

SCR-244

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:17:39 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support SCR 244,

Mahalo,

SCR-244

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:31:48 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Poiani	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairs,

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Thank you for your considerations on bill SCR244,

I Oppose SCR244

While Joining the United Nations Climate Agreement seems like a pretty awesome idea, I do not think that Hawaii following an international agenda is best for Hawaii. Hawaii needs to row it's own canoe. Hawaii is an economically and ecologically unique place that has very specific qualities and needs. In my opinion this is not a good idea because it pulls in a greater agenda that will put economic strain on Hawaii in ways that will not be good for Hawaii. Hawai'i should be completely sustainable as we are energy resource rich and have the capacity to grow a bulk of our food needs, but these goals should be created for Hawaii and by Hawaii.

Thank you,

Dawn Poiani

SCR-244

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 12:26:25 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

SCR-244

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 6:47:19 PM

Testimony for AEN on 4/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Only Comunist are with this Paris acored. Hawaii should stat away from this. We should not be involved with any thing to do with the Comunist. This people are SICK!!



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

OFFICERS

DIRECTORS

MAILING ADDRESS

John Bickel, President
Alan Burdick, Vice President
Dave Nagajji, Treasurer
Doug Pyle, Secretary

Melodie Aduja
Keola Akana
Juliet Begley
Stephanie Fitzpatrick

Jan Lubin
John Miller
Jenny Nomura
Stephen O'Harrow

Bill South
Zahava Zaidoff

P.O. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawaii 96823

April 1, 2022

TO: Chairs Gabbard & Rhoads and Members of the AEN/JDC Committees

RE: SCR 244 ENGAGING, ENDORSING, ACCEPTING, AND ADOPTING THE AARHUS CONVENTION TO ACHIEVE THE UNITED NATIONS' PARIS AGREEMENT, 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

Support for hearing on April 4

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in the 1950s by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support this resolution as it would support international efforts to support sustainable development and human rights. Especially now in the midst of global health, environmental, and human rights crises, we need to pull the world together in the right direction. America needs to assert its moral leadership. Hawaii has often been a beacon for justice. Passing this means we are stepping up to point the way.

Finally we propose that a picture encapsulates much of what we see in this resolution.



Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President

SCR-244

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 11:11:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 4/4/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this important resolution.

Dear Chair, Vice Chair & Members of the Committee,

I'm Zhizi Xiong and I testify in strong support of the measure on behalf of my organization, CARES, Community And Relationship Exchange Services. We are a social service organization providing educational experiences to the community in Kalihi.

We should embrace international efforts to support & improve environmental protection & environmentally friendly & sustainable practices. I'd like to echo what was presented by the Americans for Democratic Action in their testimony. This resolution supports international efforts to support sustainable development & human rights. Especially now in the midst of global health, environmental & human rights crises, we need to pull the world together in the direction of environmental sustainability. America needs to assert its moral leadership. And Hawaii has often been a beacon for justice. So, let's work together to achieve collective local & international goals.

The Aarhus Convention (AC)

The Aarhus Convention establishes a number of rights of the public (individuals and their associations) with regard to the environment. The Parties to the Convention are required to make the necessary provisions so that public authorities (at national, regional or local level) will contribute to these rights to become effective. The Convention provides for the right of everyone to access the information, the right for public participation in the decision-making process. The AC also provides for the right to review procedures to challenge public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general ("access to justice").

The Paris Agreement (PA)

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It's goal is to limit globally warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to that of pre-industrial levels. The Paris Agreement is a landmark in the multilateral climate change process because, for the first time, a binding agreement brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects. The Paris Agreement provides a framework for financial, technical and capacity building support to those countries who need it.

The Paris Agreement reaffirms that developed countries should take the lead in providing financial assistance to countries that are less endowed and more vulnerable, while for the first time also encouraging voluntary contributions by other Parties. Climate finance is needed for mitigation, because large-scale investments are required to significantly reduce emissions. Climate finance is equally important for adaptation, as significant financial resources are needed to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of a changing climate.

The Paris Agreement speaks of the vision of fully realizing technology development and transfer for both improving resilience to climate change and reducing GHG emissions. It establishes a technology framework to provide overarching guidance to the well-functioning Technology

Mechanism. The mechanism is accelerating technology development and transfer through its policy and implementation arms.

Not all developing countries have sufficient capacities to deal with many of the challenges brought by climate change. As a result, the Paris Agreement places great emphasis on climate-related capacity-building for developing countries and requests all developed countries to enhance support for capacity-building actions in developing countries.

With the Paris Agreement, countries established an enhanced transparency framework (ETF). Under ETF, starting in 2024, countries will report transparently on actions taken and progress in climate change mitigation, adaptation measures and support provided or received. It also provides for international procedures for the review of the submitted reports.

The information gathered through the ETF will feed into the Global stocktake which will assess the collective progress towards the long-term climate goals. This will lead to recommendations for countries to set more ambitious plans in the next round.

Although climate change action needs to be massively increased to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, the years since its entry into force have already sparked low-carbon solutions and new markets. More and more countries, regions, cities and companies are establishing carbon neutrality targets. Zero-carbon solutions are becoming competitive across economic sectors representing 25% of emissions. This trend is most noticeable in the power and transport sectors and has created many new business opportunities for early movers. By 2030, zero-carbon solutions could be competitive in sectors representing over 70% of global emissions.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

According to data found on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the climate objective is to achieve the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the climate system

The Kyoto Protocol, which was signed in 1997 and ran from 2005 to 2020, was the first implementation of measures under the UNFCCC. The Kyoto Protocol was superseded by the Paris Agreement, which entered into force in 2016. By 2020 the UNFCCC had 197 states parties. Its supreme decision-making body, the Conference of the Parties (COP), meets annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The EPA is an independent executive agency of the US federal government tasked with environmental protection matters.

EPA's international priorities include management & mitigation of pollution which does not respect national boundaries. Environmental challenges such as the climate crisis cannot be

successfully addressed by the US alone. Building on EPA's long history of international collaboration, the EPA will lead on international environmental priorities.

If at the federal level, we are seeing efforts being made in regards to international collaboration on environmental policies, it can be concluded that this resolution is viable and necessary to further advance local & global efforts for environmentally friendly & sustainable policies & practices.

HB 2256

This measure was introduced to highlight the need for an executive level department for environmental protection.

The legislature further finds that because the ongoing climate crisis is one of the overarching issues of modern times, the protection of the State's environment and natural resources is more critical than ever. Although almost all issues are multi-jurisdictional, the legislature believes that creating an executive-level department to unite this important work under one administrative umbrella will lead to greater efficiency in addressing Hawaii's environmental issues in a timely and proactive fashion.

Conclusion

Environmentally aware policies & practices as proposed in the measure are so critical to moving forward with global & local environmental sustainability goals. It could be advised to the legislature to consider the measure HB 2256 and the efforts of the EPA in conversations in regards to developing environmentally sustainable practices. These key environmental protection entities & policies (i.e. The Aarhus Convention, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, The Paris Agreement, HB 2256, and the EPA) all highlight the necessity to move forward towards an environmentally friendly future. It is in the best interest of the people, the state, the environment and our future generations to move towards educating, drafting, implementing, adopting environmentally aware policies at a global & local level.

Thank you for the chance to testify.

Blessings,
Zhizi Xiong