JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



### STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

P. O. BOX 3378 HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

### **Testimony COMMENTING on SCR0135**

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE STATE.

### SENATOR MIKE GABBARD, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Hearing Date: 3/22/2023 Room Number: 224

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This resolution will not significantly impact the priorities identified in the
- 2 Governor's Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health's (Department)
- 3 appropriations and personnel priorities but may have other fiscal impacts in the community.
- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health recognizes the hazards posed by
- 5 perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and supports efforts to decrease overall
- 6 PFAS use in Hawaii. A working group to address PFAS must recognize that completely phasing
- 7 out PFAS in Hawaii is not possible but that systematic steps will help decrease the overall
- 8 amount used and decrease environmental contamination and human health impacts. A
- 9 multidisciplinary working group to develop a statewide plan to decrease PFAS usage can provide
- 10 a strategic plan towards decreasing the burden of PFAS in Hawaii and the Department of Health
- would be happy to participate as long as it does not take away from other departmental priorities.
- 12 The Department suggests clarification of roles and responsibilities for working group
- 13 participants.

1415

16 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

#### **OFFICERS**

John Bickel, President Alan Burdick, Vice President Keola Akana Doug Pyle, Secretary

#### **DIRECTORS**

Juliet Begley Stephanie Fitzpatrick Stephen O'Harrow

Melodie Aduja

Jan Lubin Shannon Matson Jenny Nomura

Bill South Michael Vernon

P.O. Box 23404 Honolulu Hawaii 96823

**MAILING ADDRESS** 

March 19, 2023

TO: Chair Gabbard & Members of the AEN Committee

RE: SCR 135/SR 217 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE STATE.

Support for a hearing on Matvh 22

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization founded in 1947 by leading supporters of the New Deal and led by Patsy Mink in the 1970s. We are devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support this resolution as science and research have shown that PFAS are highly toxic carcinogenic forever chemicals that bioaccumulate in the soil, water, and food that we consume causing a systemic threat to our health and the environment for many generations to come. PFAS does not breakdown and deteriorate for 700-1000 years and studies have shown that many Americans already suffer from PFAS contamination in out bloodstream. We must immediately ban its use. The formation of a Task Force to study the total elimination of PFAS use would be a substantial step toward a healthful environment for human lives and the lives of native and nonnative species that compose our fragile ecosystem

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel, President



March 20, 2023

**To:** The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair

Members, Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

From: Tim Shestek

Senior Director, State Affairs

Re: SCR 135 / SR 217 – OPPOSE

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) appreciates the opportunity to submit the following comments relative to both SCR 135 and SR 217, resolutions proposing to establish a working group charged with developing "a program to phase out the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances in the state."

ACC supports a comprehensive approach to managing PFAS substances that helps to ensure protection of human health and the environment. However, the language contained in SCR 135 and SR 217 is extremely broad, especially as it relates to categorizing all PFAS as the same substances with equal hazard and risk profiles. This approach is not scientifically sound and should not be the foundation for any working group effort that could result in future legislation and/or regulation. For this reason, we must respectfully oppose SCR 135 and SR 217 as currently drafted.

#### Background

PFAS are a diverse group of chemistries characterized by the strong bond between fluorine and carbon. Because of this strong bond, PFAS provides products with strength, durability, stability, and resilience. These properties are critical to the reliable and safe function of a broad range of products that are important for industry and consumers, such as the smartphones, tablets, and telecommunications systems; aircraft; solar panels and turbines critical to alternative energy development; and medical devices. Attached is a fact sheet that provides an overview of this group of chemistries and how they are used in various applications.

PFAS includes a variety of different chemicals with different properties and characteristics. Therefore, the hazard and risk profiles of various PFAS are different. According to the US EPA, "approximately 600 PFAS are manufactured (including imported) and/or used in the United States." Among these 600 are substances in the solid (e.g., fluoropolymers), liquid (e.g., fluorotelomer alcohols) and gaseous (e.g., hydrofluorocarbon refrigerants) forms. The fundamental physical, chemical, and biological properties of solids, liquids and gases are clearly different from one another.

The very distinct physical and chemical properties of the three types of commercial PFAS described demonstrate how varied they are and how a mandate to "phase out the use of PFAS" could have significant impacts to manufacturers of a variety of different products and the industries and entities that use them.

