



Aloha Chair Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair Glenn Wakai, Rep. Carol Fukunaga, Rep. Donna Mercado Kim, Rep. Kurt Fevella,

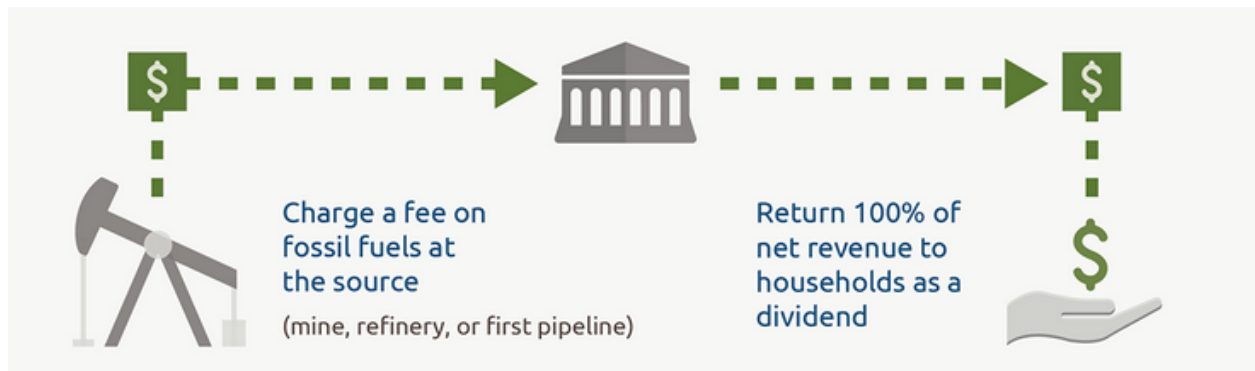
The Carbon Cashback Task Force urges you to support HCR124

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 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

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 10:02:03 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ania Lavrenchuk	Testifying for Climate Future Forum by Climate Citizen’s Lobby	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Ania Lavrenchuk and I’m a junior at ‘Iolani School. I strongly support resolution HCR124 because I believe that it is highly important to decrease carbon dioxide emissions to slow down climate change and save the planet for future generations.

I came to Hawaii seven months ago, and joined Climate Citizens’ Lobby because I’m inspired by the proactive youth position advocating for climate protection. I grew up and spent my whole life in Ukraine, a country known for its agricultural potential and hospitable people. My grandparents used to be farmers. As a child, I used to bake bread with freshly mown wheat or pick apples with my grandma. But the number of vegetables my grandparents yielded was decreasing every year because of low precipitation and, therefore, droughts caused by high carbon dioxide emissions that heat up the Earth. Now, the invasion of Ukraine launched by Russians poses new environmental challenges. A considerable amount of soil is contaminated because of the massive shellings of the fields Russians continue doing. Beyond that, Russian artillery shellings brought a lot of forest fires and air pollution. I want to return to my peaceful home when the war ends and meet people there who enjoy growing crops and importing them to different parts of the world. I believe in the butterfly effect and the fact that if we are going to take action here, in Hawai’i, it will influence other countries all over the world.

With carbon taxes established through HCR124, fossil fuel corporations will transfer the US transition to renewable sources of energy, through an equitable, progressive, and cost effective system. One can say: “But, with taxes, prices will go up.” That’s the point. When fossil fuel will become more expensive, businesses will prioritize the corporations that use renewables because it’s cheaper. It will create financial pressure on the corporations with high carbon dioxide releases and, eventually, lead them to transfer to carbon-free alternative sources of energy. Amidst this, the funds collected on taxes will go to the US households, ensuring the protection and equity of residents, even financially benefiting the majority of households.

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.



Citizens' Climate Lobby | Youth

Support of HCR124

Date: April 11, 2023
To: EEP
From: Citizens' Climate Lobby, Hawai'i Youth Action Team
Re: **STRONG SUPPORT for HCR124**
Hearing: April 13, 2023, 1:05PM

Aloha Chair De Coite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET 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

Re: Testimony in strong support of HCR124

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and EET Committee members,

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

Citizens' Climate Lobby - Hawaii comprises over 900 members among four island chapters. We advocate for effective, fair, and fast acting climate legislation to put a price on carbon pollution caused primarily by the burning of fossil fuels.

Without burdensome rules and regulations, without increasing the national debt, and while maintaining US international trading competitiveness, and protecting the purchasing power of lower income folks, a fee or tax on fossil fuel emissions can accomplish much:

- Help achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and a 50% reduction by 2030
- Encourage increased production of affordable clean energy
- Put money in people's pockets via a monthly dividend payment
- Save tens of thousands of lives by reducing fossil-fuel particulate air pollution

The policy is simple to implement and impactful. Three key aspects of CFD are:

1- Charge fossil fuel produces a Carbon Fee for the amount of carbon dumped in the air when their fossil fuel product is burned.

2- Return the money collected from the carbon fee to the American people in the form of a Carbon Dividend – a monthly payment to spend as they choose.

3- Establish a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), to protect U.S. manufacturers and jobs and maintain US competitive advantages. Carbon-emitting fuels and carbon-intensive goods from countries that do not have a carbon pricing will pay a Carbon Border Adjustment. Conversely, producers of fuels and carbon-intensive goods exported from the United States to countries that do not have a carbon emissions program will receive a rebate for the carbon fees that were levied under the CFD policy.

Bipartisan support for CFD policy is growing among climate concerned citizens across the political spectrum and especially younger voters who in many ways have the most to lose as the effects of an unstable climate and extreme weather events threaten us today and jeopardize our collective future.

I urge your full support for HCR 124

Respectfully,

Ron Reilly

Citizen Climate Lobby Hawaii State Co-Coordinator

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy
Supporting HCR 124, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT
NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION**

**Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
April 13, 2023, 1:05 pm
Conference Room 229 via Videoconference**

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) supports HCR 124, which would urge the United States Congress to pass national carbon fee and dividend legislation.

TNC supports putting a price on carbon pollution to make a significant contribution to addressing the challenge of climate change. Economists overwhelmingly agree that the market-based approach embodied in the legislation will achieve emissions reductions in the most efficient and lowest cost way possible. The economic impacts on families and individuals of the carbon price could be mitigated by a tax rebate or refund.

TNC works to protect and manage the natural systems that sequester carbon, provide our fresh water, and protect our coastlines; all of which reduce the impacts of climate change. However, to fully address the growing impacts of our changing climate, we need bold action. Nature can play a huge role in pulling carbon out of the atmosphere, but it needs policies like a carbon price to also ensure that emissions are reduced.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 124.

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i and Palmyra is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 40,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and work in over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties, and communities to protect forests and coral reefs for their ecological values and for the many benefits they provide to people.

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HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 12:16:22 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sonja Kass	Testifying for Kauai EV	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I am writing on behalf of KauaiEV, a grassroots organization with over 150 members on Kauai. We strongly support HCR124, as it would reduce carbon emissions by incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels.

Please address our climate emergency.

Mahalo

Sonja Kass for KauaiEV

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:03:47 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Kauai Climate Action Coalition(KCAC), a group of approximately 150 Kauai residents committed to addressing the climate crisis we face through education, policy change, and direct action. KCAC strongly supports HCR124/HR125. The signs and damages from climate change surround us both here in Hawai‘i and in the nation and world. The need to take significant action **now** to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions. Thus a carbon fee and dividend program is not only effective but just.

As the UN has recently warned: “The world is on thin ice.” We must act now! A carbon fee and dividend program 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 HCR124 and send an important message from Hawai‘i on behalf of our keiki, future generations and our livable earth.** Mahalo!

Helen Cox, Chair

Kauai Climate Action Coalition

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:18:25 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Travis Idol	Testifying for Hawai'i Interfaith Power and Light	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i Interfaith Power and Light is in favor of HCR124 urging the US Congress to adopt national carbon fee and dividend legislation. We are an interfaith organization that helps religious organizations and people to respond to the challenges of climate change and renewable and sustainable energy generation and use in ways that align with their own religious beliefs and traditions. So, why should religions and people of faith be in favor of this resolution?

One, we believe that people have a moral responsibility to care for Creation. We are part of God's Creation, but we are also responsible for being faithful stewards of Creation. Climate change and environmental degradation through the use of fossil fuels has demonstrable and long-term negative consequences for the beauty, diversity, and flourishing of Creation. As the ones responsible for this harm, we are responsible for its restoration. Our everyday choices and decisions thus need to be transformed by our awareness and commitment to caring for Creation and righting the wrongs we see all around us from our thoughtless and selfish decisions.

A carbon fee and dividend program is an effective way to hold us accountable for these decisions. The fee internalizes the costs of the harms we contribute to and perpetuate. But, much like God is full of grace and forgiveness, despite our transgressions, the dividend returns most of those funds back to us, ensuring that the least among us do not suffer needlessly from decisions they have to make to support themselves and their families.

The fee also makes products and services that do not contribute to greenhouse gas emissions more favorable in price by showing us the true costs to our environment and our own future of climate-wrecking activities. The evils of fossil fuel use are no longer hidden but must be accounted for equally alongside sustainable alternatives.

Finally, the dividend program can help fund energy equity and climate justice, helping those with the least to make better, more sustainable choices and contribute to the restoration of the beauty, diversity, and flourishing of Creation. As we transition to more sustainable ways of living, the poor and vulnerable will have better and more affordable options for meeting their everyday needs sustainably, and the fee and dividend program can naturally recede in a greener, Creation-supporting world.

