

# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

Thursday, April 21, 2022

1:30 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

SUPPORT  
**SCR 108, SD 1, HD1**  
**AFFIRMING HAWAII'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO THE GOALS OF THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT AND UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.**

Chair Nakashima and Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SCR 108, SD1, HD1 which affirm Hawai'i's ongoing commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and endorsement of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, called on UN Member States to take bold actions to give prompt and real effect to the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment described in resolution 48/13 passed by the Human Rights Council in February this year. In her plea, the High Commissioner described the triple planetary threats of climate change, pollution, and nature loss as the single greatest human rights challenge of our era<sup>1</sup>. The resolution also underlines that the most vulnerable segments of the population are more acutely impacted.

UN HRC Resolution 48/13<sup>2</sup> is in alignment with the Hawai'i State Constitution Article XI Section 9. It also aligns with Senate Concurrent Resolution 44 (2021), which declared a climate emergency and called for a just clean energy transition to a

<sup>1</sup> <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/10/1102582>

<sup>2</sup> <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G21/289/50/PDF/G2128950.pdf?OpenElement>

decarbonized economy, including action that is rooted in “the belief that people locally and around the world have the right to clean, healthy, and adequate air, water, and land, food, education, and shelter.”

The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty builds on the success of international campaigns to ban land mines and nuclear weapons by supporting a phase down of fossil fuel exploration and production consistent with a 1.5-degree Celsius global warming target in line with the Paris Agreement. In researching the Treaty, HSEO finds that the principles and actions it calls for are consistent with the above constitutional provision and concurrent resolution, as well as with Hawai'i's nation-leading laws to achieve a 100% renewable portfolio standard for electricity<sup>3</sup>, mitigate and adapt to climate change consistent with the Paris Agreement<sup>4</sup>, achieve net-negative greenhouse gas emissions<sup>5</sup>, and ending the use of coal in Hawai'i<sup>6</sup>.

Furthermore, HSEO believes that many of the actions the Treaty<sup>7</sup> calls endorses to undertake are already occurring in Hawai'i and consistent with state policies and activities, including:

- Publicly endorse the need for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty or use language explicitly acknowledging the need for global cooperation and new agreements and treaties on transitioning from fossil fuels: e.g., “Call for enhanced and focused international cooperation and agreements to transition from the production of fossil fuels in line with 1.5 degrees warming and enable a globally just transition.”
  - Hawai'i has already taken this action in form of language as used in the example.
- Join or convene with other governments as leading a club of countries focused on a globally just transition from fossil fuels, particularly on the elements requiring international action, cooperation, and support. This could be through existing

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<sup>3</sup> [Act 97, Session Laws of Hawai'i \(SLH\) 2015.](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Act 32, SLH 2017.](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Act 15, SLH 2018.](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Act 23, SLH 2020.](#)

<sup>7</sup> <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5dd3cc5b7fd99372fbb04561/t/6178bd5389fa492c37894a11/1635302740331/Briefing+%E2%80%93+C2%A0Fossil+Fuel+Non-Proliferation+Treaty.pdf>

groups such as BOGA, new ones, or groups within existing forums (e.g., UNFCCC or UNGA).

- Hawaii has already taken this action by participating in the UN Conference of Parties and by joining the Under2 Coalition, the Powering Past Coal Alliance, and the US Climate Alliance.
- Publicly endorse the need for a Global Registry of Fossil Fuels and support the idea that it should be hosted by an independent body such as UNEP.
  - While Hawaii has not taken this action, a related step that Hawaii has taken is the Legislature tasking HSEO with being a data clearinghouse that includes fossil fuels data.
- Include supply-side actions and plans for international cooperation on fossil fuel supply in submissions and proposals to the UNFCCC, including in their Nationally Determined Commitments.
  - Hawaii has already supported international supply side actions and plans for international cooperation through activities such as joining the Powering Past Coal Alliance.
- Offer to use the good offices of the government or head of state to host a Global Commission, or global report, on the issue of the non-proliferation of fossil fuels.
  - Hawaii has not undertaken this action but could host events to convene these discussions and further elevate Hawaii's leadership while simultaneously promoting renewable energy and tourism.
- Commit to the supply side policies listed above domestically, particularly a moratorium on new expansion.
  - Hawaii has already undertaken this action through its renewable portfolio standards and coal ban laws.

For these reasons, HSEO supports Hawaii joining the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

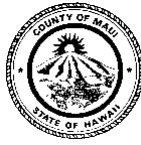
Thank you for supporting this resolution and for the opportunity to testify.

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Gabe Johnson  
Kelly Takaya King  
Michael J. Molina  
Tamara Paltin  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services  
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
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April 20, 2022

TO: Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

FROM: Kelly Takaya King, Maui County Councilmember

HEARING: April 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 108, SD1, HD1 AFFIRMING HAWAI'I'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO THE GOALS OF THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT, THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.**

Dear Honorable Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Committee Members,

As a member of the Maui County Council and the Chair of the Climate Action, Resilience and Environment Committee, a member of the Local Government Advisory Committee to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, a member of ICLEI, and as a recent delegate to COP26, I work on the county, state, national and international levels to combat climate change and to protect the environment. I am haunted by the dire threats facing our communities, environment, and planet and the need for increasingly drastic action to protect them.

I favor adopting SCR 108 SD1, HD1. It is unfortunate that it is necessary to further affirm Hawai'i's solidarity with the scientific community's consensus that human activities are the main driver of climate change, and that more progress has not been made to further the Paris Climate Agreement's goals and greenhouse gas reductions, etcetera. In 2019, the Maui County Council adopted

April 20, 2022  
Page 2

[Resolution 19-098](#), Joining the County Climate Coalition and Affirming the County of Maui's Commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement, and in 2020, the Maui County Council adopted [Resolution 20-64](#), Recognizing Earth Day's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Pledging to Continue Maui County's Efforts to Build Upon the Paris Climate Agreement. I wish Hawai'i and the world were further along in meeting the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement's goals, as the planet is now in "[code red for humanity](#)" according to the IPCC.