Many entities that have explored the possibilities of a class-based approach to regulating these substances have recognized the significant challenges:

ECOS – the Environmental Council of the States – which represents state and territorial environmental agency leaders, several of whom have implemented regulatory programs in their home states, has said: "Many regulators and subject-matter experts advise against grouping PFAS as an entire class." (ECOS. Processes & Considerations for Setting State PFAS Standards (February 2020))



- The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, which was specifically charged by the legislature to develop a class regulation or to explain why such a regulation wasn't possible said, "The Review Team spent over a year deliberating, researching, and discussing the potential to regulate PFAS as a Class. After reviewing the current peer-reviewed literature, as well as the available toxicology data for PFAS, the Review Team determined that at the current time it is not feasible to regulate PFAS as a Class." (https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/PFAS/20180814-PFAS-as-a-Class.pdf)
- Federal scientists participating in a workshop convened by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) to review the federal PFAS research program acknowledged the broad diversity of properties with this group of substances, concluding that "PFAS substances thus present unique challenges for grouping into classes for risk assessment." NASEM. Workshop on Federal Government Human Health PFAS Research, October 26-27. Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology (2020). https://www.nap.edu/read/26054/chapter/1
- In a recently published peer review conducted by a panel of experts, most agreed that all PFAS should not be grouped together for risk assessment purposes. Most experts also agreed that it is inappropriate to assume equal toxicity/potency across the diverse class of PFAS. <a href="https://scipinion.com/panel-findings/risk-assessment-of-pfas/">https://scipinion.com/panel-findings/risk-assessment-of-pfas/</a>

Should these resolutions move forward, ACC urges the following changes:

- Language should be included that acknowledges that the term PFAS includes a variety of different chemicals with different properties and characteristics and that the hazard and risk profiles of various PFAS are different.
- The resolutions should not pre-determine any policy recommendations that could come from the Working Group. Simply directing the Working Group to "develop a program to phase out the use of PFAS in the state" is overly simplistic and does not recognize the critical uses for these chemistries.
- The resolutions should include a robust stakeholder process to ensure the proceedings are open and transparent and that the Working Group has access to as much information as possible. Any draft reports from the Working Group should be subject to public review and comment prior to being finalized.

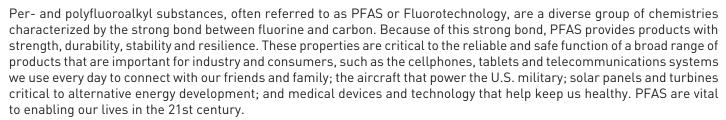
ACC looks forward to working with you and the Legislature to ensure that any assessment or review of PFAS is grounded in sound scientific information.

Thank you in advance for considering our views. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-448-2581 or via email at <a href="mailto:tim\_shestek@americanchemistry.com">tim\_shestek@americanchemistry.com</a>. You may also contact ACC's Hawaii based representative Ross Yamasaki at 808-531-4551 or via email at <a href="mailto:ryamasaki@808cch.com">ryamasaki@808cch.com</a>



# What are PFAS?

Defining PFAS/Fluorotechnology



### A Diverse Universe of Chemistries

PFAS include a variety of different chemicals with different properties and characteristics. *Therefore, the hazard and risk profiles of various PFAS are different.* 

### Fluoropolymers:

One key type of PFAS in use today is fluoropolymers, a type of specialty material. Because of their physical characteristics, fluoropolymers are not toxic or water soluble. They provide products with a unique combination of attributes—durability, heat and chemical resistance and superior dielectric properties—that allow them to perform under the toughest conditions. Key uses of fluoropolymers include:

- **Automotive:** Gaskets, rings, valves and hoses in the fuel system; wiring and circuit boards; pull cables; shock absorbers and bushings; electric vehicle batteries
- **Aerospace (military and civilian):** High performance navigation and communication antennae; lubricants for wing flap mechanisms and landing gear; fuel-oxygen separation systems
- Electronics: Ultra-low contamination semiconductor manufacturing; wafer etching; chemical piping and storage
- Chemical/Industrial Processes: Linings for pipes, valves and tanks to prevent corrosion; gaskets in high temperature, high pressure production processes to contain reactive substances
- **Medical/First Responder:** Surgically implanted medical devices (e.g. stents); COVID testing equipment and respirator tubing; catheters and guide wires



