



# Citizens' Climate Lobby | Youth

## Support of HCR124

Date: Mar. 21, 2023  
To: EEP  
From: Citizens' Climate Lobby, Hawai'i Youth Action Team  
Re: **STRONG SUPPORT for HCR124**  
Hearing: Mar. 23, 2023, 9:30AM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee,

The Youth Action Team of the Hawai'i Citizens' Climate Lobby, representing a large delegation of passionate high school students, **strongly supports** House Concurrent Resolution No. 124 and House Resolution No. 125 pertaining to a National Carbon Fee and Dividend Program.

HCR124 and HR125 urge the federal government to tax fossil fuel corporations and compensate consumers, better enabling the US transition to renewable sources of energy, through an equitable, progressive, and cost effective system. This resolution is especially crucial in the eyes of the youth—the next generation whose present and future depend on national action that takes not only one step in the right direction, but carves a fully sustainable path to a livable future.

For the youth of Hawai'i, the climate crisis has found its way into nearly every aspect of our lives: the news, the classroom, and the conversations with friends and family. Along the shores of Oahu, invasive algae and foggy water are ailing our beautiful beaches. Throughout the Ala Wai, rising temperatures are turning canals into harmful bacterial incubators, fostering deadly, flesh-eating bacterial blooms that seep into nearby waters. Everyday, we see erosion eating away at the foundation of homes and our childhood beaches. We watch as coral bleaching destroys native environments and puts indigenous species at risk. With each consequence comes another lost experience, another disconnect from our past generations. With each sign of inaction, our future grows even more uncertain.

Amidst these intensifying consequences, the need to address the unsustainable social costs of our current system becomes abundantly clear. **It is due time for action.**

HCR124 is *the* opportunity to correct this market failure and remedy our neglected system, while ensuring the protection and equity of households in the US, even financially benefiting the

majority of households. Furthermore, by making clean energy a more affordable alternative, it drives sustainable innovation and strengthens an abundance of other environmental goals. Because of this, HCR124 is the most cost-effective climate policy to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. We know that much of the drivers of climate change are fundamentally economic; in turn, HCR124 will be its economic panacea.

On December 3rd, 2022, the Climate Future Forum at the Hawai'i State Capitol brought together 80 youth, educators, policymakers and nonprofits to evaluate and discuss our legislative climate priorities. Carbon Fee and Dividend was one of the most widely supported policies at the event.

We must act now to save our future. Please pass HCR124—this will be how we set an example for the rest of the world.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Citizens' Climate Lobby, Hawai'i Youth Action Team

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:17:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Cox	Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha EEP Chair and Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of Kauai Climate Action Coalition(KCAC), a group of approximately 150 Kauai residents committed to addressing the climate crisis the world faces through education, policy change, and direct action. KCAC strongly supports HCR124/HR125. The signs and impacts from climate change already surround us here in Hawaii and in the nation and world. The need to take significant action **now** to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We have no time to delay.

A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households. Thus it is not only effective but just.

The story in Hawaii Island papers today - “World on ‘thin ice’ as UN climate report gives stark warning” - is another urgent call to action from the IPCC. Hawaii is doing many things locally to reduce emissions and now is our opportunity to send a strong message to the President and Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation. It will strengthen the bills which have already passed this year to tackle climate change. Pricing emissions reflects the societal costs of burning fossil fuels and giving the revenue back to Americans protects them during the transition to cleaner technologies.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses. Please pass resolutions HCR124/HR125 and send an important message from Hawaii on behalf of our keiki, future generations and our livable earth. Mahalo.

Helen Cox, Chair

Kauai Climate Action Coalition



**Citizens'  
Climate  
Lobby  
Hawaii**



hi.ccl.lobby@gmail.com  
cclhawaii.org

March 21, 2023

Re: Testimony in **strong support** of HCR124 / HR125

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee:

I'm writing on behalf of Citizens' Climate Lobby – Hawaii, to ask for your support for **HCR 124** and its companion **HR 125** that: Urges the United States Congress to adopt national carbon fee and dividend legislation.

**Citizens' Climate Lobby - Hawaii** comprises over 960 members in four chapters; Hawaii Island, Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui. We advocate for effective, fair, and fast acting climate legislation. The four Hawaii Chapters are united under our national CCL organization, which is non-profit, non-partisan and dedicated to *building the political will for climate solutions and a livable world*. Our primary focus is on national legislation to put a price on carbon pollution caused primarily by the burning of fossil fuels and return the revenues to US citizens so as to protect low- and moderate-income households.