For all these reasons and more, Hawai'i Interfaith Power and Light strongly supports this joint resolution and urges our legislators to do the same.

With much aloha,

Travis Idol, President
Hawai'i Interfaith Power and Light



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 1:05 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

RE: HCR 124

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **does not support** HCR 124 which Urges the United States Congress to Adopt National Carbon Fee and Dividend Legislation

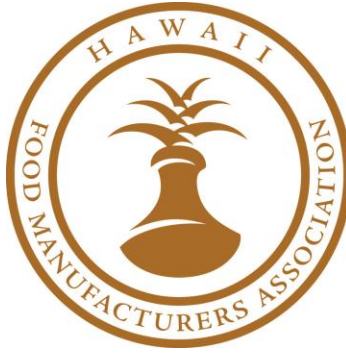
While the proposed resolution on carbon fee and dividend system aims to be revenue-neutral, the regressive nature of the fee could disproportionately affect low-income households. Higher energy and transportation costs will place an undue burden on these families, which may not be adequately offset by the dividends they receive. The cost of living in Hawaii is already among the highest in the nation, and we should be cautious of policies that could exacerbate economic disparities within our communities.

The proposed carbon fee may compromise the competitiveness of Hawaii's industries in the national and global markets. Increased energy and transportation costs will place local businesses at a disadvantage, potentially leading to a loss of market share and a decline in economic growth.

In conclusion, while we recognize the importance of addressing climate change and its impacts on Hawaii, we believe that HCR 124 is not the most effective solution. Instead, we encourage the Hawaii State Legislature to consider alternative approaches that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions without compromising the growth and prosperity of our local economy.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and
Tourism**

**Thursday, April 13th, 2023, at 1:05 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference**

RE: HCR 124

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association **does not support** HCR 124, which urges the United States Congress to Adopt National Carbon Fee and Dividend Legislation

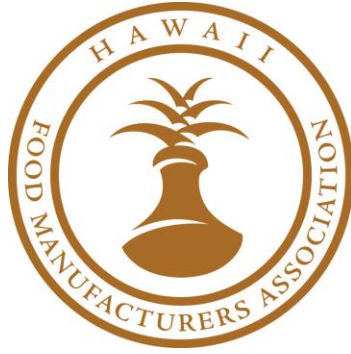
The Hawaii Food Manufacturers Association (HFMA) is a non-profit organization of approximately 120 members that has been promoting Hawaiian grown or manufactured products since 1977. The HFMA works to increase the understanding and appreciation of the unique flavors, quality, and care that go into the production of Hawaii's fine foods and beverages represented by our valued members and enjoyed by our valued community.

The food manufacturing industry in Hawaii generates \$900 million in annual revenue and is the largest manufacturing sector in the state using local inputs according to the Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. The industry provides over 6,100 jobs in the state and an annual payroll of more than \$160 million.

While the HFMA supports efforts to address climate change and promote a sustainable future, we believe that HCR 124 could have unintended consequences that would disproportionately impact our industry and the local economy.

The proposed carbon fee would raise the cost of energy, transportation, and production for food manufacturers in Hawaii. These increased costs would inevitably be passed on to consumers, making essential goods more expensive and putting an undue burden on low-income families who already struggle with the high cost of living in Hawaii.

Competitive disadvantage: The implementation of a national carbon fee could place Hawaii's food manufacturers at a competitive disadvantage compared to other states and countries. Due to our geographic isolation, we already face higher transportation and energy



costs. This legislation could further exacerbate these disparities and hinder our industry's growth and ability to compete on a national and global scale.

We believe that there are more effective, targeted ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions without disproportionately affecting the food manufacturing industry. These could include investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency programs, and research and development of cleaner production technologies. Such initiatives would help us transition to a more sustainable future without compromising the livelihoods of our workers and the economic well-being of our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Report on Why Leading Climate Organizations Strongly Oppose Carbon Pricing Schemes Like Carbon Fee And Dividend, Carbon Cashback etc. (Revised & Updated) By Dave Mulnix, Our Revolution Hawaii.

The first important thing to know is who supports carbon pricing, and who opposes it.

Organizations that strongly oppose Carbon Pricing schemes include: Greenpeace, Life of the Land, 350.org, Earth Day Network, Energy Justice Network, Indigenous Environmental Network, Food & Water Watch, Climate Justice Alliance, E3G Environment Lobby Group, as well as, an additional 86 more organizations. There are also many climate scientists and researchers, economists, climate journalists who oppose carbon pricing.

Entities that enthusiastically support Carbon Pricing schemes include: The American Petroleum Institute, BP Group, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Eni (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi - National Hydrocarbons Board), ExxonMobile, Shell Oil, Statoil, and TotalEnergies Petroleum Company. Exxon has not only endorsed a carbon tax, but the company is putting big money behind the policy with a \$1 million donation to Americans for Carbon Dividends, a Republican-led lobbying effort for a carbon tax.

It should be a huge red flag that the fossil fuel industry supports carbon pricing, because they have done everything in their power to continue to produce fossil fuels and prevent effective efforts to cut CO2 emissions to address climate change, including hiding data, destroying electric vehicle programs, creating think tanks to spread misinformation to mislead the public and Congress, and blatantly lying to Congress. When the fossil fuel industry supports something it is only because it will help them continue to extract and produce fossil fuels. In the 1970s the fossil fuel industry hid their data that the continuation of burning fossil fuels would lead to global warming. In the 1990s the fossil fuel industry aggressively advertised directly against electric cars in national publications, killed utility companies efforts to build public car-charging stations, and actively participated in killing California's electric vehicle program. Their efforts prevented effective measures being taken for decades that could have prevented the current growing Climate Crisis.

So why does the fossil fuel industry support carbon pricing? Carbon pricing, carbon fee and dividend, carbon cashback, carbon trading, carbon offsets, cap-and-trade, are all schemes cooked up by the fossil fuel industry so they can continue to make billions of dollars producing fossil fuels by paying a nominal tax or fee, the cost of which they pass onto consumers. Essentially all the various carbon pricing schemes give the fossil fuel industry away to pay a nominal tax to continue to pollute, legitimizes their ability to continue to pollute, and gives them the immunity to do so.

It must be noted that while the right to pollute is not explicitly stated in the carbon fee and dividend resolution, it is inferred. As pointed out by Life of the Land, there are many laws that establish fees under which you may participate in an activity if you pay the fee. Because the government has established a fee for an activity, it has endorsed the activity. When governments want to stop an activity they phase it out or impose a fine.

A carbon tax must be recognized for what it is: A tool for turning carbon emissions into a source of government revenue. An aggressive emissions reduction plan that transitions off fossil fuels would become linked to a revenue stream from the very thing – carbon emissions – that we are seeking to eliminate.

The idea for the carbon tax is that some nominal increases in the prices of carbon-based fuels would drive consumers to reduce their consumption. The problem is that the vast majority of consumers do not have an option to stop heating their homes, or stop driving to work or school in the morning. In that case, emissions don't fall, but prices still rise. BTW we've been here before, the oil price shocks of the 1970s didn't wean us off oil, so why should we believe that a high carbon price will wean us off carbon today.

Bottom-line: carbon taxes – while a popular theory with economists – have proven to be ineffective at actually reducing CO2 emissions in the real world. And according to research prepared for the Citizens' Climate Lobby, we will actually see an increase in electricity from fracked gas under a carbon tax plan they studied. That means more fracking, more pipelines, more compressor stations, and more power plants. The impacts of this kind of fossil fuel development disproportionately impacts low-income communities and communities of color. If we create a carbon policy that continues reliance on fossil fuels, we can expect those burdens to continue.

One of the main arguments for carbon pricing is that many leading economist support the theory, despite the fact that to date it has proven to be a complete failure. It must be noted that economists are not climate scientists, and even leading economist have been proven to be very, very wrong. For example leading US economists pressed and got President Clinton to repeal the Glass Steagall Act to benefit the economy, which instead resulted in the 2008 global financial crisis. Leading US economists in 2009 pressed President Obama to bailout the big banks, but not the homeowners they cheated, which resulted in the big banks becoming even bigger, and 10 million homeowners losing their homes. Leading US economists also advised President Trump to further deregulate the banks that resulted in the Silicon Valley Bank collapse of March 2023.

Carbon pricing schemes have been around for some 40 years, yet there is no evidence to show that carbon pricing actually cuts emissions. In fact in places where emissions have gone down there were other factors at play, like the closure of a coal fired power plant.

A report on the “The British Columbia Carbon Tax” by Food & Water Watch concluded: "British Columbia's carbon tax has failed to change the province's long-term greenhouse gas emissions trends or to reduce gasoline sales. The short-term decline in emissions was not likely related to the tax and was rapidly reversed; taxed emissions have risen by a total of 5.3 percent in the four most recent years — faster than untaxed emissions, which actually decreased by a total of 2.5 percent. The billions of dollars in carbon tax revenue have been diverted increasingly toward corporations and businesses."

A research paper entitled: “Does Carbon Pricing Reduce Emissions? A Review Of Ex-Post Analyses” by climate researcher, Jessica Green, a Professor at the University of Toronto, studying Climate Change, Carbon Markets, and Fossil Fuel Companies, reviewed 37 studies that assess the actual effects of carbon pricing policy on emissions reductions, and concluded that overall, the evidence indicates that aggregate reductions from carbon pricing has a limited impact on emissions—generally between 0% and 2% per year.