### **Fluorotelomers**

Another major type of PFAS in use today is C6 fluorotelomers, which are well-studied and meet relevant regulatory standards for the protection of human health and the environment. C6 fluorotelomer-based products are versatile chemistries with wetting and spreading features, as well as unique properties that repel water, oil and stains. These unique characteristics make fluorotelomers a critical component of many important medical and first responder applications. Key examples of C6 fluorotelomer products include:

- Woven medical textiles
- Pulp-based repellent medical equipment
- High-performance air and liquid filtration and separation media
- Nonwoven membranes for water filtration
- Paper-based grease repellent food packaging/wrapping

- Outdoor technical textile applications
- Semiconductor production
- Adhesives, sealants and caulks
- Paints and coatings
- Class B fluorinated firefighting foams



## High-Performance Fluorotechnology/PFAS Delivers Many Important Societal Benefits

Multiple industries depend on high-performance FluoroTechnology/PFAS, including aerospace, alternative energy, automotive, building and construction, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, electronics, healthcare, oil and gas, outdoor apparel and equipment and semiconductors, just to name a few.

FluoroTechnology is used in a wide array of products and plays a vital role in everything from designing automobiles with lower emissions and improved safety, reliability and fuel-efficiency to manufacturing semiconductors, solar panels and high performance electronics.

FluoroTechnology provides a unique combination of properties that often cannot be replicated with non-fluorinated alternatives.



SCR-135
Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:18:25 AM
Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Janice Toma Shiira	Testifying for Shimanchu Wai Protectors	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR135

## Agriculture & Food Security Committee

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 10:00 am

Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 135 & SENATE RESOLUTION 217 -

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A **WORKING GROUP** TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF **PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)** IN THE STATE.

**Position: Strong Support** 

Me ke Aloha, Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Richards, and members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

SCR135/SR217 call for a working group composed of several key executive agencies to develop a program to phase out the use of "forever chemicals" PFAS.

The Agriculture & Food Security Committee strongly supports a plan to phase out the use of perfluorinated and polyfluorinated substances. Recent events have highlighted their ubiquitious use, widespread concern about their presence in our bloodstreams, and the toxic effects they have on the human body. There are alternative chemicals available, and the national movement is burgeoning to halt use of these fluorinated substances. They cannot be broken down by normal digestive and detoxing processes in biological cells, but can be broken down where they are found in the environment with special effort.

Our concerns lie with liver damage, thyroid disease, decreased fertility, high cholesterol, obesity, hormone suppression, and cancer. The exposure to the tiniest amounts we can detect can affect our health in these terrible ways. Those familiar with cell biology are aware that the disruptive harm caused by these chemicals can be passed from generation to generation, so it is imperative that we remove them from the possibility of accumulating any further, but rather to explore ways to eliminate them from living tissue.

Because they are so ubiquitous, it is important for all the subject agencies – Department of Health, State Energy Office, Budget and Finance, as well as the County executives – to be engaged and to bring their resources to bear on identifying sources of these potent, persistent toxins and to explore the soonest possible replacement in the widest range of consumer products.

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this matter.

/s/ Charley Ice Acting Chair, Agriculture and Food Security Committee Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 12:59:07 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dave Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard and Members of the Agriculture & Environment Committee,

On behalf of Our Revolution Hawaii's 5,000 members and supporters statewide, we stand in STRONG SUPPORT of SR217/SCR135 requesting the legislature to convene a working group with representation from all levels of government to develop a program to phase out the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the state.

PFAS contamination in Hawaii is becoming a growing issue of concern. PFAS has been detected in Kunia, Waipio, Honolulu and Kahului airports, and eight Hawaii military sites, including the Navy's Pearl Harbor drinking water. At the Waiawa Gulch Training Site and Unit Training and Equipment Site on Oahu, the level reported for PFOA is 2,850 times over the EPA threshold, and the level for PFOS is 13,550 times over the limit.

On June 15, 2022, the EPA issued interim updated drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS that replace the 70 ppt combined advisory the EPA issued in 2016. The level for PFOA was set at .004 ppt and .02 ppt for PFOS. The updated advisory levels, which are based on new science, indicate that some negative health effects may occur with concentrations of PFOA or PFOS in water that are near zero.

Research has shown potential health impacts of PFOA/PFOS exposure include low infant birth weight, decreased fertility, elevated cholesterol, abnormal thyroid hormone levels, liver inflammation, weakening of the immune system, and testicular and kidney cancer.