The warning signs of an increasingly unstable climate are unmistakable. Our human causation of this crisis is unequivocal. Our slowness to accept the scientific consensus and take bold policy action is our collective disgrace. As Greta says we have lots of Blah, Blah, Blah!

Does it occur to most of Hawaii's people that the Mauna Loa Atmospheric Observatory has provided the world with gold-standard data (the Keeling Curve) on the precise concentrations of greenhouse gases in our global atmosphere?

For many, the daily struggle for economic survival rightly obscures the slow moving climate catastrophe that is upon us. Our political leaders must take bold action or be held accountable. By itself, Hawaii's emissions are vanishingly small compared to the annual global GHG emissions. Yet, Hawaii has worldwide recognition and influence even beyond the Keeling Curve. We can positively influence U.S. Federal action and, by extension, global actions.

When the history of the Hawaii State Legislature is written, for this critical decade of the 2020's, will the titles read "Profiles in Courage" or "Broken Trust"? Legislators, individually and collectively, you will answer this question.

Please act with courage and conviction. Support HCR 124 / HR125.

Respectfully, Ron Reilly

CCL – Hawaii, Co-State Coordinator  
Volcano Village, HI 96785  
(808) 895-4535  
**CCL Hawaii State Coordinator**

**Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change solutions. CCL Hawaii's 900+ members are part of a 180,000+ global organization. For more information, visit [citizensclimatelobby.org](https://citizensclimatelobby.org).



Aloha Chair Nicole Lowen, Vice-Chair Elle Cochran, Rep. Amy Perruso, Rep. Justin Woodson, Rep. Cedric Gates, Rep Kirstin Kahaloha, and Rep. Gene Ward,

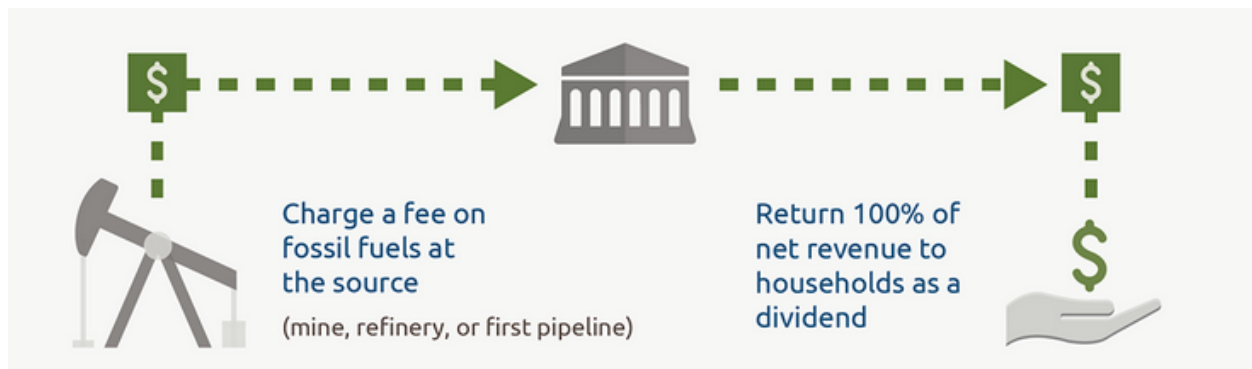
### The Carbon Cashback Task Force urges you to support HCR124 and HR125

The Carbon Cashback Task Force is a task force of Hawaii Environmental Change Agents that is formed of dozens of dedicated volunteers who have spent countless hours for several years, striving to pass state carbon cashback legislation, for the environment, and for the financial well being of low to moderate income individuals.

HCR124/HR125 supports national carbon fee and dividend legislation, which will have many of the same benefits that the local legislation, “Carbon Cashback”, would have provided.

It will reduce carbon emissions while benefiting low- and middle-income households. It would assess a fee on fossil fuel companies and return the revenues to individuals. Many studies have found this to be the most cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; at the same time, it would provide cash benefits directly to families most affected by rising inflation and climate impacts.

This carbon-pricing strategy has proven successful in British Columbia, Sweden, Singapore, and other jurisdictions.



“In terms of policy carbon pricing is definitely the most significant single policy that there could be if it’s tax and dividend it’s even better because basically you’re rewarded for taking less and doing more if you will for the environment in terms of the energy use.” — Paul Hawken

Thanks for supporting this resolution.

Carbon Cashback Task Force.