“The Carbon Pricing Report: A Critical Perspective for Community Resistance” created by the Indigenous Environmental Network and the Climate Justice Alliance provides in-depth context to why carbon market systems will not mitigate climate change, will not advance adaptation strategies, will not

serve the most vulnerable communities facing climate change impacts, and only protect the fossil fuel industry and corporations from taking real climate action.

Finally, as noted by Mike Ewall and the Environmental Justice Network, by punishing fossil fuels, a carbon tax puts nuclear power, “biomass” and waste incineration, landfill gas burning, and crop- and waste-based liquid fuels at a competitive advantage. He goes on to state “forests in the U.S. are being logged for this “renewable” power, and are even being chipped and shipped (with fossil fuels) to Europe to be burned in converted giant coal plants.” The U.S. wood pellet industry is the largest supplier for European wood-burning power plants.

More details on the Environmental Justice Network's position on carbon taxes can be found in their June 2013 Open Letter to Citizens Climate Lobby, signed by 86 organizations in 29 states and 11 countries, calling out the problems with the carbon tax legislation they were pushing.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 2:05:26 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monty Pereira	Testifying for Watanabe Floral, Inc	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I want to share our opposition to this bill. While we agree in promoting environmental protections, and have initiated our own methods to help improve/control environmental issues, another tax right now would be very impactful. Many of us are still recovering from the shutdowns, are facing substantially higher costs, from labor, to COGS to utilities and every other operating expense. Another tax right now is not something we need. What would be wonderful, is to offer incentives in the form of grants or tax credits for those that are working towards improving carbon emissions.

Thank you so much for your consideration and commitment to keeping Hawaii our home!



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
1:05 PM

APRIL 13, 2023

RE: HCR 124 - URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the committee:

My name is Max Lindsey, 2023 Government Relations Committee Chair of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in opposition to HCR 124. This Resolution urges the United States Congress to pass national carbon fee and dividend legislation.

While we understand the intent of this resolution and agree about the importance of climate change, we are only concerned with the potential cost impact to current and future residents of Hawaii. Financial impact of any legislation needs to be analyzed and addressed when mandating further cost of doing business in our state, as the cost of living continues to be untenable for many of our residents.

Hawaii is in a major housing crisis, which continues to worsen.. Rather than placing more costly mandates on construction, perhaps the Legislature should look for creative ways to incentivize the market to move further in that direction, without negatively impacting local families. As the Legislature is aware, the cost of housing in Hawaii is extremely high, with Oahu's median price of homes being currently over \$1 million. Approximately 153,967 U.S. households are priced out of buying a home for every \$1000 increase in price, according to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). We are in support of legislation that would allow for the building of much-needed housing at every price point in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 2:41:02 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James K. Chan	Testifying for Hawaiian Chip Company, LLC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Hawaiian Chip Company is opposed to HCR 124.

Mahalo!

Jimmy Chan

Testimony of
Robert's Hawaii, Inc.

on

S.C.R NO. 124

**Relating to Resolution Urging US Congress to Adopt National Carbon Fee and
Dividend Legislation**

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Thursday, April 13, 2023, 1:00pm

phone 808.523.7750

fax 808.523.7365

Roberts Hawaii, Inc.

444 Niu Street, Suite 300

Honolulu, HI 96815

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy,
Economic Development, and Tourism:

My name is Roy Pfund, President, CEO of Robert's Hawaii, Inc., and I am
testifying in strong opposition to Resolution S.C.R. No. 124 which proposes to urge the
United States Congress to adopt a national carbon fee and dividend legislation.

www.robertshawaii.com

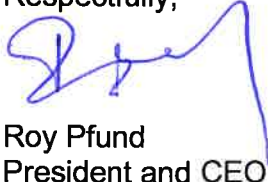
There are many reasons why supporting a federally mandated carbon fee and
dividend is not appropriate for Hawaii at this time.

1. There are numerous variations of carbon fee and dividend programs that are
being discussed on a worldwide level. We do not know if the final version of a
federally mandated program would be beneficial for Hawaii at this time. There
are many issues for Hawaii's residents and companies to consider. Who pays
the fee, who gets the dividend? Does the fee revenue generated from Hawaii
stay in Hawaii and returned as a dividend (neutral) or is there a possibility that
Hawaii ends up with a net fee expense? Are all residents treated fairly based on
the use of carbon fuels when the ability to purchase an electric vehicle is not
possible by everyone? These are just a few considerations.
2. Adding a carbon fee to users would increase the cost for all island residents as
this fee would need to be passed on to the ultimate consumer in the form of rate
hikes for electricity or other user fees.
3. In our transportation business, we have purchased 3 electric school buses and 3
electric motorcoaches, partially funded by grants from the Hawaii State Energy
Office. The grants are an incentive to encourage the change, as opposed to a
carbon fee which is a punishment for not converting. This is where the issue
arises. Commercial electric vehicles are more than double the cost of
conventional internal combustion engine vehicles. It is not practical to convert
fleets of vehicles to electric due to the high cost of vehicles and inventory
availability with order to receipt lead times of up to 2 years. Placing a carbon fee
on companies creates hardships, when the approach should be to fund additional
grants to encourage conversion into electric vehicles.

4. The best example of the use of Federal and State incentives were the tax credits to individuals and businesses to purchase rooftop PV systems. This was a tremendously successful program to encourage the conversion by way of incentives to reduce the purchase cost of systems. This is the proven model that we should be implementing.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on this proposed resolution. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Roy Pfund
President and CEO



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI, PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII**

April 13, 2023

**Re: HCR 124 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT
NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.**

Good afternoon, Chair DeCoite and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to supporting the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, on-line sellers, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

We are opposed to HCR 124 Urging the United States Congress to Adopt National Carbon Fee and Dividend Legislation.

Retailers continue to be concerned about our aina and have supported many initiatives that preserve and protect our environment. However, this added cost of doing business in Hawaii is something our struggling industry and community cannot afford.

Hawaii continues to be reliant of tourism and because we are an island state, products must be flown in or shipped to our state. While the obvious impact would be to those traveling to and from Hawaii for business, vacation, to visit family and friends, many consumer products are flown into Hawaii. Shipping rates in the past few years have increased substantially. We are also dependent on goods being delivered either through ships or air cargo. Should there be a carbon tax, it will ultimately drive the prices up of not only air travel but also the price of many goods, thus continue to make Hawaii one of the most expensive places to live.

The consumer price index climbed 5% last month alone. Adding on a carbon tax, retailers will pass on the cost to the customer. However, retailers are not able to always pass on the increased costs pushed onto them. Many items have a tag with the Manufacture Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) which is the highest price a store will sell an item for. If we sell above this and people will find the item elsewhere cheaper. Retailers look at other ways to make up for the loss – hiring freeze, open shorter hours, not renewing leases on all locations, investing in self checkouts, or closing their brick-and-mortar store to sell only online to name a few

We have all continuously seen the price increases when we go to the grocery store or purchase new shoes or clothing. If we continue to drive up the costs of goods being sold in Hawaii, we will see more people ordering online on sites that offer free shipping and may not have any ties to Hawaii. As a result, we may see even more of our local stores having to lay off their employees as they close for good. Let us not price Hawaii out of the reach of more locals to continue to live here.

We urge you to hold this measure.



April 13, 2023

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
ON HCR 124 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT
NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION**

Aloha Chair DeCoite, and committee members. I am Gareth Sakakida Managing Director of the Hawaii Transportation Association (HTA) with over 350 members involved with the commercial ground transportation industry.

HTA opposes carbon fee and dividend legislation as it results in the increase of fossil fuel related taxes for commercial motor vehicles, and their operators, known as motor carriers. These entities ensure our high standard of living delivering everything we need to live: food and beverage; medicine; household appliances; furniture; building materials; etc.

Increased transportation costs means retailers will increase their own prices. We transport everything our residents and visitors consume, and increasing our fuel related costs only means increasing the cost of everything.

Motor carriers are out there doing a job, and always seeking to be as efficient as possible. Some like to criticize the industry for not converting to zero emission vehicles. For commercial vehicles, electric power means investing in vehicles that cost 4-5 times as much as non-ZEVs, an extreme stretch for an industry of small operators.

But, obtaining the vehicle is just the first step as a refueling infrastructure needs to be installed. One cannot go to the neighborhood gas station to refuel with hydrogen, natural gas, or electricity. The vast majority of commercial fleets do not own the land they operate on so find loans and funding a fueling infrastructure nearly impossible when their long term operation on that piece of land is uncertain as every lease period expires.

Carbon pricing only serves to push abilities to fund conversions further down the road when these needed funds are siphoned off for higher fuel taxes and penalties.

Mahalo.

April 12, 2023

Senate EET Committee
Thirty Second Legislature
State of Hawaii

RE – Written Testimony - 124 HCR URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.

Aloha Senator DeCoite and members of the EET Committee,

On behalf of Pacific Transfer LLC, the largest private, locally owned and operated transportation company in Hawaii servicing major retailers such as Walmart Stores, Safeway Stores, CVS/Longs, Target, The Home Depot, Sam's Club and many other retailers serving the citizens of Hawaii, I am writing in strong opposition to this resolution as such policy would do much harm to the citizens of the United States, most especially to the most vulnerable and least able to afford it .