Therefore it is essential that the State minimize exposure to PFAS in locations where PFAS may be concentrated, including military bases, airports, landfills, and wastewater systems, it is critical to the health and safety of the residents of Hawaii that the focus be expanded to gradually phase out the use of PFAS in all areas the State.

From these facts it is clear that we need a Working Group to set goals, prepare and plan for the PFAS phase-out, its clean-up and remediation, and plans for risk-prevention and filtration.

Finally we offer an amendment that the PFAS Working Group include representatives from a community organization whose mission statement or purpose is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the environment be included on this working group. This would allow for an important perspective to this critical issue to be included at the table.

Please pass SR217/SCR135 to increase the protection of the health and safety of the people of Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Dave Mulinix, Cofounder & Hawaii State Organizer

Our Revolution Hawaii

To: The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
The Honorable Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Re: SCR 135 and SR 217 – WORKING GROUP TO PHASE OUT PFAS

Hearing: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Position: **Strong support** 

Aloha, Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment:

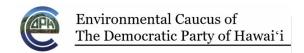
The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and its 7,500 members strongly support SCR 135 and SR 217. These measures request the Legislature to convene a working group to develop a program to phase out the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the State.

PFAS is a carcinogenic toxin that goes beyond our deepest understanding of what is safe drinking water. The EPA has set an interim maximum contaminate level (MCL) at 4 parts per TRILLION because this is the lowest amount measurable by qualified laboratories, not because of scientific evidence that show that 4 parts per TRILLION is in fact a safe amount of PFAS to consume. There is no safe amount!

PFAS is known to cause CANCER, IMMUNE DISRUPTION and FERTILITY PROBLEMS.

PFAS has been detected in Kunia, Waipio, Honolulu and Kahului airports, and eight Hawaii military sites, including the Navy's Pearl Harbor drinking water.

This poison goes beyond the general public's comprehension as it has been used in everyday products for nearly a century and yet we are only now learning about it thanks to Red Hill. It has been used since the 1940's in many consumer products: Teflon pans, Scotchguard, food packaging, raincoats, furniture, cosmetics, clothing, and dental floss, in addition to the AFFF with PFAS used at firefighting training areas at airports and military installations. The resent spill of AFFF with PFAS concentrate at Adit 6 at the Red Hill Facility released 1,300 gallons in November 29, 2022. This is an unconscionable amount where 4 parts per TRILLION is the maximum contaminant level of PFAS for safe drinking water. As a visual, this MCL amount is equivalent to 4 drops of food coloring in 18 million gallons of water or put in another way, 4 drops in 20 Olympic-sized swimming pools, each holding 660,000 gallons of water.



March 22, 2023 Page 2

We clearly need a Working Group to set goals, prepare and plan for the PFAS phase-out, its clean-up and remediation, and plans for risk-prevention, including filtration. This known carcinogen passes through our life cycle by the water we drink, air that we breathe, fish and wildlife we consume, wastewater we cause, and reclaimed wastewater and biosolids used on the agricultural produce we eat. Furthermore, PFAS bioaccumulates as it is known as "Forever Chemicals." It will not biodegrade for 700-1000 years. It can pass from mother to fetus through her bloodstream and from mother to child through breastmilk. Its multigenerational and bioaccumulative properties compound the toxicity of the PFAS in the human body.

It is important and necessary that this Committee adopt and pass SCR135 and SR217. These Resolutions call the Legislature to convene a working group to develop a program to phase out the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the State and to report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature 20-days prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session; and its final report submitted 20-days prior to the convening of the 2025 Regular Session.

This proposed PFAS working group should also include planning for PFAS clean-up, remediation, and risk-prevention including water-filtration.

Mahalo nui loa,

/s/ Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick Co-chairs, Environmental Caucus Democratic Party of Hawaii



March 22, 2023

### **COMMENTS TO SCR 135 / SR 217**

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE STATE.

Senate Committee on Agricultural and Environment
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
The Honorable Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair
Wednesday, March 22, 1:30 pm VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 224 State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards and members of the Committee,

Island Energy Services, LLC ("IES") would like to offer the following comments on SCR 135/SR 217. IES operates petroleum storage and distribution facilities on Oahu, Hawaii Is., Kauai and Maui. To ensure the safety of our employees, first responders and the general public, it is imperative that effective fire suppression chemicals and equipment be available for use if needed.

