

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 CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3325, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

March 21, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Room 329 and Videoconference

RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3325, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, establishes the Hawai'i Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance Pilot Program (program) within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to promote carbon sequestration activities through incentives contracts that provide for compensation eligible practices by program participants; repeals the carbon offset program; appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 to the Department of Agriculture to establish 1.00 position to provide support for the program; and appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 to the DLNR to establish 1.00 position to provide support for the program.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriations in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
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

Before the House Committee on
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Monday, March 21, 2022
2:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 329, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3325, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES

Senate Bill 3325, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 proposes to establish the Hawaii Farmland and Forest Soil Health Carbon Smart Incentive Program (Program) to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through compensation for eligible practices and appropriate funds for positions and for administering the Program. The bill also proposes to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to 1) identify and prioritize selected soil health and carbon positive activities; 2) recommend compensation rates and contract terms for eligible phase I activities; 3) assist in estimating sequestration rates for carbon positive practices; 4) serve on the reviewing committee for project applications and reports; 5) research and develop the technical underpinning of compensation rates for phase II eligible practices; and 6) conduct community and landowner outreach activities. **The Department supports this bill and offers comments.**

The State of Hawaii's commitment to uphold the Paris Climate Accord and progressive move towards zero emissions clean economy by 2045 requires that we actively invest in reducing our emissions and mitigate greenhouse gases (primarily carbon dioxide - CO₂). Agriculture, Forests and other Land Uses (AFLOU) are currently the State's only carbon sink. Investing in carbon positive actions such as afforestation, reforestation, soil carbon sequestration, or local organic plant food production is one of the most effective ways to start mitigating our carbon footprint.

The Department recognizes that small land managers play a significant role in managing natural and working lands but often operate on small profit margins. Providing assistance to land managers will allow them to make changes on their lands to increase carbon sequestration and improve healthy soils to help the state meet food security and carbon emission goals. Additional

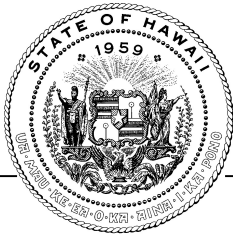
funding for the State’s watershed partnership program that provides landscape-level, cross-boundary forest protection and restoration is also essential to significantly accelerate carbon sequestration rates.

The Department proposes the measure be clarified to include funds to support carbon smart land management actions. The Department proposes the following changes be made to section 5 as follows:

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for:

- (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position to support soil health and carbon sequestration actions on state lands and provide technical and research assistance to the Hawaii carbon smart land management assistance pilot program established by this Act;~~and~~
- (2) Other technical assistance;~~and~~
- (3) Administration of the carbon smart land management assistance pilot program; and
- (4) Program funding for contracts to incentivize carbon sequestration activities that provide compensation for eligible practices by program participants.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS
Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Monday, March 21, 2022
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329
on
SB 3325, HD 1
RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES.

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce.

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports the intent** of SB 3325, HD1, which establishes the Hawai'i carbon smart land management assistance pilot program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentive contracts that provide for compensation for eligible practices by program participants and appropriates funds for positions and for administering the program.

For the past five years, OPSD has been researching, publishing materials, and working on carbon sequestration issues through the Carbon Farming Task Force (established 2017), now expanded to the permanent Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force (GHGSTF) (established in 2018). OPSD is pleased to note that SB 3325, HD1, implements the work of the Task Force.

The HD1 creates a carbon smart land management assistance pilot program modeled after a demonstration project created by the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force and implemented by the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center (better known as HARC). The proposed pilot program builds on the GHGSTF's findings and is a logical next step in incentivizing carbon sequestration practices in farming, ranching and forestry.

The HD1 also implements the recommendation of OPSD's report, "Feasibility and Implications of Establishing a Carbon Offset Program for the State of Hawaii" (December 2019). This report was conducted by OPSD as directed by Act 16 (2018). The feasibility study found that, "It is unlikely that the State of Hawaii would generate significant revenue through the production of offsets, and any trading of offset credits produced within Hawaii would be limited by the State's laudable Zero Emissions Clean Economy target." Thus, the proposed repeal of Chapter 225P-6 Carbon Offset Program carries out our recommendation to explore alternative mechanisms to address climate change.