Addressing the resolution point by point:

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres recently said, "Greenhouse gas emissions keep growing, global temperatures keep rising, and our planet is fast approaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible. We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator"; and

- ⇒ Respectfully, this is an expressed opinion and hyperbolic in nature. Hawaii is a sovereign state of the United States of America and its legislature should not set public policy, nor encourage national policy based on subjective, inflammatory statements from international political figures.

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a major greenhouse gas and its concentration in the atmosphere has been increasing at progressively rapid rate for more than sixty years, as shown by measurements taken at observatories on Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, and now registers at more than four hundred twenty parts per million, which is fifty percent higher than before the Industrial Revolution; and

- ⇒ Pacific Transfer is not disputing this statement, but asks should it really be the policy or a goal of the United States to try to deindustrialize to levels that existed prior to the Industrial Revolution?

WHEREAS, many climate change impacts are anticipated for the Hawaiian Islands, including increases in ocean and air temperatures, sea level rise, droughts, severe weather patterns, ocean acidification, and more frequent and severe wildfires; and

- ⇒ Impacts are "anticipated"? I believe this resolution would be much stronger if it provided actual, observed data supporting this statement and demonstrating that past predictive models over the last 30 years of this debate have actually been proven accurate and supported by actual real-world data. Imposing such a real-world cost upon the American consumer today should not be based on "anticipated" impacts at some unknown point in the future.

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change stated in the most recent report of its mitigation working group that any pathway to limit warming to two degrees Celsius would have to "involve rapid and deep and in most cases immediate greenhouse gas emissions reductions in all sectors"; and

- ⇒ Pacific Transfer supports the further reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, but it must be done so in a measured, non-reactionary manner that does less harm to the American citizen than good.

WHEREAS, the United States needs powerful new policies to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction goals established in the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement; and

- ⇒ The manner in which the word "powerful" is used in this statement is alarming. The United States government and the governments of each individual state are meant to serve its citizens and not meant to wield its "power" over them. I caution the state legislature against advocating for an all-powerful federal government to do what it cannot get a majority of its citizens to support and ask them to keep front of mind its mission of service to the people of Hawaii. Government can only obtain power the citizenry yields and the citizenry should be very careful in abdicating its freedoms to state or federal governments regardless of how worthy the cause is.

WHEREAS, imposing a tax on the burning of fossil fuels and returning the revenues to households to spend as they see fit, a carbon-pricing policy commonly known as carbon fee and dividend, is an effective and equitable way to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

- ⇒ Why would it make sense for the federal government to seize revenue from the citizens of the United States, as all taxes are passed through to the consumer, and then return that same revenue back "to households to spend as they see fit"? Why not just NOT add the tax and let the citizens spend their money as they see fit? The citizens can make their own choices on whether to purchase fossil fuel burning products such as cars, gas stoves, furnaces, water heaters, etc. If the citizens agree that climate change is the existential threat this resolution states it is, then the citizenry will act in their own self-interest.
- ⇒ In addition, the Federal government has never proven to be a good, nor efficient, steward of the public's funds. There are an endless number of examples proving it unwise to give more money to the federal government to spend. Funneling more money through the federal government will prove to be wasteful and a less effective and efficient model than allowing the private sector to continue to innovate and market viable solutions without government interference.

WHEREAS, carbon fee and dividend is supported by more than thirty-six hundred economists, including twenty-eight Nobel Laureates and fifteen former chairs of the Council of Economic Advisers, who signed a statement that begins, "A carbon tax offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary" and the statement continues, "to maximize the fairness and political viability of a rising tax, all the revenue should be returned directly to American citizens through equal lump-sum rebates"; and

- ⇒ There is absolutely no evidence to support the claim that taxing carbon will do anything to reduce carbon emissions.
- ⇒ As for collecting the revenue and then "returning it directly to American citizens through equal lump-sum rebates" please see my comments above.

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee and dividend program can include border adjustments, such as carbon-content-based tariffs on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing and refunds to our exporters of carbon taxes paid, to maintain the competitiveness of United States businesses in global markets; and

- ⇒ Again, all taxes are passed on to the consumer. This will hurt the American citizen TODAY by further raising prices on EVERY product consumed in America. Rising prices, as has been proven over the last two years, most hurts the most vulnerable populations and those who can least afford policies such as proposed.

WHEREAS, major trading partners of the United States like Canada and the European Union have adopted meaningful carbon taxes and are now considering carbon border adjustments to level the playing field by ensuring that imports are subject to the same carbon pricing as local goods; and

- ⇒ The fact that Canada and the EU must now consider adding a carbon tariff to imported goods PROVES that such policies will hurt the American economy and American companies at a time we are realizing that we must bring manufacturing and the supply chain back to American shores.
- ⇒ A carbon tariff on international goods is a tax. That tax will be passed through to the American consumer and hurt those who can least afford it.

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee and dividend program can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and respond to the urgency of the climate crises, because the federal government already has in place mechanisms, such as the Internal Revenue Service, needed to implement and enforce the tax, and already collects taxes from fossil fuel producers and importers; and

- ⇒ There is no evidence America has in place mechanisms that can quickly and efficiently implement this tax. As stated the federal government has not proven itself a worthy steward of Americans' hard earned tax dollars. This proposal is doomed to become another huge, wasteful, and ineffective government program.

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee and dividend program would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and the advancing of clean energy technologies in the 21st century, and would incentivize other countries to enact similar carbon pricing policies, thereby reducing global greenhouse gas emissions without the need for complex international agreements; now, therefore,

- ⇒ There is no evidence that by adopting this policy, the largest polluters in the world, China and India, or any other developing nation will be incentivized to enact similar policies at their own economic peril.

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the United States Congress is urged to pass national carbon fee and dividend legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice-President of the United States, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

- ⇒ This is a well-intentioned resolution, but it will not achieve the results its authors and supporters so hope for. Government, be it city, state, or federal, and the environmental lobby would be wise to apply the standards of the medical profession as they try to help "heal" the environment:

First Do No Harm.

Sincerely,



Christopher Redlew
President & COO
Pacific Transfer LLC

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 9:38:44 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony B. Borge	Testifying for RMA Sales	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Committee:

We are strongly opposed to HCR124. Any form of Carbon Tax Fee burden will be ultimately be passed on to every consumer who purchases goods and services in the State and Country. We in Hawaii experience the high cost of existing every day within our beautiful State. The cost of the "need to haves" to sustain our well being such as food, housing, energy continues to escalate. These type of proposals only exacerbates the high cost of living day to day in Hawaii.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted

Anthony Borge

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, Senators Fevella, Fukunaga, and Kim:

Mahalo for hearing Resolution HCR124. As an economist, I **strongly support** this resolution, which urges the U.S. Congress to adopt national carbon fee and dividend legislation. Over 3600 other economists, including 28 Nobel Laureates and 15 former chairs of the council of economic advisors signed onto a statement endorsing carbon fee and dividend because it offers the most “cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary;” and when “all the revenue [are] returned directly to U.S. citizens through equal lump-sum rebates, the majority of American families, including the most vulnerable, will benefit financially by receiving more in “carbon dividends” than they pay in increased energy prices.” (For your reference, the full statement is included at the end of my testimony.)

Carbon fee and dividend (also known as 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 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://files.hawaii.gov/tax/stats/trc/docs2022/Appendix_A.pdf

Economists statement

“A carbon tax offers the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary. By correcting a well-known market failure, a carbon tax will send a powerful price signal that harnesses the invisible hand of the marketplace to steer economic actors towards a low-carbon future.

“A carbon tax should increase every year until emissions reductions goals are met and be revenue neutral to avoid debates over the size of government. A consistently rising carbon price

will encourage technological innovation and large-scale infrastructure development. It will also accelerate the diffusion of carbon-efficient goods and services.

“A sufficiently robust and gradually rising carbon tax will replace the need for various carbon regulations that are less efficient. Substituting a price signal for cumbersome regulations will promote economic growth and provide the regulatory certainty companies need for long-term investment in clean-energy alternatives.

“To prevent carbon leakage and to protect U.S. competitiveness, a border carbon adjustment system should be established. This system would enhance the competitiveness of American firms that are more energy-efficient than their global competitors. It would also create an incentive for other nations to adopt similar carbon pricing.

“To maximize the fairness and political viability of a rising carbon tax, all the revenue should be returned directly to U.S. citizens through equal lump-sum rebates. The majority of American families, including the most vulnerable, will benefit financially by receiving more in “carbon dividends” than they pay in increased energy prices.”

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 4:10:07 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nate Hix	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Carbon pricing is the most effective measure to mitigate carbon emissions. It is widely implemented worldwide amongst developed nations and has driven down emissions substantially. The U.S. has so far chosen not to participate in this climate saving mechanism and as a result is one of the world leaders in carbon emissions per capita and has carbon emissions that are rising.

With climate change threatening the future habitability of our planet and no way to reverse the damage we're doing today, it's necessary we act as fast as possible to stop our participation in the continual destruction of our planet.

Since carbon pricing is one of the most studied carbon mitigation policies, there is ample evidence for you to decide that this is the correct course of action. Hawaii's commission on climate change has recommended that you adopt a carbon pricing program. This is what the carbon pricing study that the legislature asked for recommended as well.

Not only is this policy the right decision for our environment, but it's also great tax policy. Carbon pricing is the number one recommendation of the Tax Review Commission.

Please take the advice of the climate change experts and pass this resolution. Mahalo.

