

**HCR-117**

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 9:11:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 4/18/2023 9:45:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandon Madix	Testifying for Palehua Townhouse Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our association strongly support HRC117. Please pass this concurrent resolution.

Mike Golojuch, Sr. , President

Palehua Townhouse Association



To: The Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM)  
and  
The Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism (EET)  
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org  
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 9:45am

**In strong support of HCR117**

Aloha Chairs Wakai and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Elefante and Wakai, and Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in **strong support of HCR117** which urges the counties to include townhomes in the residential permitting process for the installation of solar panels. To further support the State's clean energy goal as stated in this resolution, we respectfully recommend amending the resolution to clarify the inclusion of energy storage and solar hot water systems.

With the highest electrical rates in the country and the impacts of climate change already being felt, we need to move forward on smart solutions that will help to stimulate our economy and make us more resilient. The current system for processing permits is untenable and a detriment to Hawaii achieving our clean energy goals. In fact, many Oahu solar companies have stopped taking on townhouse clients due to the long wait for building permit approval from the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting.

Rooftop solar power reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and as such, is a key tool in our fight against the climate crisis. We must remove the unnecessary roadblocks and burdens to installing solar systems so that all may access the benefits from solar energy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important resolution.

Sherry Pollack  
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

**HCR-117**

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:01:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 4/18/2023 9:45:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
William K. Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this measure. I currently am an owner occupant of a town home and I am not able to install solar due to restrictions. Mahalo for allowing this bill to be heard.

Bill Chang

Testimony: Bill HCR 117

From: Alani White, Hawai'i Pacific University

Date: Thursday, April 18, 2023, 9:45am

In strong support of HCR117

Aloha, I am Alani White, a student at Hawaii Pacific University and I am in strong support of HCR117 which urges the counties to include townhomes in the residential permitting process for the installation of solar panels. Solar Panel are becoming the next step in renewable energy. There are lots of benefits and reasons as to why solar energy is being used, such as being the most versatile form of alternative energy, the environmental benefits, increased property value, and it is a low maintenance energy source. Single homes after the luxury of having the option to have solar panels on their homes. Townhomes should offer the same option in order to lower electricity consumption on the island even further while also environmentally benefitting this beautiful island by not using so much energy. Solar is a renewable source of clean energy that can help reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions, lowering your environmental impact. Unlike traditional fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas, solar energy doesn't directly release pollutants that cause climate change (like carbon dioxide) into the atmosphere and water supply. Considering it is a low maintenance energy source, there would be less need for maintenance as regularly as needed for regular electrical. Once your panels are installed, they require very little maintenance compared to other forms of energy production. With no moving parts, your panels might only need an occasional cleaning after snow or inclement weather. It is the most versatile form of alternative energy because

unlike other types of alternative energy like wind, which need wide open spaces with ample wind changes and large water sources for hydroelectric power, solar is a source of energy that can be implemented in almost every environment. While output is lower on cloudy days or in climates without as much regular sun exposure, solar panels are almost always a great investment. Adding solar panels to properties can increase the value. Recent studies indicate that installing a solar system can increase your home's value by about four percent. Hawaii is considered top ten of the greenest states in the country. If we were to allow solar panels on townhomes in this beautiful state, it would help raise the renewable energy that is used here and lowering the consumption rates and make our state even greener. Renewable energy is becoming increasingly popular and higher demand for it. This should be an option to all, including townhomes. By giving that option to be built on townhomes, we can lower consumption rates, cut maintenance, and power bills, increase property value, and benefit the environment and the state that many are so lucky to call home. This will help the community and will stop preventing the clean Hawaii initiatives. Mahalo for allowing me to testify in support of HCR117 and this resolution.