Act 152 signed into law in June 2022. It will prohibit as of July 1, 2024 the manufacture, sale, distribution, and use of class B firefighting foams that contain PFAS, unless the use is necessary for effective suppression of a petroleum fire. Further restrictions without an adequate substitute would compromise IES's ability to conduct safe and effective fire suppression should it be needed.

IES respectfully requests that a local petroleum distribution and logistics company be included as a member of the PFAS Working Group proposed by SCR 135/SR 217.

Albert D.K. Chee, Jr. Vice President Island Energy Services, LLC

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:21:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
laurel brier	Testifying for Kauai Women's Caucus	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

PFAS is known to cause cancer, immune disruptions and fertility problems. PFAS has been detected in Kunia, Waipio, Honolulu and Kahului airports, and eight Hawaii military sites, including the Navy's Pearl Harbor drinking water. We clearly need a Working Group to set goals, prepare and plan for the PFAS phase-out, as soon as possible. This known carcinogen passes through our life cycle by the water we drink, air that we breathe, fish and wildlife we consume, wastewater we cause, and reclaimed wastewater and biosolids used on the agricultural products we eat. Protect the Public.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:29:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

#### Comments:

RE: SCR 135 32 Legislature 2023, State of Hawaii

Testimony: In Strong Support Requesting the legislature to convene a working group with representation from all levels of government to develop a program to phase out the use of Perfluoralkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances in the State.

3/23/23

From: Gina Hara, Halawa Valley

- 1. Okinawa's Aquifer is dead, and polluted with US Airforce AFFF concentrate fire retardant. There was a barbeque at the Air Force hanger which triggered foam to come out of control and the rivers of Okinawa looked like a huge bubble bath. The wells people were using are also laced in PFAS / PFOS and blood samples are now being taken by Kyoto University. Last month 600 people were getting their blood tested by Kyoto University as they lived near a base close to Tokyo.
- 2. RED HILL had three spills that we know of only in 2019 (1500 gallons); 2020 (5000 gallons covered up until written about by Civil Beat recently); 2023 (1300 gallons). The Halawa Wells have based on mandatory testing now recently required 2021 = PFOA level .002 ppb. That is, 2 parts per trillion, compared to the new advisory which is .004 parts per trillion.
- 3. Hawaii needs to quickly A) Get an accounting of all the AFFF in the State B) Find how much is "Missing" (Red Hill, Waiawa, Kunia 6700x the suggested safe limit) C) Assign a path of elimination a protocol For example if water purifiers are being used in households we need to have a system to take those filters and not put it in the landfills and have microorganisms eat the 8 chain carbon PFAS / PFOS. Those entities who continue to make the PFAS, should be charged 5x more the cost of their product so that the research to remediate it can be paid for. This will also help stop it's production with a negative cost.
- 4. Europe is banning PFAS/ PFOS

- 5. Blood tests should be done and people who are drinking PFAS should immediately be notified they need disclosure & there should be a list of water filters to help the situation.
- 6. The Board of Water should line item the costs for PFAS / PFOS extraction (even though they have been filtering) this item should be included in payers' bills otherwise people will not notice or keep up with the issue. Water bills should all have the granulated filter costs (13 million tons used in Ewa Plains etc) these details should be included in BOW bills going forward for education and disclosure purposes. PFAS / PFOS education should be included in mailouts and to condo units. Forever chemical are equivalent to drinking a tire.
- 7. There should be a fund for remediation many microorganism studies are promising.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/17/2023 2:47:32 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this Bill. Mahalo,

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/17/2023 6:25:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

### Comments:

These are highly toxics substances and must be eliminated. Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/20/2023 1:15:59 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Strong Support

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 8:45:45 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

#### Comments:

I support SR217/SCR135 requesting the legislature convene a working group with representation from all levels of government to develop a program to phase out the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (pfas) in the state.

I agree that in addition to the State's efforts to minimize exposure to PFAS in locations where PFAS may be concentrated, including military bases, airports, landfills, and wastewater systems, it is critical to the health and safety of the residents of Hawaii that the focus be expanded to gradually phase out the use of PFAS in all areas the State.

I respectfully offer an amendment to this resolution. Currently the PFAS Working Group representation is stated to be from all levels of government, including but not limited to the Department of Health, Department of Budget and Finance, Hawaii State Energy Office, and each of the counties. However, there are important voices missing from this working group, specifically missing are voices from the community. Therefore, I suggest that at the least a representative from a community organization whose mission statement or purpose is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the environment be included on this working group. This would allow for an important perspective to this critical issue to be included at the table.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration of this amendment.