Carbon Cashback Task Force  
[hawaiicarboncashback@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiicarboncashback@gmail.com)

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 7:08:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Toby S Hazel	CCL	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Tax the carbon mess stop climate change

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 12:52:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Molly Whiteley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A carbon fee and dividend ("carbon cashback") is the essential component to accelerate reduction of carbon emissions in order to save our planet and human health/survival. All other efforts will fail, without charging fossil fuel industries a price on carbon, while returning revenues to citizens.

Please sign on to HCR124.

Mahalo!

M. Whiteley

Kihei



**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:10:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of resolutions HCR124/HR125.

The story in Hawaii Island papers today - “The world is on ‘thin ice’ as UN climate report gives stark warning - is another urgent call to action from the IPCC. Hawaii is doing many things locally to reduce emissions and now is our opportunity to send a strong message to the President and Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation. It will add strength to the bills which have already passed this year to tackle climate change. Pricing emission reflects the societal costs of burning fossil fuels and giving the revenue back to Americans protects them during the transition to cleaner technologies.

I urge you to pass resolutions HCR124/HR125.

Virginia Tincher, Oahu

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:35:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support.

Thank you.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:49:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Best	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Long overdue to have a national fee on carbon with equitable dividend to move our country to renewables while lowering emissions. Carbon fee & dividend is ready to implement, vital to pass.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:51:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audrey Lin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee:

My name is Audrey Lin, and I am a sophomore at `Iolani School, in Honolulu, Hawai`i. **I write in strong support of HCR124.**

As a high school student myself, I view climate change as the greatest threat to humanity today. The passage of HCR124 would urge the U.S. Congress to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation, which will all work revenue-neutrally. If the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. Furthermore, this policy will protect the nation’s most vulnerable households, while still reducing emissions.

In Hawai`i, the effects of climate change are omnipresent from increased sea levels to severe weather. We must act now to save our future. If not, the situation will only worsen.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the bill.

Sincerely,

Audrey Lin

`Iolani School, Class of 2025

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:52:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Graham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee,

**I strongly support HCR124/HR125**, which would urge the U.S. Congress to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation.

Putting a fee on carbon is an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and returning the proceeds back to the American people as dividends would make the transition to a carbon-free economy both painless and equitable.

I urge you to pass HCR124/HR125.

Thank you,

Thomas Graham, Honolulu

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:57:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christine Daleiden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR124/HR125.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:58:27 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HCR124/HR125. Carbon Cashback can work at the state or national level, but ultimately, a national policy is ideal. This is because the national government can establish a “carbon border adjustment mechanism,” which is basically a tariff on imports of fossil fuel products. It serves to keep U.S. industries internationally competitive and to motivate our trading partners to reduce their carbon footprints. A win-win proposition! Please support HCR124/HR125!

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 3:04:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chase Graham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I strongly support HCR124/HR125 because as the UN has recently warned: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.



**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 3:39:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lorn Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR124/HR125 because as the UN has recently warned: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

Lorn Douglas

Puna, Big Island

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 3:48:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Striong support of HCR 124 AND HR 125

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 3:49:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sophie Pager	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee,

My name is Sophie and I am a high school student in Honolulu. I strongly support HCR124/HR125 because as the UN has recently warned, “the world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

As a youth in Hawaii, it is important to me that this beautiful state and our beautiful planet stay healthy for generations to come. Please join me in supporting policy.

Thank you,

Sophie Pager

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 4:56:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elena Arinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in strong support of this resolution.

Thank you,

Elena

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:17:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **strongly oppose** this carbon tax Resolution.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:47:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chris Brosius	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imparative that we further support this proposal. Carbon cash back can work. Please urge congress to act!

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:50:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Logan Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and Members of the EEP Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to consider this resolution today. My name is Logan and I am a high school student from the island of Oahu. I strongly support HCR124/HR125 because it will reduce carbon emissions, protect vulnerable households, and does not require government funding. Bills and resolutions addressing climate change have always caught my attention; however, this resolution is especially important to me because of its goal: reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Carbon emissions are the root of the problem affecting everyone on the globe today. In Hawaii, these effects are especially present—in our weather, in our oceans, all throughout our daily lives. Though I have only lived here for the 15 years of my life so far, some of which I cannot even remember, I notice the changes around our island. My life and culture are tied to this state and especially the uniqueness of our islands.