As one of the State's two climate-related boards and commissions, the State's Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force is a 19-member permanent task force with many experts from the forestry, agricultural, land use, environmental, academic, and soil science communities committed to the task force's mission set by Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) §225P-4. The Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force has produced the following results:

1. The creation of a [“Healthy Soils Hawai'i” Pilot Project with the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center and the Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) (the original pilot program that the proposed program in SB 3325, HD1, is modeled after)
2. [The Desktop Analysis to Compare Pathways of Carbon Storage](#) (April 2020)
3. [Hawai'i Natural and Working Lands Baseline and Benchmarks](#) (Aug 2021)

The Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force looks forward to continuing the program of work laid out for it by the Legislature in Chapter 225P-4. We note that the Task Force has not received funding to support this work and we would appreciate an appropriation and one position to provide research assistance to the Task Force.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

JOSH GREEN
Lt. Governor



PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
COMMERCE**

**MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2022
2:00 P.M.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**SENATE BILL NO. 3325, SD2, HD1
RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES**

Chairperson Johanson and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 3325, HD1 that establishes within the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawaii Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance three-year pilot program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentives contracts that provide for compensation for eligible practices by program participants. The Department of Agriculture ("Department") offers comments and a recommendation.

The Department of Agriculture acknowledges that agricultural lands and agricultural operations may have a role in sequestering carbon. The pilot program outlined in this measure is meant to achieve additional sequestration by what appears to be voluntary participation of landowners and lessees of agricultural land to undertake certain practices in exchange for compensation that is based on the amount of carbon sequestered. Participation by landowners, lessees, and particularly agricultural operators will require unambiguous evidence that such participation makes economic sense.



The bill also appropriates funds to the Department for one permanent position that is dedicated to supporting program actions on eligible lands and provide technical and research assistance to the pilot program.

The Department of Agriculture is uncertain whether there is sufficient Hawaii-specific data and information that has been gathered and carefully vetted to allow the issuance of contracts with compensation rates that are fair and equitable for the crop and protein production practices comprising Hawaii agricultural operations. Further, the expectations of the proposed pilot program should reflect the limited resources available. Should this measure move forward, the Department suggests that an agency with strong statewide relationships and familiarity with greenhouse gas sequestration from a broad perspective be assigned as an overall coordinating agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony on this measure.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 21, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TESTIMONY ON SB 3325, SD2, HD1
RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES

Conference Room 329 & Videoconference
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committees:

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

The Hawai'i Farm Bureau supports with comments SB 3325, SD2, HD1, which establishes the Hawaii carbon smart land management assistance pilot program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentive contracts that provide compensation for eligible practices by program participants.

- Agricultural lands and operations already have a significant role in sequestering carbon. The proposed program hopes to promote additional sequestration through voluntary participation of landowners/lessees of agricultural land who would be compensated to undertake certain stipulated practices. It will be particularly important that these practices are science and evidence-based and that participation in the program makes agronomic and economic sense.
- The proposed program highlights the need for State agricultural leases to be transferred from the DLNR (where they are relatively short-term, and otherwise less supportive leases or revocable permits) to the DOA where appropriate lease terms allow long-term planning, investments, and participation in forward-thinking beneficial programs such as this one.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments and thank you for your continued support of Hawai'i's agricultural community.



To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Monday, March 21, 2022, 2pm

In support of SB3325 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 SB3325 SD2 HD1** that would establish the Hawaii carbon smart land management assistance pilot program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentive contracts that provide compensation for eligible practices by program participants, in addition to repealing the carbon offset program.

Establishing a carbon smart land management assistance pilot program will promote keeping forests and farmlands intact and sequester additional carbon on those lands. This program will incentivize actions that will improve soil health and sequester carbon. This would allow small farmers, ranchers, foresters, and landowners to be compensated for taking measures to help Hawaii reach its climate readiness goals.

Climate change has led to an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events which increases the risks to our already vulnerable food supply chain. Hawaii needs to reduce its contribution to climate change, increase local food production, improve soil health, and secure resilient water sources through watershed protection. Programs such as the Hawaii carbon smart land management assistance pilot program are an effective means to do that.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important legislation.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



House Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Monday, March 21st, 2022, 2:00p.m. Conference Room 329

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action Supports: SB3325 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 SB3325 SD2 HD1.

SB3325 SD2 HD1 establishes the Hawai'i farmland and forest soil health carbon smart incentive program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentive contracts that provide compensation for eligible practices by program participants.

HAPA supports SB3325 SD2 HD1 because we believe that it will help promote keeping forests and farmlands intact and support ways that land management can help with encouraging the sequestering of carbon.

This program will incentivize those actions that help to improve soil quality and those that help to sequester carbon and allow small farmers, ranchers, foresters, and landowners to be compensated for the valuable role they play in helping us reach our climate readiness goals.