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 11:09:44 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this resolution. Water is essential to everyone and we cannot have more people suffering with undrinkable water because it's contaminated with chemicals. Ola i ka wai!!

Mahalo nui,

**Cards Pintor** 

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 11:12:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

We desperately need to pass SCR135. We ALL need clean water. NO amount of PFAS is acceptable! Enough is enough. Let's ensure clean water for us NOW and our future. Mahalo

Malia Marquez

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 3:30:42 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Aloha mai kakou. My name is Allison Shiozaki. I live in Hilo on Hawai'i Island. The impact of the chemicals poisoning the water on Oahu effects all life, human and beyond human, and future generations in Hawai'i. No one should be allowed to get away with such devastation without consequences & accountability. This goes beyond negligence, as it is a predictable problem which the community has asked to be addressed for years and years, and keeps happening. Holding the military accountable is critical, however in addition, please pass this measure so that people can have increased power to protect the water & elimate dangerous chemicals to our islands health! Ola i ka wai! Mahalo.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:05:00 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly SUPPORT SCR135!!!

## Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

The Thirty-Second Legislature Regular Session of 2023

> Lauren Rapoport Resident of Hawaii 856-904-0789 1201 Wilder Avenue

Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 224 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

### **Testimony in Support of SCR 135**

My name is Lauren Rapoport and I am a Masters in Social Work student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa as well as a resident of Honolulu. I am additionally a clinical intern (unpaid) at the Salvation Army Family Treatment Services. I am testifying in support of SCR 135. My support for this bill rests on my concern for the effects of PFAS on our land, water, wildlife, and the collective health of residents of Hawaii.

The frightening effects of PFAS on human health are clear, and PFAS poses additional risks for an unborn child. I am 27, and I might want to get pregnant in a few years. The idea of how environmental hazards could shape a pregnancy of mine, or others, is terrifying. While I, and some others, may be able to afford a water filtration system, this is not the case for everyone. The treatment center that I intern at serves pregnant and parenting women. Many have little to no financial resources and likely cannot afford water filtration systems. It scares me that they are likely drinking water with low levels of PFAS in it while pregnant, and additionally feed it to their babies as the water that is mixed with formula. This risk to Hawaii's children is due to the lack of environmental regulations around PFAS in products in Hawaii and the lack of regulations around the military's environmental impact in Hawaii.

I feel terrified that water and soil throughout the island is testing positive for this chemical. This is an equity issue, an environmental issue, and a safety issue. Farmers should be able to work with their land to safely feed themselves, their families, and others – without worrying about PFAS in their soil, water, and crops. Hawaii residents should be able to drink the water without worrying about adverse health effects. We should all find this terrifying that our water is being polluted – and I urge you to do \*something\* about it. This bill is a start.

In conclusion, I support SCR 135 in order to protect the well being of our Aina, to help safeguard our precious water sources, and to protect the health of all Hawaii residents. I urge you to do the same. Please support SCR 135.

Respectfully,

Lauren Rapoport

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:53:04 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

I support this bill and I hope it gets passed because as a young adult who's becoming an adult i still want to be able to live on this island, and I know many others feel the same way as well.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:54:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

SCR-135
Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:55:06 AM
Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Fa'apona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SCR-135
Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:55:27 AM
Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:55:38 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lahaole Nuuanu	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In opposition

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:55:41 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:57:07 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:57:25 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

## Comments:

I don't want to drink and eat pfas and wouldn't want anyone else drink pfas its not good for you

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:58:52 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:29:17 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

#### Comments:

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, and members of the committee,

My name is Emma Stierhoff, and I am writing to express my upmost SUPPORT for SCR135, which will prevent the continual relase of toxic PFAS into the environment. .

PFAS are known to not break down in the environment, and therefore inevitably end up in people's food and water. This leads to significant negeative health impacts such as kidney damage, immune system impairment, and reproductive issues (EPA 2018). Many communities in Hawai'i already do not have safe drinking water as a result of PFAS contamination and have experienced the deleterious health impacts of these chemicals. We MUST prevent more PFAS from entering the environment. The people of Hawai'i need and deserve clean drinking water.

Hence, I urge you to PASS SCR135. I hope you will support this crucial step in preventing the poisoning of our communities with PFAS. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Emma Stierhoff

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:50:29 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Please pass SCR135 and its companion SR217, regarding PFAS. We urgently need a Working Group to prepare and plan for PFAS phase-out, clean-up, and remediation. This carcinogen, immuno-disruptor and hormone disruptor is in our air, our water, our bodies and those of animals and plants in our environment, and the waste we create.

