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GOVERNOR OF
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**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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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

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Thursday, April 14, 2022
9:00 AM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 325, Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 243
ENGAGING, ENDORSING, ACCEPTING, AND ADOPTING THE NEW YORK
DECLARATION ON FORESTS TO ACHIEVE THE UNITED NATIONS PARIS
AGREEMENT AND THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,
SPECIFICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15, LIFE ON LAND.**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 243 encourages the State to endorse, accept, and adopt the New York declaration on forests to achieve the United Nations Paris Agreement and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, specifically Sustainable Development Goal 15, Life On Land. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure as it complements ongoing Department initiatives.**

The New York Declaration on Forests aims to half the loss of natural forests by 2020 and strives to end it by 2030. Currently, the Department is working toward the 30×30 Watershed Initiative to protect 30% of Hawaii's priority watershed forests by the year 2030. The Department would require additional financial investment in order to achieve the goals of the New York Declaration on Forests including funding for additional forest health measures including early detection and rapid response to forest diseases such as rapid ohia death, watershed protection, invasive species control, and wildfire prevention, management, and mitigation.

Sustainable Development Goal 15 is core to the Department's terrestrial mission to ensure the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and cultural and historic resources, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SCR-243

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 7:30:32 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Laramee	DLNR	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

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

SCR-243

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:51:53 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 **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SCR243!

This resolution would provide that the Hawai'i Legislature endorses, accepts, and adopts the New York Declaration on Forests, urges federal leaders and the nation to embrace the goals of the New York Declaration of Forests and the 2030 Agenda, and make sustainable development the centerpiece of national social and sustainable policies.

The New York Declaration on Forests aims to half the loss of natural forests by 2020 and strives to end it by 2030. Sustainable Development Goal 15 is to ensure the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and cultural and historic resources, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors.

Hawaii's forests are particularly important to the State's sustainability goals and leadership in climate change adaptation. In addition to their importance to the State's sustainability goals and climate change adaptation, Hawaii's forests significantly improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Maintaining existing forests is vital to sequestering atmospheric carbon. The goals of the New York Declaration of Forests and the 2030 Agenda will help maintain existing forests. Please adopt this Senate Concurrent Resolution 243!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

SCR-243

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 9:02:17 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joshua L Cooper	Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights	Support	In Person

Comments:

It is important for our islands to be partners with fellow leaders around the planet.

The New York Declaration on Forests will be a powerful tool to protect our forests and also our wider environment.

Mahalo

Joshua Cooper