Testimony of Robert Archer before the Hawaii Senate regarding HCR124

April 13, 2023

I encourage the Senate to approve HCR124. The need remains for greater climate action. While the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act is a significant political accomplishment, its climate impact of 7%-9% additional reductions by 2030 makes it clear further action is needed.

The pathway forward for greater reductions, both nationally and globally, requires an approach that is economically efficient, effective in terms of climate results and, most importantly, equitable in its impact.

That approach is the three-part policy of a carbon fee, carbon cashback household dividend and Border Carbon Adjustment (BCA).

A World Bank analysis of carbon pricing experience around the world found that prices were chronically low. The primary reasons cited were the adverse impact of higher carbon prices on households and the concern about undermining industry competitiveness. These are legitimate concerns and due to the fact that most countries to date have put in place a first generation “bare” carbon pricing policy without considering households and industry impacts. They do not have household dividends or BCAs.

We have friends in high places. The heads of the European Union, International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization have all advocated coordinated carbon pricing across countries. The G-7 countries (U.S. Germany, UK, France, Italy, Canada, Japan) have agreed to work toward a common carbon price. Most have started with a carbon price leaving the U.S. as the hole in the donut.

Consequently, Hawaii’s initiative to move the U.S. government is forward looking and needed.

In summary,

The carbon fee will:

- reduce emissions in the most economically efficient manner
- accelerate clean energy innovation
- make the IRA more effective
- create clean energy jobs and maintain economic growth

The carbon cash back household dividend will:

- be the most equitable climate policy anywhere
- make the bottom 2/3 of households come out ahead
- not increase the budget deficit

The Border Carbon Adjustment will:

- strengthen U.S. industry competitive position
- remove any incentive to move production to countries without a carbon price
- incentivize other countries to adopt carbon prices to avoid the U.S. climate tariffs

Robert Archer

Ross, California

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Economics Policy Network Voluntary Team Leader

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 3:17:42 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Owen	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 7:43:44 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee,

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

Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.

Now is our opportunity to send a strong message to the President and Congress to enact national 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 HCR124.

Virginia Tincher, Oahu

April 12, 2023

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HCR124, URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ADOPT NATIONAL CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and EET Committee members,

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

There have been several attempts at a national Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. They have proposed a gradually increasing price on carbon (starting low and escalating annually to a meaningful fee). This approach would allow consumers and businesses to adapt to the expected annual increases in goods and services that are fossil intensive. The predictable fee increases would trigger economy-wide changes that favor efficiency and clean, renewable solutions. It would accelerate progress in the clean energy transition by stimulating even more investment in renewables and emergent solutions like geothermal, hydrogen and derivatives, virtual power plants, and alternative materials.

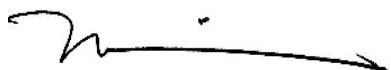
A carbon fee and dividend policy will help the U.S. maintain its economic competitiveness and leadership. The EU has meaningful carbon pricing and has proposed Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanisms (CBAMs) to protect local economies from products imported from countries without carbon pricing. [1] This mitigates carbon leakage and levels the playing field for local businesses. It behooves the U.S. to implement carbon pricing to avoid carbon border taxes on its exports and to protect local industry. (Implementing a CBAM is more feasible if we have national carbon pricing.)

A carbon fee and dividend policy will help the U.S. lead on climate change mitigation. It is endorsed by thousands of economists, religious leaders, business groups, and government leaders. [2] Globally, over 40 governments have introduced carbon pricing [3], and we've observed decades-long positive impacts. [4] It will complement various policies and regulations to reduce emissions, enable energy efficiency, and address equity. Studies [5] have illustrated the efficacy of carbon pricing in reducing emissions.

A carbon fee and dividend policy is progressive and just. It does not increase the cost of government while allowing for an equitable transition to a clean energy future.

Please support HCR124.

Respectfully,



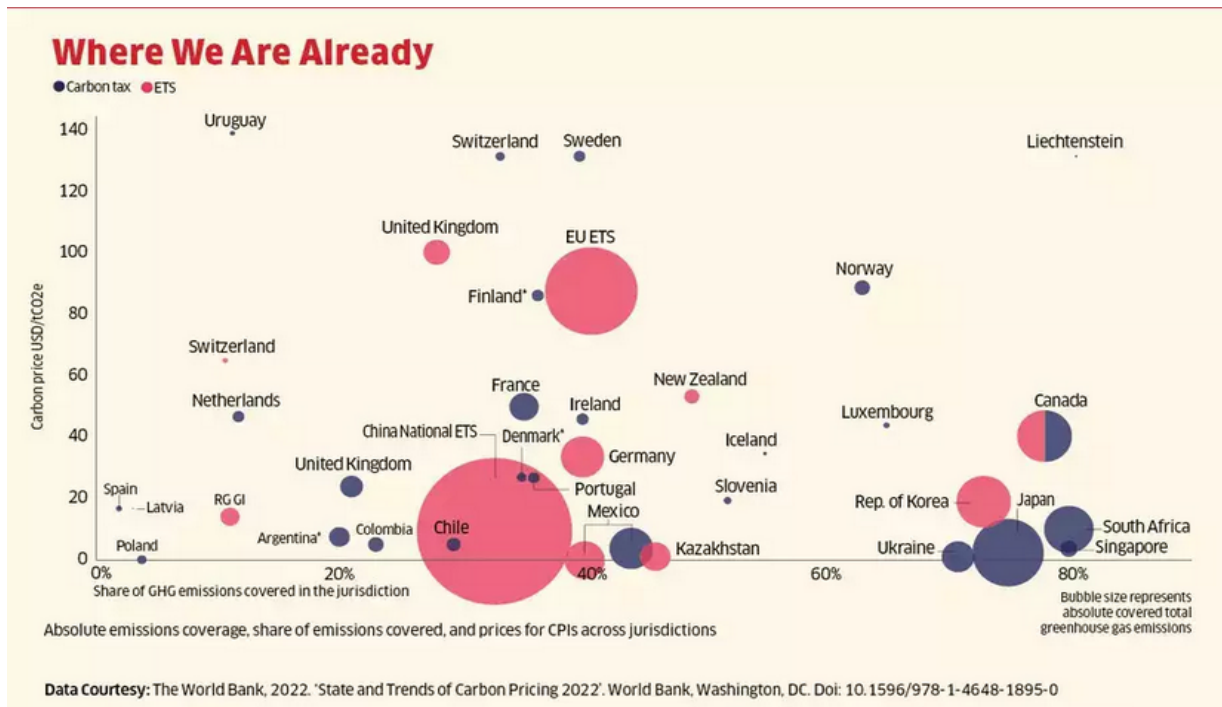
Noel Morin
Climate, Sustainability, and Resilience Advocate

Hilo, Hawaii
(808) 987-7428 | noelgmorin@gmail.com

[1] **EU CBAM considerations.** www.c2es.org/content/carbon-border-adjustments

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

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



Source: The Economic Times - February 2, 2023

[4] **Sweden** introduced a price on carbon in 1991 and has the highest priced currently at \$139/tCO₂. Its economy has grown by 60% since the introduction, and its emissions have decreased by 25%. <https://ourworldindata.org/carbon-pricing-popular>

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Hearing on April 13, 2023 at 1:05 pm

SUPPORTING HCR 124

My name is John Kawamoto, and I support HCR 124.

The burning of fossil fuels has polluted the Earth's atmosphere since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. Fossil fuels emit greenhouse gases, warming the Earth, creating climate change that has caused catastrophes globally. We have known for decades about the harmful effects of climate change, and climate scientists tell us that we have procrastinated too long to take effective action to mitigate it. We are now seeing the results of our neglect. Wildfires, hurricanes, droughts are more extreme and more frequent, and it's only going to get worse.

Climate change will cause intense heat waves and sea level rise that will result in massive climate migration. Climate change will cause severe droughts that will shrink agricultural production, resulting in widespread hunger, malnutrition, and even starvation. No place on Earth will be safe. Civilization everywhere will be disrupted. All we can do now is to minimize the damage.

Fossil fuels are extremely difficult to extract from the economy because people have come to expect the convenience that fossil fuels offer. For example, a flick of the switch turns on lights, runs washing machines, computers, and TVs that are powered by electricity generated by fossil fuels. Fossil fuels have been integrated throughout our economy largely because they have benefited from enormous subsidies by the federal government for more than 100 years.

Various efforts are being made to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels in various parts of the economy. For example, there are efforts to shift the generation of electricity away from fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy. There are also efforts to shift away from gas vehicles to electric vehicles. All of these efforts are needed.

This concurrent resolution is unique in that supports a carbon fee and dividend program that moves the entire economy away from fossil fuels, and it does so in an equitable manner. Furthermore, this program will work with all other efforts to mitigate climate change.

If greenhouse gas emissions were somehow magically reduced to zero, climate change would, unfortunately, still be with us for many years. The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions has a delayed effect on climate change because carbon dioxide, the major greenhouse gas, stays in the atmosphere for 300 to 1,000 years after it is emitted, according to NASA.

Carbon dioxide emitted at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution is still in the atmosphere, warming the Earth. Most of it will stay in the atmosphere for hundreds of years more.

The actions that we take now to reduce carbon emissions will benefit our children, our grandchildren, and many generations into the future. Let us endeavor to leave them with a livable planet so they can live their lives to the fullest.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 9:04:02 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Patrick	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha EET Committee -

I am writing to strongly support HCR124. A national price on carbon is absolutely essential if we are to reach our goals of 50% less greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050. By making fossil fuel companies pay for their pollution and returning this revenue to households in the form of a monthly cash dividend, we can not only create a healthier environment, but also help 85% of low- and middle-income families make the transition to clean energy.