PFAS is has now been detected in Kunia, Waipio, Honolulu and Kahului airports, and eight Hawaii military sites, including the Navy's Pearl Harbor drinking water.

Please form this working group right away, for the safety of life in Hawaii.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:55:56 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I am testifying in SUPPORT of SCR135. The AFFF leak at Red Hill is simply a catalyst opening people's eyes to a problem much older and a threat that will continue even with Red Hill defueled. There must be a coordinated effort at all levels of government to get PFAS under control.

Mahalo, Dylan Ramos 96816

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:09:24 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in support

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:09:26 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I am in support of this bill.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:09:32 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I am in support of this testimony

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:10:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alyssa-lia Chong-gum	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I am in support of SCR135 because it is gonna make the future better. PFAS should be phase out for the health of our people and island.

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:11:01 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Karlee Jo Taumua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:11:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Im in support.

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:11:34 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in support

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:13:43 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Vailini-Seini Keola- Kuapahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:13:47 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kuakahela sales- Rodrigues	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I support the bill of getting rid of pfas

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:14:09 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Keaka Larinaga-Claver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I support the bill of removing pfas.

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:15:16 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I support the bill SCR135 to rid the PFAS from waters. PFAS is unhealthy for our waters and were lacking freshwater.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:16:10 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

I SUPPORT TO REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE STATE.

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:16:36 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am support of this bill.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:19:44 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I strongly support the creation of a working group to create goals, and to plan and prepare for PFAS phase out, remediation, filtration, and any and all other adjustments needed to keep our communities safe.

PFAS is a major threat, not just to us today, but to future generations.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 11:50:52 AM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I support PFAS working group pursuant toSCR135 and it's companion SR217. PFAS is dangerous for Al and should never be used as it causes cancer and permanently pollutes and destroys our aina, water, and environment.

aloh, selina higa

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 12:16:33 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
melissa tomlinson	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

Please approve SCR135. Protecting HAWAI'I'S Water, it is of the upmost importance. Ola I Ka Wai

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 12:47:39 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please pass SCR135.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:09:18 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SCR135.

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:22:03 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

As an environmental scientist professionally certified in the pretice of water quality, I am informed on the extensive harm that PFAS does to our environment and human health. There is no affordable means of treating water supply and no feasible method for mitigation of PFAS in the environment. The only option is source control by limiting manufacturing and use of PFAS.

Therefore I request that you convene and working group to phase out the use of these checmicals in our state

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:26:36 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I write in support of SCR135. With our water at risk, there is a need for this working group. Please support this measure.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 1:47:51 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

Absolutely essential now!

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:10:58 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Aloha to the Chairs, Vice chairs and committee members

This is an important proposal especially since the US military keeps revealing additional "accidental" spills of toxic chemicals from the Red Hill storage tanks and into the surrounding environment. Hawaii state beurocracy has too many departments addressing various parts of this crisis and only a clear unified approach can fight back against the Military beurocracy which is being effectively used to slow down the drainage requirements.

There are people who are permanantly poisoned and who may never fully recover and they must be financially supported by the US Military, the Navy and anyone else involved with the control of the decision making processes.

The members of the Hawaii legislative body could have and should have acted many years ago when smaller spills were happening and the DWP experts were warning the State of the potentials for a more serious situation arrising. The Legislature chose not to act. Thousands of people have paid for that lack of forsight. Now you have another chance to act. Please do not let this one slip away.

PFAS is a carcinogenic toxin that goes beyond our deepest understanding of what is safe drinking water. The EPA has set an interim maximum contaminate level (MCL) at 4 parts per TRILLION because this is the lowest amount measurable by qualified laboratories, not because of scientific evidence that show that 4 parts per TRILLION is in fact a safe amount of PFAS to consume. There is no safe amount!

PFAS is known to cause CANCER, IMMUNE DISRUPTION and FERTILITY PROBLEMS.

PFAS has been detected in Kunia, Waipio, Honolulu and Kahului airports, and eight Hawaii military sites, including the Navy's Pearl Harbor drinking water.