Hawai'i needs to reduce its contribution to climate change, increase local food production, improve soil health, and secure resilient water sources through watershed protection. Programs such as the Hawai'i farmland and forest soil health carbon smart incentive program are a part of the solution to making this happen.

Please pass SB3325 SD2 HD1.

Mahalo for your consideration,

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

Anne Frederick

Executive Director

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy
Supporting SB 3325 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES.**

**Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
March 21, 2022, 2:00 pm
Conference Room 329 via Videoconference**

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

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) supports SB 3325 SD 2 HD1, Relating to Carbon Sequestration Incentives, which would establish the Hawai'i carbon smart land management assistance pilot program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentive contracts that provide compensation for eligible practices by program participants.

As a member of the US Climate Alliance Natural and Working Lands Hawai'i Research Team (Team), TNC appreciates the opportunity to testify on this bill. As you may know the Team worked closely with the US Climate Alliance and American Forests to design this program to address the needs of our natural and working land managers.

A Hawai'i carbon smart incentive program is vital to support our local producers and reach a carbon neutral clean economy by 2045. Agriculture, forests, and other land uses (AFOLU) are currently the State's only carbon sink. Actively investing in carbon positive actions such as restoring forests through tree planting, forest protection, and improved management, soil carbon sequestration, improved pasture management, and local organic plant food production are the most effective and efficient ways to mitigate our carbon footprint. Establishing this program will help small land managers employ healthy soil and carbon smart practices to sequester additional carbon on natural and working lands.

TNC also supports ensuring that the Department of Land and Natural Resources has funding and personnel to support the successful establishment of the carbon smart land management assistance pilot program.

Carbon smart practices will not only sequester carbon but improve soil health, protecting agriculture into the future; increase the amount of water that filters into our aquifers; reduce erosion, protecting our reefs from sedimentation and stress; and support our local producers and growers.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 3325 SD2 HD1.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i and Palmyra is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and work in over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties, and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and for the many benefits they provide to people.

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Founders: Samuel A. Cooke Herbert C. Cornuelle



**Testimony to
The Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

Tuesday, March 21, 2022

2:00 PM

VIA Video Conference

Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

SB 3325 SD2 HD1

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee,

Hawaii Gas **supports SB 3325 SD2 HD1**, which establishes the Hawaii farmland and forest soil health carbon smart incentive program to incentivize carbon sequestration activities through incentives contracts that provide for compensation for eligible practices by program participants and appropriates funds for positions and for administering the program.

Hawaii Gas is a national leader in the production and distribution of renewable gas in a gas utility system and has committed to support the state's march towards carbon neutrality by 2045. Despite representing less than 1% of the greenhouse gases emitted into Hawaii's atmosphere, we agree that it's everyone's responsibility to do everything we can to make sure Hawaii meets that milestone.

Carbon sequestration programs have shown great promise in other states around the country, and Hawaii offers a unique environment and unique species that make the state compatible with such programs. As we move towards 2045, it's important that Hawaii look to multiple avenues, fuel sources, and other opportunities to meet that goal. By incentivizing farmers in various projects — including the growth of biofuels and biogas — the state makes it possible to bring more renewable fuels options and thus meet our goal.

We urge the committees to pass SB 3325 SD2 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-3325-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 5:47:08 PM

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

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

Comments:

Repealing the carbon offset program eliminates the potential for Hawaii and landowners in the state to benefit financially from planting and protecting forests and other carbon capturing entities. I favor carbon offsets and oppose SB3325.

SB-3325-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 2:12:30 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

All of you Idiots do Know the all Plants live off of Carbon.!!

SB-3325-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 11:10:19 PM

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

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

Comments:

Dear CPC committee members,

Please support Bill SB3325 to establish carbon sequestration incentives for Hawaii forests and farmlands. Such a bill will help mitigate the effects of climate change by sequestering carbon in the ground. Hawaii needs to do its part to keep temperatures at livable levels, reduce air pollution and improve soil health. The resulting environment will benefit us all.

Carbon sequestration incentives fight climate change in a big way. This method uses farmlands and forested areas to capture carbon in trees and plants as well as in soil. Sequestered carbon is no longer harmful to the planet, the resulting soil and plants are healthier and sequestration can help secure resilient water sources. Hawaii farmers and forestry stewards will also benefit by receiving incentives for their carbon sequestering efforts. Farmers can take advantage of regenerative and organic farming techniques and increase their local food production.

Please pass SB3325 SD1 to pay for program administration and incentives paid to land caregivers. It will encourage farmers and foresters to put these healthy actions into practice. The benefits to Hawaii's people and the planet will outweigh the program costs.

