000 gallons (independent of any earthquake risk) over the next ten years is 96%. The Navy cannot prove that the tank or tank system will not leak regulated substances into the environment.

Approximately 93,000 people living in military housing have been unable to use their water for over two months. If the Navy water system is further compromised, our housing crisis will mushroom.

Lower levels of petroleum products were also found in samples collected from the Aliamanu Child Development Center as well as homes located on the Navy's water system.

It's absolutely critical that the State Legislature take action immediately to address this major threat to Honolulu's water supply.

Please pass SB2600 SD2 HD1.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Frederick', written in a cursive style.

Anne Frederick
Executive Director



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

335 Hahani Street #342132 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htf3000@gmail.com

March 31, 2022

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Committee Members

SB 2600 SD2 HD1

RELATING TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

Hawaii's Thousand Friends, a statewide non-profit dedicated to ensuring that appropriate land and water planning and management decisions are made that protect the environment, human health and cultural and natural resources, supports SB 2600 SD2 HD1, which establishes 7/1/22 as the last day to issue permits and beginning January 1, 2023 prohibits operation of large capacity underground storage tank systems mauka of the underground injection control line.

For years organizations, the Board of Water Supply (BWS) and others have warned of contamination to O`ahu's drinking water aquifer and wells from the 78-year old Red Hill underground fuel storage tanks, which are only 100 feet above O`ahu's aquifer and in late 2021 our worst nightmare came true.

Human and cost impacts from fuel-contaminated drinking water have been enormous. In early December 2021 the Department of Health (DOH) advised 93,000 people and businesses on the Navy's water system to stop drinking the water forcing the Navy to provide bottled water to more than 4,000 families and provide alternate housing to more than 3,440 families.

The threat of contamination forced the BWS to close the Halawa shaft, which provides water to 450,000 people from Moanalua to Hawai'i Kai and to find new wells at a cost of \$100 million. This drinking water catastrophe so far has cost the DOH \$1.5 million.

Hawaii's Thousand Friends supports setting deadlines to stop permitting and operating large capacity underground storage tank systems and calls for the immediate decommissioning of the Red Hill underground fuel storage system to prevent future contamination of O`ahu's drinking water.

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 3:01:36 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. It is shameful that the Navy's (aka SNAFU) lack of care at Red Hill finally got government to act. Please pass this bill so we may be assured of uncontaminated water throughout the state and our aquifers will be protected.

Also, it must be amended to say effective upon approval, not almost 40 years from now. IMUA.

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:23:27 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the CPC Committee,

As a public health professional and concerned citizen, I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB2600 SD2 HD1** which would protect our islands' most precious resource from contamination.

Our water is precious and we all have a duty to protect our islands' source of life for present and future generations. We have already seen the devastating impacts that water contamination from leaky underground storage tanks may have on people and the environment, with additional effects likely to ripple across our island over the summer and into the foreseeable future. This is not only a health and environmental issue, but also an economic one when we consider the cost of amelioration of contaminated water sources, treatment for affected communities, and litigation from injured parties.

The legislature must do all that it can to remove the threat of something far worse happening to our water supply, both now and for future generations to come.

With gratitude, and respect,

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:57:09 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha,

i support this resolution.

mahalo,

kimeona

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:28:14 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kerstyn Afuso	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the CPC Committee,

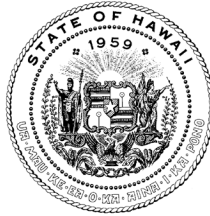
I fully support SB2600 SD2 HD1 because continuing to allow our precious water sources to be put at risk is foolish and selfish. Foolish because we have already seen what happens when an underground storage tank is damaged or worn down with Kapūkakī. Thousands of residents got sick, even babies that were not even a year old! They had to rely on bottled water, had to leave their homes, shuttling back and forth between the hotel and their houses. Unsure of whether our aquifer was permanently contaminated, it is foolish to allow this to be even be a question in the future.