The United States is one of only two developed economies that does not have a price on carbon. The European Union is about to introduce a carbon border tax which would penalize imports from other countries, such as the US, that do not have a price on carbon. We need to create our own carbon fee structure with a border adjustment if American business is to remain competitive. A price on carbon and the support of renewable, clean energy would also create many more jobs and lead to large investments in sustainable products and services. England has already reduced their dependency on coal from 40% to 3% since 2013 through carbon pricing. Clean energy would free us from the volatility of fossil fuel prices, but more importantly, it would not dump tons of heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere to further destabilize our planet's ecosystems. Thank you for considering HCR124.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:29:49 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Hagan	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite and Vice-Chair Wakai,

I strongly support urging the US Senate and US House of Representatives to enact Carbon Fee and Dividend. Carbon pricing is good for poor and middle class families. It reduces carbon emission. Climate changes are in the wind, sea, rain, drought and every imaginable weather event. Adaptation and mitigation alone are not going to solve the problem. Carbon Fee and Dividend will reduce carbon emission while benefiting those who cannot participate in Electric Vehicles, Solar and other subsidies. Carbon Fee and Dividend amplifies clean energy initiatives. Thank you for your support.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:21:39 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Molly Whiteley	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Mahalo for hearing HCR124.

Hawaii is poised to once again lead by example with this Resolution and to be a catalyst for other states to join in urging Congress to pass a much needed Carbon Fee and Dividend bill.

A National Carbon Fee and Dividend (or "carbon cashback") is also the essential catalyst to accelerate reduction of carbon emissions in order to save our planet and human health/survival. With revenues returned to citizens and an international border adjustment, this revenue neutral plan will help restore Environmental Justice to communities who are most impacted by the Climate Crisis, while reducing carbon emissions more significantly than any other action.

Please sign on to HCR124.

Mahalo!

Molly Whiteley, Kihei

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 1:02:01 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Commthittee:

My name is Thomas Brandt. I am a 44-year resident of Hawaii, who formerly worked in journalism, travel industry management, and for the state and federal governments. After earning master's and doctoral degrees from UH, I have been a Foresight and Policy Analyst.

In my testimony further below, I summarize four reasons why we need a national carbon tax and dividend program cited by "Americans for a Carbon Dividends"

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

- Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.
- **In addition to taking action locally, the State Legislature should urge the national government to do its part, including passing carbon fee and dividend legislation, one of the most effective and equitable tools available to reduce emissions. HCR124 would do exactly that.**
- A national carbon fee and dividend policy would address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels.
- **By giving back most of the carbon fees to households in the form of dividends, the policy is progressive—it would protect and even benefit most low- and moderate-income households.**
- With a border carbon adjustment, the policy would protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize our international trading partners to reduce their emissions.
- **In short, this good-sense policy would reduce U.S. emissions, protect vulnerable households, and protect U.S. businesses in the global marketplace.**

FOUR STEPS TO SOLVING CLIMATE CHANGE

from Americans for Carbon Dividends

1) A GRADUALLY RISING CARBON FEE

Charge fossil fuel companies a fee for their carbon emissions. This will cut U.S. carbon emissions in half by 2035.

Economists agree that an escalating carbon fee offers the most cost-effective climate policy solution, sending a powerful price signal to steer businesses and consumers towards a low-carbon future.

Accordingly, the first pillar of our bipartisan plan is an economy-wide fee on CO2 emissions starting at \$40 a ton (2017\$) and increasing every year at 5% above inflation.

If implemented in 2021, this will cut U.S. CO2 emissions in half by 2035 (as compared to 2005) and far exceed the U.S. Paris commitment. To ensure these targets are met, an Emissions Assurance Mechanism will temporarily increase the fee faster if key reduction benchmarks are not achieved.

2) CARBON DIVIDENDS FOR ALL AMERICANS

Give all the money directly back to the American people through quarterly checks. A family of four will receive about \$2,000 per year.

All net proceeds from the carbon fee will be returned to the American people on an equal and quarterly basis. A family of four will receive approximately \$2,000 in carbon dividend payments in the first year.

This amount will grow as the carbon fee increases, creating a positive feedback loop: the more the climate is protected, the greater the dividend payments to all Americans.

According to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, **the vast majority of American families will receive more in carbon dividends than they pay in increased energy costs.**

The popularity of dividends will help ensure the longevity of a bipartisan grand bargain based on these pillars.

3) SIMPLIFIED REGULATIONS FOR BUSINESSES

Remove unnecessary carbon regulations so businesses can innovate and invest in a clean energy future.

The third pillar is the streamlining of regulations that are no longer necessary upon the enactment of a rising carbon fee. In the majority of cases where a carbon fee offers a more cost-effective solution, the fee will replace regulations.

All current and future federal stationary source carbon regulations, for example, would be displaced or preempted.

This regulatory simplification will be contingent on the continued presence of an ambitious carbon fee. Trading regulations for a carbon price will promote economic growth and offer companies the certainty and flexibility they need to innovate and make long-term investments in a low-carbon future.

4) COMPEL OTHER COUNTRIES TO DO THEIR PART

Compel other countries such as China and India to reduce emissions by charging a fee on the carbon content of imported products.

Carbon-intensive exports to countries without comparable carbon pricing systems will receive rebates for carbon fees paid, while carbon-intensive imports from such countries will face fees on the carbon content of their products.

A well-designed system of border carbon adjustments will enhance the competitiveness of American-based firms that are more energy-efficient than their foreign competitors, while preventing carbon leakage and free-riding by other nations.

This will put America in the driver's seat of global climate policy and encourage other large emitters – such as China and India – to follow America's lead and adopt carbon pricing of their own.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Thomas Brandt

Foresight & Policy Analysis

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 11:42:27 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Strong support for HCR124

While Hawaii is doing many things to reduce it's fossil fuels consumption locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action in regard to national policy. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, by incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving dividend revenue back to Americans will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. Most low and moderate income families will benefit . Such a policy with a border carbon adjustment will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their fossil fuel consumption.

Importantly, a Carbon Fee and Dividend policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits households, and with a border carbon adjustment protects U.S. businesses.

Please pass HCR124.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Neal

Waimea

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 11:21:49 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Graham	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee,

I strongly support HCR124, urging the U.S. Congress to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation, as it would reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses while benefiting vulnerable households and protecting U.S. businesses.

Hawaii has committed to transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy. Many initiatives will be needed to make that happen, but among all the policy tools available, carbon fee and dividend is the most effective and equitable. The carbon fee will give businesses and consumers the flexibility to adapt as they see fit. Returning the proceeds of the carbon fee back to the American people as dividends will make families whole—in fact, most families in Hawaii will come out ahead. And inclusion of a carbon border adjustment will ensure a level playing field for businesses in Hawaii and the rest of the country as other nations implement their own carbon pricing policies.

I urge you to pass HCR124.

Thank you,

Thomas Graham, Honolulu

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 10:47:43 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Roper	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Decoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. We need meaningful action to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gasses. Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend polickey will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as "dividends" will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate- income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. tradilng partners to reduce their emissions.

Please pass HCR124.

Mahalo, Sarah Roper

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 10:15:24 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roberta Baker	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair De Coite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the EET committee,

I'm testifying in strong support of HCR124.

We, in Hawaii, can make our voices heard nationally. It's time to help Congress have the political will to help the country do the right thing, reflect the will of their constituents by supporting and enacting carbon fee and dividend.

We know that this goes beyond a carbon tax. It gives the fees collected back to citizens equally. The incentive for everyone of us to reduce our fossil fuel usage can be very strong using this technique.

Economically, the lower third of us will benefit more than the upper third since we (the lower third) proportionately use less fossil fuel but will receive an equal share of the dividends.

Respectfully,

Roberta Baker

Hilo

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 2:08:58 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

- Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.
- In addition to taking action locally, the State Legislature should urge the national government to do its part, including passing carbon fee and dividend legislation, one of the most effective and equitable tools available to reduce emissions. HCR124 would do exactly that.
- A national carbon fee and dividend policy would address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels.
- By giving back most of the carbon fees to households in the form of dividends, the policy is progressive—it would protect and even benefit most low- and moderate-income households.
- With a border carbon adjustment, the policy would protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize our international trading partners to reduce their emissions.
- This good-sense policy would reduce U.S. emissions, protect vulnerable households, and protect U.S. businesses in the global marketplace.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the EET 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 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: 4/11/2023 12:41:01 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chloe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the EET Committee,

I strongly believe that HCR124 would have a great impact on the health of the world, and the overall preservation of the many beautiful destinations across the world for future generations. As a whole, society has reacted too slow to climate change in general, and we need to act NOW.

Thank you,

Chloe

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 12:48:31 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamara Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the EET Committee:

Thank you for taking the time to consider this resolution. My name is Tamara and I strongly support resolution HCR124.

As a high school student, I recently realized that climate change is more real to me than I could have ever imagined. Our islands are surrounded by coral reefs, and they help make Hawaii the special place that it is. Our actions affect the whole planet, including what lives on it. We still have a chance to work towards bringing about a positive change for the future, and HCR124 is the opportunity to do just that. It is the most cost-effective climate policy to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Our generation is the future of Hawaii, of America, and we must act now to save our future. Please pass HCR124 so we can work for a better future.