Unlike some places on the Mainland, our islands are not yet spoiled with pollution and effects of human choices. Many of our beaches, mountains, and nature still stand pristine and preserved. Not only does our state depend on these places for our economy, but they are a large part of our identities as Hawaiian citizens. We stand proudly beside our land and say, “This is our āina and we have taken care of it.” However, our use of fossil fuels has directly contradicted this effort. Every day longer we wait to implement legislation to prevent more greenhouse gases entering our atmosphere is another push we will need to make in the future and another puff of carbon emissions we cannot take back. Cutting the problem at the bud right now can help mitigate the effects in the future. Perhaps our future is already bleak, but passing this bill will brighten it. Please be the sun in the clouds that the citizens of Hawaii and the world need you to be.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 7:13:44 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and Members of the EEP Committee:

I strongly support this resolution because as the UN’s recent warning: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the US imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

Respectfully,

Chloe, Honolulu



**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 7:34:05 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Conner Higashino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR124. We know the impact climate change is having on the planet. We see the consequences day after day. We need to take significant actions now to avoid the worst of it. HCR124 is a small but important step towards that goal. As a historical leader in greenhouse gas emissions, it's imperative that we also be a leader in mitigating the damages that our country is responsible for. A carbon tax is an effective way of incentivizing decarbonization across all sectors. Additionally, being a progressive tax, it would benefit those in underserved neighborhoods which are often disproportionately impacted by the effects of climate change, and more immediately, air pollution.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 7:44:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cris Lindborg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stonlngly support carbon fee and cashback legislation

## **Position: Strong Support for HCR124/HR125**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee:

Mahalo for hearing Resolutions HCR124 and HR125. I **strongly support** these resolutions because as the UN's recent warning: "The world is on thin ice." The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the US imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

Carbon cashback has been proven successful in a number of jurisdictions ranging from British Columbia to Singapore to Sweden to the UK to Australia. The policy has the support of over 3,600 economists including twenty-eight Nobel Laureates and fifteen former chairs of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Less well known is this policy has a very broad and diverse set of supporters:

The premier carbon fee and dividend bill introduced in the last Congress, the [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#), had more than 90 Democratic co-sponsors, including at least **42 members of the Progressive Caucus, 14 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, 13 members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and 29 members of the Congressional Asian American Caucus**. Those members realized that the causes of [economic and environmental justice are best served](#) by a powerfully effective climate policy (carbon pricing) combined with a progressive allocation of revenue (carbon dividend or cashback).

**Senator Bernie Sanders** wasn't speaking for oil companies when he [declared](#), "A carbon tax must be a central part of our strategy for dramatically reducing carbon pollution . . . a carbon tax is the most straight-forward and efficient strategy for quickly reducing greenhouse gas emissions." Nor were **two Jacobin magazine writers** when they published an essay, "[Why Socialists Should Back a Carbon Tax](#)." Nor was the [CEO of the sustainability advocacy group CERES](#) when she backed carbon pricing. Nor was the [California Environmental Justice Advisory Committee](#) when it supported a carbon fee.

The renowned climate scientist [James Hansen](#) says it would be "**the most effective and direct underlying force for a global climate solution.**" The **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine** issued a major report in 2021 on [Accelerating Decarbonization of the U.S. Energy System](#) which declared, "**The advantages of an economy-wide price on carbon are that it would unlock innovation in every corner**

**of the energy economy, send appropriate signals to myriad public and private decision-makers, and encourage a cost-effective route to net zero.”**

The **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change**, representing the best experts from around the globe, [reported last year](#), “There are several advantages for environmental taxation including environmental effectiveness, economic efficiency, the ability to raise public revenue, and transparency (very high confidence). These gains can provide more resource-efficient production technologies and positively affect economic competitiveness. . . **Pricing of greenhouse gases, including carbon, is a crucial tool in any cost-effective climate change mitigation strategy, as it provides a mechanism for linking climate action to economic development.**”

The **Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change**, representing some of the world’s leading public health authorities, [declared in 2015](#): “**The single most powerful strategic instrument to inoculate human health against the risks of climate change would be for governments to introduce strong and sustained carbon pricing, in ways pledged to strengthen over time until the problem is brought under control.** Like tobacco taxation, it would send powerful signals throughout the system, to producers and users, that the time has come to wean our economies off fossil fuels, starting with the most carbon intensive and damaging like coal.”

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

As a parent, I would like to leave for my children a better, more livable planet. I see carbon pricing with the returning of revenues to residents as the most efficient, effective, and equitable path forward for a cleaner Hawaii and planet while also protecting the most vulnerable among us.