It is selfish because allowing the permitting of underground storage tanks in the future, knowing what happened at Kapūkakī, would be knowingly putting our keiki's future at risk. Would you want your keiki drinking fuel-contaminated water? Would you want your keiki to have to brush their teeth with a water bottle? Do you want your keiki to be afraid to drink water from a faucet? SB2600 SD2 HD1 would ensure that our water is protected for the future keiki and their keiki who will rely on the clean water that O‘ahu has always supplied. As long as we malama our aina and learn from previous mistakes. E ola i ka wai!

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Kerstyn Afuso

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
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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

LATE

Before the House Committee on
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, March 31, 2022
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 329, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2600, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

Senate Bill 2600, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 proposes to: beginning 7/1/2022, prohibit issuance of permits for future large capacity underground storage tank systems mauka of the underground injection control line and beginning 1/1/2023, prohibits operation of, and renewal of permits for, large capacity underground storage tank systems located mauka of the underground injection control line, effective 7/1/2060. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department is concerned about the risks of large capacity underground storage tanks and their related plumbing leaking and contaminating potable drinking water aquifers. The Department and its Commission on Water Resource Management stands united alongside Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, the Hawai'i Department of Health, and the Honolulu Board of Water Supply calling on the Navy to immediately suspend operations at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility and fully comply with the Emergency Order to begin the process of planning and executing the safe removal of fuel that continues to pose a threat to O'ahu's drinking water.

Prohibiting the installation or continuance of large capacity underground storage tanks systems *mauka* of the underground injection control line would mitigate the risk of contaminating potable aquifers. While the underground injection control line is established to protect drinking water aquifers, the Department notes that there may be public trust protected uses like groundwater dependent ecosystems and/or traditional and customary practices that may be impacted should contamination from underground storage tanks occur *makai* of the UIC line.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:15:45 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neal Fujii	DLNR-CWRM	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am available to answer questions to DLNR. Please allow me Zoom access.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

March 31, 2022

2:00 PM

Conference Room 329

In SUPPORT of SB2600 SD2 HD1: Relating to Underground Storage Tanks

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee,

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB2600 SD2 HD1, which will help to ensure that our drinking water aquifers are protected from contamination from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility and similar massive underground storage tank systems.

The concept of “ola i ka wai” – that water is life – has been understood by the people of Hawai'i since time immemorial. Unfortunately, this concept has not been fully appreciated in historical decisions that have allowed for the installation of large underground storage tanks in close proximity to the groundwater aquifer that our environment and people have always depended upon. Tragically, due to these historic decisions, we have already witnessed the contamination of our islands' precious wai.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club supports this bill as a means to ensure that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past, in prohibiting the operation of massive underground fuel storage tanks and facilities that may pose an inherent risk to our water and our ways of life here in Hawai'i.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.



2022
Board of
Directors

March 30, 2022



Elizabeth Reilly
President

Hawaii House of Representatives
Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Meeting on March 31, 2022 at 2 p.m.
Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

Allen Tateishi
Vice President

Dianne Gleis
Secretary

RE: **Strong support for SB2600**

Marian Grey
Treasurer

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and CPC Committee Members,

Dean Takebayashi
Director

As you can glean from our name, Livable Hawaii Kai Hui is deeply concerned with the continuous threat posed by the Red Hill fuel tanks to our shared aquifer. This is why we **strongly support SB2600.**

Gary Weller
Director

It is of utmost importance that we pass this Bill as part of a series of measures at all levels of government to address the Red Hill water crisis and prevent others like it.

Kendrick Chang
Community Outreach
Coordinator

The events of the past few months – let alone the 70+ years since the first *documented* leak at Red Hill – have opened our eyes to the ever-clearer threat to our precious water resources.

Dylan Ramos
Communications &
Operations

What does it say about our situation when the poisoning of nearly 100,000 people's water isn't even close to the worst case scenario? Every second that we don't do anything brings us closer to certain catastrophic failure. This is not hyperbole, it is what the Navy's own studies have indicated. So, while we welcome the announcement that Red Hill will be shut down, we support measures such as this to see that process through to the end.