Sincerely,

Tamara

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 12:54:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maia Green	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the EET Committee:

Aloha! On behalf of the numerous students in Hawai'i, I would like to express my gratitude for considering the HCR 124. My name is Maia Green, and I am a sophomore who has lived in Hawai'i all my life. My mother, who also grew up on O'ahu, has always told me stories of her childhood where the oceans were clear of misty sunscreen pollution, stories of long days in the sun where the sun rays were not nearly as damaging, and life when Hawai'i looked drastically different. Through the implementation of the HCR 124, the United States will take a step in the right direction in addressing the climate crisis that threatens the futures of our children and our children's children by transitioning to renewable sources of energy using cost-effective measures. My ancestors, my family, my entire life is rooted in the land of Hawai'i. I truly support the HCR 124 because it is our responsibility to restore the life of our planet, and the HCR 124 is a positive reinforcement that will pave the way for new pieces of legislature to be passed that will benefit the climate.

Living on an island gives me perspective on the impact that humanity has on climate change. I hope to one day walk along the beautiful shores of Hawai'i to see children happily playing in the sand and pollution free oceans that are safe homes to Hawai'i's diverse spectrum of marine life. Unlike my mother, who must longfully reminisce about the beautiful Hawai'i she grew up in, I hope that legislation such as the HCR 124 continue to be implemented in local and national policies so that I can live out my life in Hawai'i and confidently say that it reflects the beauty that I know and love today.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 12:54:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei Crowley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the EET committee,

As a 16 year old who has lived and enjoyed the beauty of Hawaii for her entire life, the life of this island is something I hold near and dear to my heart. I am sure that many of you have also lived in Hawaii, and perhaps understand her beauty to an extent that, with less than 2 decades of life under my belt, I can't even comprehend. I'm sure then, it is also nothing new for you to hear about the major threat that the climate crisis poses to our home. Passing progressive climate related legislation takes utmost precedence in the minds of the youth such as myself and my friends. I cannot stress enough how helpful it would be to get this resolution through. HCR124 has the power to show not just our state government's, but also the US federal government's support on carbon cashback, which has been proven to be one of *the most* effective solutions to fight back against this illness plaguing our earth. Passing this resolution will be a massive step in the right direction, and it paves the path for more decisive, effective solutions. I am excited for what this could mean about the priorities of our state's government, and I am anxiously awaiting anything that will solidify my confidence that I can trust you guys to steer us away from destruction that will occur as a direct result of continued refusal to put our home first. I believe that HCR124 will show the citizens of Hawaii our island's progressive stance on this pressing issue, and restore trust that the government is on the right track with handling the climate crisis.

Sincerely,

Lei Crowley

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 12:55:40 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Weston Otterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of the HCR124 bill

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 1:38:22 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Carbon fee and dividend, known locally as “carbon cashback,” would reduce carbon emissions by incentivizing consumers and businesses to transition to cleaner and more efficient sources of energy while providing money to households to help with the transition. A national policy is ideal 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. Hawai‘i can send a strong message to the federal government that a national “carbon fee and dividend” policy is an essential tool to solve the climate crisis. Senate concurrence with HCR124 would do exactly that.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 2:10:14 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support.

Thank you.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 2:31:19 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa Barker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Members,

Please support HCR124.

Thank you,

Melissa Barker

Kapaa, HI

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 2:34:08 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō‘ili‘ili

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 3:24:20 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Jantz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is desperately needed. I recognize that Hawaii represents a small fraction of global emissions, but I refuse to stand by and let the climate change crisis slowly escalate without doing anything to stop it. The world needs leaders in this fight. If Hawaii can pass real, meaningful climate legislation, the rest of the country and world will be more likely to follow suit. Perhaps most importantly, every serious climate bill that passes, in Hawaii or elsewhere, will stimulate further private and public investment in clean technology solutions. In short, while we cannot make much of a dent in global carbon emissions with this bill, it will add our voice to the chorus demanding that the world take action.

The costs to our state will be real. Fossil fuels are extraordinarily energy-dense, so starting the journey away from dependence them will be hard. This bill addresses that concern by returning most of the carbon fee back to households in as dividends. In this way, citizens will have the increased cost of living compensated for while still experiencing the true cost of fossil fuel use as a behavior change incentive.

Climate change is the greatest challenge of the 21st century. Let's stand up and fight it.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 3:46:07 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Buck Joiner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: support [HCR124](#) In support.

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I request that you support [HCR124](#). The world is in a climate change crisis and we in the first world are a major cause. This is a resolution so no cost is involved. Please help save the world with this one tiny action

Mahalo

Buck Joiner

Kihei, Maui

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:27:35 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Cantwell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Thank you,

Rob Cantwell

Haiku, Maui

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:39:56 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Joseph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a physician, I am expected to practice according to the standard of care established by experts in the field. In the matter of GHG emissions reduction, the experts have spoken. Literally the entire US economics profession recommends a revenue neutral, fully refunded, predictably rising carbon fee, dividend and carbon border adjustment, AKA "carbon cashback." Listen to the experts, who include many familiar names. www.econstatement.org

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 5:51:17 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Millikan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hearing: Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 1:05 pm in Conference Room 229 and via Zoom

Committee: Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Deadline to submit testimony: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 1:05 pm

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

I work with young people as an educator and climate activist. It's time to do right by making all the right choices. Carbon cashback is one of them.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses.

Please pass HCR124.

Mahalo

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:56:19 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Bower	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I am writing with strong support for HC124.

I studied Global Environmental Science at UH Manoa and have learned just how vulnerable we are to the effects of climate change, especially in Hawaii. We need our politicians to do the right things and push for climate action.

We need to reduce our emissions at an extremely fast pace that requires action at a national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

- Reduces GHG emissions
- Sends a huge message to other countries
- Benefits low income households
- Protects business with the necessary border carbon adjustment

HCR124 needs to pass. Please do the right thing for our people and planet!

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:04:11 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Millicent Cox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Mahalo,

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:13:38 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Lindborg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support the carbon fee and carbon cashback proposal.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 8:30:54 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Winternitz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

loha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124

Mahalo,

Elizabeth Winternitz

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 11:20:58 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit.

Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 11:21:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fredrick Sands	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 5:13:45 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyce Dodge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee,

I support this effort to reduce carbon emissions. As we all know, the future of our children and of life on earth depends on us taking action immediately. Enacting carbon fees and dividends is one sensible step Hawaii and the nation can take now.

Please pass HCR124.

Mahalo,

Alyce Dodge

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 5:14:50 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Montague	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR124. It is past time for the nation to act to slow and reverse the problem of climate change.

Thank you,

Paul Montague

Ocean View

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 6:32:47 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurie boyle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of HCR124 for the simple reason that this incentivizing legislation will help save the people of our islands from the present and future dangers and ravages of carbon/methane-/human-induced climate change in our country and our planet. This is a baby step forward in getting ALL to contribute to this monumental effort and a great way to get dividends to the lower-income folks.

Mshalo for your time.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 6:43:18 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samantha Buechner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR124

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 6:49:23 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adrian Buechner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

- Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.
- In addition to taking action locally, the State Legislature should urge the national government to do its part, including passing carbon fee and dividend legislation, one of the most effective and equitable tools available to reduce emissions. HCR124 would do exactly that.
- A national carbon fee and dividend policy would address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels.
- By giving back most of the carbon fees to households in the form of dividends, the policy is progressive—it would protect and even benefit most low- and moderate-income households.
- With a border carbon adjustment, the policy would protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize our international trading partners to reduce their emissions.
- In short, this good-sense policy would reduce U.S. emissions, protect vulnerable households, and protect U.S. businesses in the global marketplace.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 7:21:52 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorn Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

ALoha Committee

Please support this bill so that it will go to the floor. Its important to let the federal govt how we stand!

Lorn DOuglas

Lower Puna

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 7:57:24 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louise Lambert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee: Please pass HCR124.

We are doing our part to address climate change in Hawaii. *The State Legislature should urge the national government to do its part, including passing carbon fee and dividend legislation, one of the most effective and equitable tools available to reduce emissions. HCR124 would do exactly that.*

A national carbon fee and dividend policy would address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels giving back most of the carbon fees to households. Please pass HCR124.

Mahalo Nui Loa

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 8:02:30 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

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

Growing up in Northern California, I first witnessed the brutal effects of climate change as I sheltered in place, hiding myself and my loved ones from the brutal smoke and ash of forest fires. There, as I struggled to breathe, I realized how climate change was truly the greatest threat to humanity. Now that I have moved to Oahu, I realize that the increase in extreme weather events reaches far beyond Northern California. As a high school student, I believe the passage of HCR124 is necessary to mitigate the climate emergency at hand.

The State of Hawai‘i is a national leader in regards to sustainable living. Through this bill, we must send a strong message to the federal government that a national carbon fee policy is an essential tool to solve the climate crisis. These policies would tax fossil fuel corporations and compensate consumers, better enabling Hawai‘i’s transition to renewable energies. Research has proven that carbon cashback would result in a 10% reduction in climate emissions, in a revenue neutral manner.

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. Without the passage of HCR124, the situation will only worsen.

