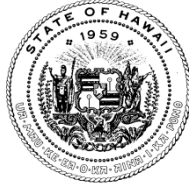


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 14, 2022
9:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325/Teleconference

S.C.R. 146, S.D. 1
REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK
FORCE ON GREEN TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

The Department of Transportation (DOT) provides **comments** on this measure that requests DOT Director to convene a task force on green transportation and public infrastructure.

The DOT supports green transportation and infrastructure, but disagrees that this task force is the most efficient and effective way to advance our state's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and greenhouse gases, to install tree canopies, and to beautify public infrastructure.

Over the past several years, in response to the threats posed by climate change to Hawaii, the DOT has developed a series of plans and policies designed to prepare our transportation systems for, protect and strengthen infrastructure against, and mitigate the impact of these effects. The most recent result of these efforts is the Highways Division Climate Adaptation Action Plan and the strategies to be implemented to incorporate resilience into its programs and policies. There are a number of resource documents found in the Climate Adaptation Action Plan that address the work assigned to this task force and several of these strategies are already being implemented.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

SCR-146-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:40:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 4/14/2022 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Climate Protectors Hawai'i **SUPPORTS** SCR146 SD1!

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i agrees that given the increasing threats from climate change, it is essential that future infrastructure development incorporates sustainable design concepts. Sustainable design concepts have numerous benefits, including decreased urban temperatures, reduced carbon emissions, improved air quality, and greater water replenishment. To ensure effective and efficient implementation of sustainable design concepts in the State, it is crucial to obtain information on the implementation of sustainable design concepts in other United States and international jurisdictions. This measure requests the Department of Transportation to conduct a study on green transportation and public infrastructure to promote effective and efficient implementation of sustainable design concepts in Hawaii.

Please pass SCR146 SD1!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



Written Testimony before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Thursday, April 14, 2022 (9:00 am)

SCR 146 SD1: REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE ON GREEN TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE.

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

Trees for Honolulu's Future (TFHF) is a non-profit organization with a vision for a tree-filled island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change. Full disclosure: Vice Chair Marten is a member of our 16-member board of directors.

We support the above-referenced resolution, which requests the Director of the State Department of Transportation (DOT) to convene a task force on best practices and successful efforts to green transportation and public infrastructure in jurisdictions outside of Hawaii to conduct and submit a study prior to the convening of session next year.

No surprise to any of the committee members, trees create multiple benefits well documented by research. Trees create shade and use evapotranspiration to lower temperature. Trees also recharge groundwater and decrease surface runoff protecting our reefs. Trees trap pollutants and store CO2. Trees calm traffic. They are critical infrastructure. Numerous jurisdictions have recognized this and are making tremendous progress in greening their cities while providing necessary infrastructure.

TFHF would be happy to serve as a resource for the DOT should this resolution pass, a task force is formed, and a study undertaken.

Former Vice President Al Gore said it best when he wrote in the September 20, 2019, New York Times: *"And so far, the best available technology for pulling carbon dioxide from the air is something called a tree."* We are running out of time to address climate change. Trees and green infrastructure will help.

We ask that this concurrent resolution be passed and sent on to the House Committee on Finance. Thank you for caring for and working toward a better future.

Mahalo,

Daniel Dinell, President

HONOLULU is HOT TREES are COOL

Visit us: www.TreesForHonolulu.org Contact us: info@TreesForHonolulu.org Voice/Fax/Text: 808-707-6353
P.O. Box 12051, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828