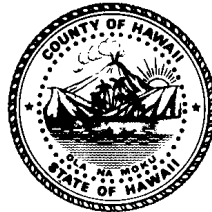
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii 96701

REBECCA VILLEGAS
Council Member
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267
FAX: (808) 323-4786
EMAIL: Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy. Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

LATE

March 21, 2022
TESTIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS
COUNCIL MEMBER, HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
ON SB 3325 SD2, RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
Monday, March 21, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Aloha Johanson and Members of the Committee:

My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawai'i County Council and Chair of the Hawai'i County Council Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management Committee.

I support SB3325 SD2 which establishes a farmland and forest soil health carbon smart incentive program that will promote keeping forests and farmlands intact and sequester additional carbon on those lands.

Climate change has led to an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events that serve to only complicate increased risks associated with the Hawaiian islands, Such extreme weather events can put greater stress on an already vulnerable food supply chain as well as water supplies. The potential for shortages highlights the need for greater food and water security, which can be achieved through increased local food production.

Hawaii needs to reduce its contribution to climate change, increase local food production, improve soil health, and secure resilient water sources. The passing of SB3325 SD2 will be a step in the right direction.

For the reasons stated above I urge the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce support this measure as well. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Villegas".

Rebecca Villegas
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council

LATE

SB-3325-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 10:38:48 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

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

Re: Hearing SB3325 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES.

Monday March 21, 2022, 2:00 p.m., CR 329 and by videoconference

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

Consumer Protection and Commerce!

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis and encouraging Hawai'i to lead the world towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The Climate Protectors Hawai'i **SUPPORTS SB3325 SD2 HD1** because it would help Hawai'i lead in mitigating the climate emergency.

As a tropical island State, Hawai'i will be among the first places harmed by the global climate crisis, with more intense storms, loss of protective coral reefs, food insecurity, and rising sea levels destroying our shorelines. We must do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and become carbon negative as soon as possible. **The latest science, including frightening feedback loop data, indicates that 2045 will be too late. Hawai'i must decarbonize in this decade in order to lead and help mitigate the climate emergency!**

In striving to become carbon negative, it will not be enough to limit greenhouse gas emissions; we must also draw carbon down from the atmosphere. **Substantial sequestration of carbon is needed as well as major greenhouse gas emission controls.**

The purpose of this Act is to establish a Hawai'i Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance Pilot Program for three years under DLNR **to promote keeping forests and farmlands intact and sequester additional carbon on those lands.** While the Climate Protectors Hawai'i note that the SD2 would establish a permanent program and had other positive features, we **support this HD1 bill because it could still lead to significant reductions in atmospheric carbon that is the major cause of the climate crisis.**

Please pass this important bill!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Energy & Climate Action Committee

Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 9:30 pm

LATE

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

SENATE BILL 3325 – RELATING TO CARBON SEQUESTRATION INCENTIVES

Position: Strong Support

Me ke Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

The Energy and Climate Action Committee joins our sister standing committee on Agriculture and Food Security in strong support of this thoughtful and far-reaching bill. Sequestration of atmospheric carbons is one of the planet's most pressing needs for the foreseeable future, and this bill will also benefit a prime priority for Hawaii communities – food security.

Soil depletion has been a deleterious by-product of commercial agriculture for a very long time, and soil health will benefit human health in multiple ways, including the production of more nutritious food for people and animals alike, and improving air quality with healthy microbes. Hawaii has every food-bearing biome in the world, rich native soils, and often multiple growing seasons in a relatively benign climate. Hawaii should be able to grow 100% of its essential foodstuffs, and its forests and rangelands could be doing our fair share of atmospheric greenhouse gas (GHG) sequestration. In addition, this program opens the door to ending food waste and sharply curtailing waste loads needing landfill or incineration – two more obsolete practices we need to resolve.

Our committee accepts assignment of this program to Land and Natural Resources and to Agriculture as logical agencies to manage this program, which will incorporate others in pursuing the mission.

We appreciate your full support of this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this matter.

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

SB 3325 SD 2 HD 1 TESTIMONY

To: House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Hearing on March 21, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

LATE

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.

Among other things, this bill incentivizes the planting of new forests to sequester carbon. Meanwhile, other bills are being considered by the Legislature that would cut down forests to generate electricity. Those bills should be avoided.

This bill mitigates climate change, and it will have beneficial impacts for generations to come.

SB-3325-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2022 10:27:05 PM

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



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsey Amos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is so urgent that we do what we can to put carbon in the ground. Please pass this bill.
#fixourfoodsystem