Website

www.hawaiikaihui.org
www.kaiwicoast.org

Thank you for hearing this Bill and passing it on for House approval. While it may not be a cure-all, this and other efforts on the County and Federal level will be critical for ensuring a livable future for all living things on this island, and hopefully set a worldwide precedent.

Like us on Facebook
Livable Hawaii Kai Hui
Aloha Aina O Kamilo Nui
Ka Iwi Coast

Mahalo,

Livable Hawaii Kai Hui is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community organization serving East Honolulu since 2004. We strive to promote sensible growth, respect for cultural & natural resources, and upholding the integrity of the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan.

Elizabeth Reilly
Founder/President

Dylan Ramos
Communications & Operations

LATE

SB-2600-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:01:45 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/31/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha CPC Chair, Vice Chair & Committee,

I support SB2600 SD2 HD1 but with ammendment.

HB1801 HD1 SD1 Energy Efficiency; State Facilities **SUPPORT with amendments**

HB1801 HD1 SD1 would implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures for state facilities. **This measure used to establish a goal to achieve at least 30% reduction in the electricity consumption of state facilities but that goal was removed with the SD1 amendment.**

We need to set and establish a goal to ensure efforts are made to achieve that goal.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? Energy efficiency is the most cost effective way to reduce carbon emissions associated with electricity generation and consumption. Maximizing efficiency and thereby reducing demand for power generation is a necessary component of reaching the State's clean energy and decarbonization goals.

LATE

March 30, 2022

Aloha kākou Committee On Consumer Protection And Commerce members,

My name is Bruce Lum, resident of Halawa, a native Hawaiian and great-grandfather to 7 great-grand children.

I am in full agreement and support of SB2600 SD2 HD1 and SB2172 SD2. Mahalo for allowing testimony today on SB2600 SD2 HD1 and to all the legislators who have worked diligently, and stood in coalition to protect our great 50th State's, collective aquifers, and in doing such, protecting the health and livelihoods of all Hawaii's people, and guests from now and into perpetuity.

Ola I ka wai, Water is Life, and protecting our pure water source is the number one kuleana of all Hawai'i's people.

Simply put, Ernest Lau, Honolulu Board of Water Supply Manager and Chief Engineer says, "The DOH Hearings Officer at the evidentiary hearing held in December 2021 stated, "the Red Hill Facility, as currently configured and operated, poses an imminent threat to human health and safety of the environment."

The navy's oversight and management of the Red Hill fuel facility has a long history of failures and fuel leaks and proves the navy cannot protect the water from the leaking fuel in its antiquated fuel storage system. This crisis is real and we know it. This crisis has not been resolved and we know it. The military's negligence to adequately maintain its decaying fuel farm positioned 100 feet above O'ahu's sole-source aquifer is a calamity that has happened several times, and recorded for more than 80 years.

In November 2021 The state ordered the U.S. Navy to halt operations at the Red Hill facility after a petroleum leak on Nov. 20 contaminated the military drinking water supply that serves some 93,000 military and civilian customers. This is the disaster that happened, and this is the disaster that all of the nation should recognize and be alarmed that the Red Hill fuel facility is now the greatest current threat to the security of Hawai'i, and all military installations drawing water from Oahu's aquifer system. Like Ernie Lau so elegantly suggests, Its the same aquifer and that means every well that supplies Oahu with drinking water is like individual straws drawing from one glass of water. Contamination at any well should be regarded a potential threat (over time) to every other well.

I leave you with this final thought: Health is fundamental to a state's and nation's security. All people need clean water to be healthy and productive. If people are unhealthy, they can't work. If they can't work, they can't contribute to the economy. If they can't contribute to the economy, the government can't provide services and infrastructure. If the government can't provide services and infrastructure, then states and nations are persistently vulnerable to security threats.

Please adopt SB2600 SD2 HD1 to secure the health security of Hawai'i and the United States of America.

'A'ohē hana nui ke alu 'ia.

No task is too big when done together by all.

Mahalo piha,

Bruce Lum