Once the resolution is passed, I hope to introduce a resolution to formally endorse the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-proliferation Treaty as resolved by SCR 108 SD1, HD1. I fully support the treaty's focus on non-proliferation, fair phase-out and just transition from fossil fuel production.

Hawai'i is famous for and uniquely dependent on our precious environmental beauty, and we should continue to be leaders in environmental protection. I urge you to recommend adoption of SCR 108 SD1, HD1.

Mahalo nui loa,



Kelly Takaya King, Maui County Council  
Chair, Climate Action, Resilience and Environment Committee

**SCR-108-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/20/2022 11:13:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joshua Cooper	Hawaii Institute for Human Rights	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I am honored to participate and present testimony in favor of Hawai‘i serving as a leader in the field of sustainable development, human rights and climate justice.

Hawai‘i first recognized the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recognizing the spiritual and familial relationship between humanity and our planet. Hawai‘i has continued to match the promises with policies and practices to Malama Honua. Hawai‘i recently was the first U.S. state to declare a climate emergency recognizing the fragility and fortitude of our islands. Hawai‘i is experiencing multiple impacts of the climate crisis and therefore taking necessary actions to change course and remove fossil fuels from our energy diet. With the daily news of impacts on island earth, we must accelerate actions for a fossil free future.

An endorsement of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is consistent with our previous commitment by Hawai‘i to the UN 2030 Agenda and the UNFCCC Paris Agreement. We look forward to continue partnering with fellow civil society and the state to guarantee the UN Sustainable Development Goals for the people of Hawai‘i and Moananuiakea.

Maluhia Me Ka Pono

Joshua Cooper



April 20, 2022

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee,

As part of the team behind the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, I want to offer thanks to those who have offered their own, their agency's, and their organization's support for the Resolution, SCR 108 SD1 HD1, as well as to Senator Rhoads and the Legislature for your leadership in supporting it.

The voice of Hawai'i is critical in the global effort for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative because of your leadership in calling for a just transition to clean energy as part of your Climate Emergency Declaration, because of your unwavering support for the Paris Climate Agreement and the United National Sustainable Development Goals, which the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty complements, because of Hawai'i's exceptional natural beauty and vulnerability to climate change, and because of your leaders' dedication to resilience and renewable energy in the face of mounting impacts from fossil fuels.

What the Hawai'i State Legislature says in support of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty will be heard around the world.

With appreciation to you and all those who have supported this Resolution.

Sincerely,

Anne Pernick

Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and SAFE Cities Community Manager

Stand.earth

**SCR-108-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/19/2022 1:36:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter Greenhill	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

**Date: 4/19/22**

**To: Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair, and Representative Scott Matayoshi, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA); Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair, and Representative Lisa Marten, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection (EEP)**

**From: Peter J. Greenhill**

**Re: SUPPORT for SCR108 SD1**

**Hearing: 4/21/22, Thursday, 9:00 am**

My name is Peter Greenhill, recently retired director (for 17 years) of the `Iolani Peace Institute, submitting testimony on SCR 108, specifically with regard to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Recent IPCC reports, UN speeches, and scientific announcements worldwide have made it very clear that planetary environmental problems are more critical than ever and that the biggest step humanity must take is to stop producing and consuming fossil fuels. The need to address them is even more immediate for Pacific islands. Endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty that urges us to end fossil fuel extraction, production, and usage would be totally consistent with steps that the state of Hawaii has already taken. Our state has already shown its understanding of the necessity to transition to clean energy, and the treaty is also consistent with our belief in malama aina and malama honua. Endorsing the treaty will send a strong message to our people and to other states in the country, and it will lead to additional concrete action to help alleviate both environmental problems and climate injustice. I strongly and ardently urge you to endorse the treaty or promote endorsement of the treaty and thus respectfully exhort you to pass this resolution. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Greenhill

Retired Director of the `Iolani Peace Institute

Concerned citizen



**SCR-108-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/19/2022 2:20:51 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Paris Climet agreement and the W H O are part of this Communist Goals to Distroy Civiliszation and steal our TAXE payer Moneys to fund this Bull Shit any one connected to this Should be charged with Crimes Against Humanity!!!

**SCR-108-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/19/2022 9:32:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/21/2022 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

Date: 4/20/22  
To: Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair  
Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice-Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA)  
From: Tyler Levine  
Re: **SUPPORT for SCR108 SD1 HD1**  
Hearing: **4/21/22, Thursday, 1:30 pm**

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**Aloha,**

**My name is Tyler Levine and I am a 17-year-old homeschool student currently residing on the island of Oahu.** Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SCR108 SD1 HD1**, which requests the State of Hawaii to formally endorse the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

I offer my voice today as a seed of the present with the potential to grow into a future tree. As a youth, it is quite scary to see the world that lies ahead of me. With escalating variability in climatic patterns, trade architecture, global pandemics, social relations and more, the dramatic disarray humanity is experiencing poses a threat to every dimension of life.

We youth are being placed in a world that is quite literally falling apart, with no means to correct the predicament. This is because the interests of fossil fuel industries and “business as usual” are not weighed against the people who do not have the right to vote.

To rewrite the history of our future, it is imperative that Hawaii as a state endorses the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to start a transition towards equitable green jobs and clean renewable energy.

In summary, I respectfully request that you please pass this resolution!!

Sincerely,  
Tyler Levine

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