This poison goes beyond the general public's comprehension as it has been used in everyday products for nearly a century and yet we are only now learning about it thanks to Red Hill. It has been used since the 1940's in many consumer products: Teflon pans, Scotchgarde, food packaging, raincoats, furniture, cosmetics, clothing and dental floss, in addition to the AFFF with PFAS used at firefighting training areas at airports and military installations. Our resent spill of AFFF with PFAS concentrate at Adit 6 at the Red Hill Facility released 1,300 gallons in Nov. 29, 2022. This is an unconscionable amount where 4 parts per TRILLION is the maximum contaminant level for safe drinking water. As a visual, this MCL amount is equivalent to 4 drops of food coloring in 18 million gallons of water.

We clearly need a Working Group to set goals, prepare and plan for the PFAS phase-out, its clean-up and remediation, and plans for risk-prevention and filtration. This known carcinogen passes through our life cycle by the water we drink, air that we breathe, fish and wildlife we consume, wastewater we cause, and reclaimed wastewater and biosolids used on the agricultural products we eat.

YOU MUST SUPPORT SCR135 AND SR217, I STRONGLY SUPPORT IT.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:29:52 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I am in support of this

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:30:53 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

In support

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:31:03 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

In support

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:31:54 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I agree and support for the pfas to be taken out of use for it can lead to destruction of families if the pfas where to get into our water systems.

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:32:28 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Makani kaaiawaawa akiona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I support because they helping the Ariana and people. This poison is affecting they plaants and food so wee. Need help.

<u>SCR-135</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:33:29 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kiera faatafa-pasion	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:37:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support

SCR-135 Submitted on: 3/21/2023 2:48:26 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

# Comments:

I support this because there is toxic chemicals near our drinking water and if it gets into our systems it can last forever

Chair Mike Gabbard Vice Chair Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III

**Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment** 

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 1:30 PM

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR135/SR217 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO PHASE OUT THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) IN THE STATE

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Richards, Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a recent graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, a member of the Hawai'i State Youth Commission, and a water drink. I am testifying as an <u>individual</u> in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SCR135/SR217**, Requesting the Legislature to Convene a Working Group With Representation From All Levels of Government to Develop a Program to Phase Out the Use of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the State.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), exposure to a certain level of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl chemicals <u>can</u> decrease fertility, reduce the body's immune system, increase risk of some forms of cancer (prostate, kidney, and testicular), etc<sup>1</sup>. As addressed in the resolution, aqueous film forming foams, which contain those very same PFAS chemicals, leaked from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. While not somehow illegal, groundwater samples exceed EPA interim health advisory levels.

Concerningly enough, PFAS has also recently been found in samples from the Waipio Heights Wells Pumping Station<sup>2</sup>. We still have a lot to learn about these chemicals. While I would generally be skeptical of studies, I think there needs to be education around this issue for both decision makers and we in the general public, as PFAS has been used in everyday products for nearly a century and yet we are only now learning about it thanks to Red Hill. A working group addressing an issue that is an extension of the Red Hill water crisis, and might even make the crisis significantly worse must include representation from those who have already been personally hurt by the Red Hill water crisis and groups that have been actively advocating and educating around it like the O'ahu Water Protectors or Sierra Club of Hawai'i. A working group can work on public education, while preparing and planning for the phasing out of PFAS, as well as clean-up and remediation, and plans for risk-prevention and filtration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.epa.gov/pfas/our-current-understanding-human-health-and-environmental-risks-pfs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.civilbeat.org/beat/forever-chemicals-found-in-waipio-wells-bws-says/

# Please <u>PASS</u> Senate Concurrent Resolution 135/Senate Resolution 217 out of your committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,

State House District 23 | State Senate District 12

Cell: 808-255-6663

Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:19:21 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2023 1:30:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Aloha, apologies for late submission of this testimony in SUPPORT of SCR135, as just got off from working all day.

With the late regulation of PFAS, we need a task force to remove this deadly substance. With the concentration of military throughout Hawai`i, we are imminent threat from PFAS contamination as illustrated by Okinawa where the military has ruined their aquifer and PFAS levels in local bloodtreams is 30 higher than national average, granted high levels of PFAS have been found around bases in Japan. The point here is we're much more like Okinawa: small islands that will be damaged permanently on small islands concentrated with toxic military bases.

As a former servicemember (US Army), I was personally exposed without proper protective gear to toxic wastes and have zero trust in the military based on personal experiences, as well as the suffering of family back in Okinawa.

Aloha 'Āina,

Pete Doktor

Moanalua