Please pass HCR124 and HR125 out of your committee.

Mahalo nui loa,

Paul Bernstein, PhD

Co-author of the two UHERO studies on Carbon Pricing in Hawaii

- [https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/HawaiiCarbonPricingStudy\\_Final\\_Apr2021.pdf](https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/HawaiiCarbonPricingStudy_Final_Apr2021.pdf)
- [https://files.hawaii.gov/tax/stats/trc/docs2022/Appendix\\_A.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/tax/stats/trc/docs2022/Appendix_A.pdf)

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:12:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee:

I live in Hilo and I vote. I strongly support HCR124/HR125 because as the UN has recently warned: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

This policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses. Thank you.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:13:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
rachel bernstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and Members of the EEP Committee:

**I strongly support this resolution** because as the UN’s recent warning: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the US imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

Respectfully,

Rachel Bernstein

5265 Lawelawe Place

Honolulu, HI 96821

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:39:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jaymen Laupola	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of resolutions HCR124/HR125.

The story in Hawaii Island papers today - “World on ‘thin ice’ as UN climate report gives stark warning” - is another urgent call to action from the IPCC. Hawaii is doing many things locally to reduce emissions and now is our opportunity to send a strong message to the President and Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation. It will add strength to the bills which have already passed this year to tackle climate change. Pricing emissions reflects the societal costs of burning fossil fuels and giving the revenue back to Americans protects them during the transition to cleaner technologies.

I urge you to pass resolutions HCR124/HR125.

Thank you,

Jaymen Laupola, Honolulu

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 7:38:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roberta Baker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of resolutions HCR124/HR125. Hawaii is doing many things locally to reduce emissions and now is our opportunity to send a strong message to the President and Congress to enact carbon fee and dividend legislation.

Pricing emissions reflects the societal costs of burning fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans protects them during the transition to cleaner technologies.

Some of your constituents may believe in disinformation, deceit and despair mongering. This is unhelpful in tackling the climate crisis.

You can do something about climate change... more than many of your constituents. You have the power to support HR124/HR125. That's why we elected you.

I urge you to pass resolutions HCR124/HR125.

Respectfully,

Roberta Baker  
Hilo



March 22, 2023

## **STRONG SUPPORT FOR HCR124/HR125 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION**

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and EEP Committee members,

I'm testifying in strong support of HCR124 and HR125, which URGES THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION

**Carbon pricing** is an essential strategy in our climate change mitigation efforts. It is endorsed by thousands of economists, religious leaders, business groups, and government leaders. [1] Globally, over 40 governments have introduced carbon pricing [2], and we've observed decades-long impacts in some of them. [3] Countries like Canada and the EU bloc countries have meaningful carbon pricing. They have discussed the introduction of Carbon Border Adjustments to protect local economies from products imported from countries without carbon pricing.

Studies [4] have illustrated the efficacy of carbon pricing in reducing emissions. **When coupled with a dividend – carbon tax revenue returned to households – the policy is progressive and just.** It does not increase the cost of government, and benefits are distributed equitably to households.

There have been a few attempts at a national Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. They have proposed a gradually increasing price on carbon (starting low and escalating annually to an eventually meaningful price). This policy would allow consumers and businesses to adapt to the expected annual increases in goods and services that are fossil intensive.

Carbon Fee and Dividend will allow the U.S. to include the true social costs of carbon emissions into fossil fuels. This will trigger economy-wide changes in consumer and business behaviors that favor efficiency and clean and renewable solutions.

Climate change requires solutions on multiple fronts – emissions reduction, legacy carbon drawdown, and adaptation. A Carbon Fee and Dividend policy will contribute to an effective and socially just means to address emissions reductions. Importantly, it will complement most other policies that have been or must be enacted.