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

Sincerely,

Audrey Lin

ʻIolani School, Class of 2025

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 8:35:46 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jerome Kellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass HCR124. It's important to address our climate emergency and I favor all legislation that does this, like HCR124.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 8:56:37 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. I have 2 children, 2 nieces and a grand nephew who will inherit our world. Let it be an environment better or as good as we enjoyed. 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

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 9:30:27 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Roper-Noonan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change. Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Please take action today. Thank you.

Rachel Roper-Noonan, concerned resident

Sarah Roper, concerned resident

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 10:57:55 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael A Lewis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. The IPCC and continued to warn us and as their most report shows, "we are in thin ice". The signs and damages from climate change surround us and the need to take significant action is now. It is undeniable that we need to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gasses and we need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivising businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as "dividends" will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit, especially those in families on Hawaii with our very high cost of living. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Charles Cox
Makiki
Honolulu, HI

April 12, 2023

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I am writing to state my strong support of HCR124. The human population is long past the point of doubting that the earth is becoming unlivable. To afford our future generations—the children of today, included—a hopeful and healthy future, a significant reduction in global emissions of greenhouse gasses is necessary.

Hawai'i has been a leader in reducing harmful emissions, but we are a small state. Although our Federal Government has begun to take significant action in the battle against climate change, a national carbon fee and dividend would be the most effective method for incentivizing businesses and households to reduce the use of fossil fuels. It bears repeating that these actions will dramatically reduce emissions throughout the United States when we stop burning these fuels.

The proposed national policy will include a border carbon adjustment to protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize our international trading partners to reduce their emissions. In fact, other countries have already begun implementing similar policies that will jeopardize US businesses if we don't quickly implement our own policy. Without HCR 124, U.S. exports will be taxed to protect foreign businesses. Though our country continues to be one of the biggest producers of carbon dioxide, this policy will work together with similar mandates in other countries to help ensure the minimization of carbon emissions the world over.

I urge you to pass HCR124 because it will encourage the Federal Government to adopt this policy and effectively reduce U.S. emissions. This reduction, in turn, will benefit vulnerable households and, with a border carbon adjustment, protect U.S. businesses.

Thank you for your consideration on this pressing matter.
Mahalo,
Charles Cox

Hearing: Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 1:05 pm in Conference Room 229 or via Zoom

Committee: Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

In Support of HCR124

(Urging the U.S. Congress to Adopt National Carbon Fee and Dividend Legislation)

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and EET Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to express my strong support for HCR124. The UN and many others have warned about how perilously close we are to passing the ecological tipping point. The signs and damages from climate change surround us, especially here in Hawai'i. The need to take significant action now to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale. Let's start with the United States.

A strong carbon pricing policy with a dividend is great for the environment, and it is even better for promoting sustainable long-term economic development.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and to Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. The economic ripple effect of a national carbon pricing policy is hard to overstate. As our economy moves steadily towards reliance on use of renewable energy sources and the need for much more energy storage, businesses will grow and transform as this shift continues here in America and globally. This shift, spurred by effective carbon pricing, is the very essence of the green growth economy.

Giving the revenue back to Americans as "dividends" will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will be cash positive each year. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

This over-all good-sense policy would reduce harmful U.S. emissions, protect vulnerable households, spur long-term economic growth, and protect U.S. businesses in the global marketplace. I urge you to pass HCR124.

Robert Pearsall
L|P|C Strategies
Honolulu, Hawai'i

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 11:17:30 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George A Downing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I want to strongly support HCR124. The UN has repeatedly warned all of us:

- **“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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.**

Here in Hawai`i, we are doing what we can to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President Biden & Congress to take more action at the national level.

A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses (the only way we can get them to cooperate) and private households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. This is a way for families to buy into the government's actions to address the Climate Crisis and start doing something real about reducing our carbon footprint

Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions as well.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 11:31:12 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
THOMAS COOPER	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I treongly urge adoption of this resolution, HCR124, calling for the national congress to adopt a national CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION.

This legislation is good for business, good for people, and good for the environment.

Hawai'i is dependent upon the ocean for so much business, commerce, food, recreation, and overall health. The ocean is threatened by continued dumping of CO2 into the atmosphere and the resulting climate change associated with that CO2.

The Hawai'i state constitution requires our state government to provide us with a clean and healthy environment. CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND LEGISLATION will further this lofty goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Thomas Cooper

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 11:39:27 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Cooper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii needs to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Testimony in Support of HCR 124

A socially just carbon fee and dividend as proposed in HCR 124 would greatly strengthen the effectiveness of the green measures in the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The tax would escalate annually and be paid by fossil fuel companies. The dividend would be derived from the tax and would go to individual consumers in equal shares. Anyone whose annual retail purchases implicated less than the average per-capita amount of carbon emissions would come out ahead financially.

This structure would not only stimulate businesses to squeeze carbon out of their supply chains to remain price-competitive, it would protect low- and middle-income people from any of the tax that the fossil fuel companies passed along for those carbon-intensive goods for which there is no immediate alternative, like gasoline. Over the longer term, it would make electric vehicles and electric appliances both more available and more attractive when it comes time for an individual to replace their existing units.

The dividend would make the structure politically durable, like Social Security. That political durability would create a clear, reliable, long-term incentive for fossil fuel companies to engage in the strategic planning necessary to phase out of the fossil fuel business and reallocate their vast financial resources and geotechnical and engineering expertise to greener endeavors such as renewables and geothermal energy.

According to Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), who cosponsored a [fee-and-dividend bill with Senator Brian Schatz \(D-HI\)](#) in the previous session of Congress, the US Senate came within one vote of including a fee-and-dividend carbon tax in the 2021 reconciliation bill. That close vote indicates that further expressions of support from states like Hawaii could be key to getting a socially just carbon tax in place sooner rather than later.

A socially just fee-and-dividend program would reach all parts of the economy immediately. No one would be exempt from potential exposure. But everyone would have the opportunity to minimize their exposure to any price increases, and to contribute to solving the climate crisis, by reducing their carbon footprint. This would require no special effort, because low-carbon alternatives would tend to be both the cheaper and the cleaner choice. People would feel good about buying price-smart and carbon-smart at the same time. Also, fee-and-dividend wouldn't create any new subsidies for any special interest. It is by far the cheapest, most comprehensive, democratic approach to addressing the climate crisis.

Canada has put such a system into effect. [The Canadian government estimates that a family of four in 2023 will receive a dividend of up to C\\$1,544](#), a meaningful amount of money for most people.

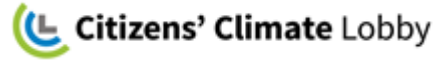
In addition, a carbon price will dovetail seamlessly with a [Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism](#) (CBAM), such as the European Union will implement later this year. Having a US carbon price in place will protect US exporters from the European carbon tariff. Green subsidies may not be eligible for qualifying CBAM treatment. Even if the US manages to negotiate their acceptability, such a system would be a very cumbersome and bureaucratic approach that is liable to create ongoing tensions with our EU allies. China, too, would likely lobby for exceptional treatment if the US was afford such.

In short, a socially just carbon fee and dividend as proposed in HCR 124 is an elegant, easily administered, equitable, and effective measure to help rapidly and permanently move the country—and

through CBAM, the rest of the world—to the zero-emissions future we must achieve for the sake of ourselves and our children.

Ray Welch

Marin Chapter



HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 1:49:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

- Hawai‘i has declared a climate emergency, and effective action is needed at all levels to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change.
- In addition to taking action locally, the State Legislature should urge the national government to do its part, including passing carbon fee and dividend legislation, one of the most effective and equitable tools available to reduce emissions. HCR124 would do exactly that.
- A national carbon fee and dividend policy would address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels.

- By giving back most of the carbon fees to households in the form of dividends, the policy is progressive—it would protect and even benefit most low- and moderate-income households.
- With a border carbon adjustment, the policy would protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize our international trading partners to reduce their emissions.
- In short, this good-sense policy would reduce U.S. emissions, protect vulnerable households, and protect U.S. businesses in the global marketplace.

Note: this has passed our House so will be sent to Washington DC but will be more forceful if Senate passes it as well. Senator Rhodes said it'd be great if we had 50 oral testimonies, which is possible!

MAHALO NUI LOA

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 1:57:40 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Roberts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee:

I strongly support HCR124. 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 gasses is undeniable. We need meaningful action on a global scale.

Hawaii is doing many things to reduce emissions locally, but we need to send a strong message to the President and Congress to take more action at the national level. A national carbon fee and dividend policy will address carbon emissions throughout our economy, incentivizing businesses and households to reduce their use of fossil fuels. Giving the revenue back to Americans as “dividends” will protect them during the transition to cleaner technologies. In fact, most low- and moderate-income families will actually benefit. Finally, by including a border carbon adjustment, the policy will protect the competitiveness of U.S. businesses and incentivize U.S. trading partners to reduce their emissions.

In sum, this policy reduces U.S. emissions, benefits vulnerable households, and with a border carbon adjustment, protects U.S. businesses. Please pass HCR124.

Sincerely
Kathleen Roberts

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 5:34:09 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Conner Higashino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR124. Actions to mitigate carbon emissions are desperately needed and adopting a carbon fee is an effective way to incentive decarbonazition.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:55:47 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **strongly oppose** implementation of a carbon fee/tax which is based on climate change propaganda and arbitrary government control.

HCR-124

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 4:15:03 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/13/2023 1:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

NO CARBON FEES IN HAWAII OR ANY WERE ELES. This is all alot of Crap one big Scam and the People are Tired of Being Scamed!!!!!!!!!!