**Please support HCR124 and HR125.**

Respectfully,

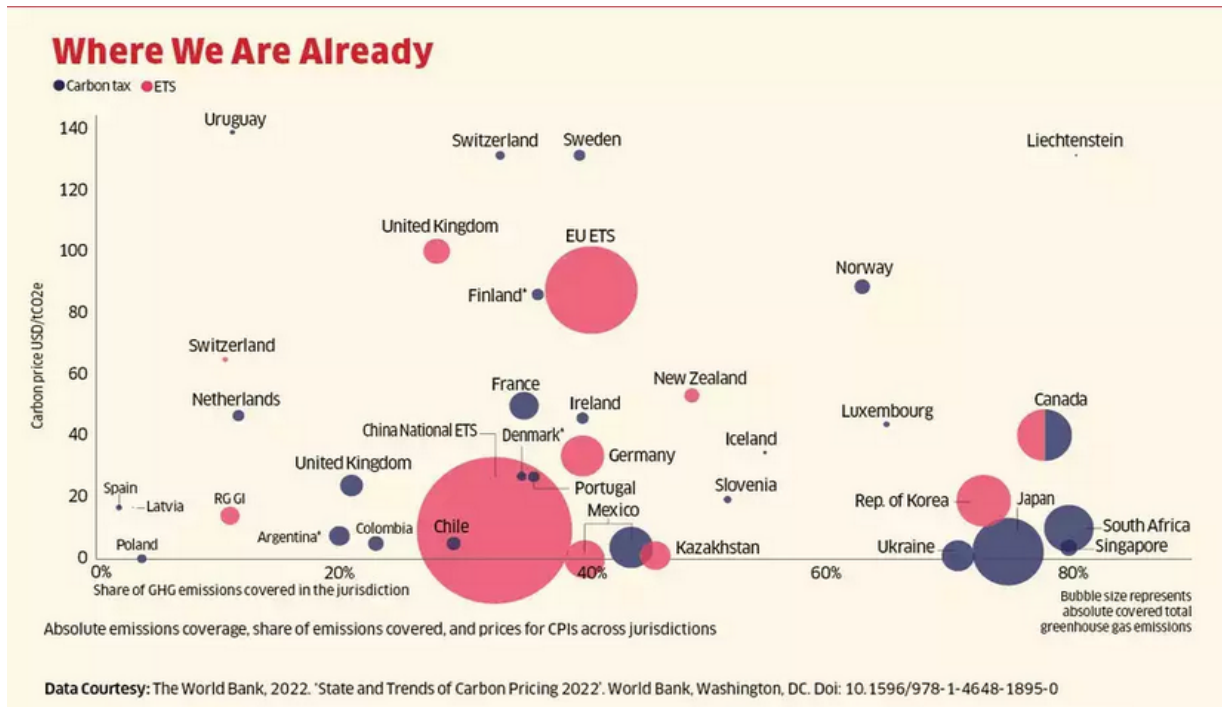


Noel Morin  
Climate, Sustainability, and Resilience Advocate  
Hilo, Hawaii

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[1] **Carbon pricing is popular.** Endorsements for this policy have been received from many sectors. [citizensclimatelobbyhawaii.org/blog/carbon-cashback-lifting-the-shade](https://citizensclimatelobbyhawaii.org/blog/carbon-cashback-lifting-the-shade)

[2] Many countries have implemented (or are planning to implement) carbon pricing strategies.



Source: The Economic Times - February 2, 2023

[3] **Sweden** introduced a price on carbon in 1991 and has the highest priced currently at \$139/tCO<sub>2</sub>. Its economy has grown by 60% since the introduction, and its emissions have decreased by 25%.

<https://ourworldindata.org/carbon-pricing-popular>

[4] **CCL Carbon Pricing studies.** <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/carbon-pricing-studies/>

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:52:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
George A Downing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I feel it is the only right thing to do to support every bill that helps us face the reality of Global Climate Change. Please pass HCR124 to help in this process of being responsible to our future.

Mahalo,

George A Downing

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 11:34:38 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Hagan	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Cochran, and Members of the EEP Committee:

I strongly support this resolution because as the UN’s recent warning: “The world is on thin ice.” The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the US imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

Respectfully,

Doug Hagan

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 7:46:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the EEP Committee,

I, Diane Ware from the Moku of Ka'u, support HCR124/HR125 because as the UN has recently warned: "The world is on thin ice." The signs and damages from climate change surround us. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. A national carbon cashback (carbon fee and dividend) policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy. In addition, if the United States imposes a border carbon adjustment, the policy will incentivize all US trading partners to reduce their emissions. The policy provides the correct financial incentives for businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Furthermore, the carbon cashback policy is progressive and protects and even benefits most low- and moderate-income households.

In sum, this policy reduces US emissions, protects the most and more vulnerable households, is revenue neutral (so requires no government funding), and with a border carbon adjustment protects US businesses.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of resolutions HCR124/HR125.

**HCR-124**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 10:12:32 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members,

I respectfully ask that you support HCR124 and HCR125 which urge the US Congress to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation.

Thank you for your attention and courtesy.

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI